

**PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES FACING THE GOVERNMENT IN
ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF STREET CHILDREN IN TANZANIA: A
CASE STUDY OF KINONDONI MUNICIPALITY**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER DEGREE IN SOCIAL
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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that I have read the entire work and hereby recommend for the acceptance by the Open University of Tanzania(OUT), a Dissertation titled “problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children in Tanzania” in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Award of Masters Degree in Social Work.

.....

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(Supervisor)

Certified thisday of.....

DECLARATION

I **Twaha. I. Waziri**, declare that this dissertation is my original work, and that the technical assistance which I have received is detailed in the acknowledgements. No part of this dissertation has been or is being submitted to any other university or institution. Where other people's works have been used, references have been provided.

Student: Twaha I.Waziri

Signature

Date

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This work is dedicated to my beloved late father and mother, the late Adam Waziri and Asia Iddy who laid the foundation of my education and who could not be here to share this achievement with me. May God the Almighty rest their souls in peace: Amen

I have special gratitude to my brother Dr Waziri for his moral and material support as well as without forgetting the Almighty God's grace all would not have been possible.

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Lastly but not least I would like to apologize to any concerned if at all acknowledgements have in adevertly not being recorded.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work firstly to God, the Almighty, secondly to my late father and mother and thirdly to my bloody brothers and sisters who have been my inspiration and lastly to my little girl Samira.

ABSTRACT

The study aimed at assessing problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children in Tanzania. The specific objectives were to identify underlying factors leading to the persistence of the problem of street children, to find out problems and challenges facing the government in addressing it and to come out with alternative strategies to curb the problem. A descriptive cross-sectional research design (both quantitative and qualitative) methods was adopted to collect and analyze both primary and secondary data from respondents. Data from Street Children, Ward Executive Officers and Community Development Officers was collected through structured guided questionnaire while semi-structured interview was used to collect data from key informants. Secondary data was collected through review of documents. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 16.0 was used for quantitative data while thematic analysis was used for qualitative data analysis. The majority (78%) of respondents confirmed that poor government planning, ineffective policies and child legislations and weak laws as underlying factors to the problem while most of the respondents (76%) verified that, lack of political will, weak policies and legislations as challenges facing the government to address the problem. Furthermore, 80% of respondents suggested that review of child policy and legislations. Therefore, it can be concluded that, the government proved failure in identifying the root cause of the problem. Accordingly, the existing strategies are ineffective as merely addresses symptoms of the problem. Therefore, review of policies, laws, effective planning and enforcement of laws are fundamental to get rid of this problem. Conclusively, Social Workers should actively engage in advocacy and lobbying, policy analysis, public sensitization and further research to come out with sustainable solutions to the problem.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------|---|
| AIDS | Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome |
| AU | African Union |
| CDO | Community Development Officer |
| CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| HIV | Human Immune Virus |
| MVC | Most Vulnerable Children |
| NGO | Non-governmental Organization |
| SAPs | Structural Adjustment Programmes |
| SWO | Social Welfare Officer |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNICEF- | United Nations Children Education Fund |
| WEO | Ward Executive Officer |
| WHO- | World Health Organization |

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CHAPTER ONE

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Introduction

This chapter is an introductory one. It provides information regarding the background of the problem. It also presents the statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions and the significance of the study.

1.2 Background of the Problem

The problem of street children is a global concern that cuts across boundaries of both developed and developing countries. In Europe for instance, street children at first appeared in 1851 when Henry Mayhew used it to describe London's working poor during the 1840s. Although his observations and accounts of street children a century ago are surprisingly still accurate, street children did not really register on the international radar until 1979, during the International Year of the Child. Since, then the number of street children has increased worldwide and the problem has gained considerably more attention (Buske, 2011).

In Europe, the industrial revolution is directly linked to the history of the problem. In the process of revolutionizing the British economy the livelihood of many workers was impaired. This disrupted family life creating many street children. Furthermore, Ferguson (2003) indicated that the industrial revolution appeared first in England and also the problem with abandoned children appeared first in Britain and hence, it was the first country to experience the problem of street children. Moreover, it was also found that in England there were lots of destitute children by then who were either orphaned

or abandoned and had no place to live. Additionally, there were also street boys in major cities like London, Liverpool and Manchester. During that time they wandered through the London East End alleyways begging from strangers. They were always in danger of exploitation by professional criminals. If begging did not work then stealing food from market stallholders was their only alternative to find food. The existing information suggests that it may have been greater, but perhaps the English just publicized it more in an effort to address the problem (op.cit. 2003).

Despite the old history on the problem of street children in England as compared with other nations, in recent years the situation is no longer a British problem but rather a global problem since it cuts across both geographical and political boundaries of all nations including developing countries. The magnitude of the problem is shocking worldwide coupled with multi-effects. According to Hosny et al (2007) indicated that street children population in the world is approximately 150 million with a constantly increasing number. Moreover, it was estimated that, about 40% of these are homeless and the other 60% works on the streets to support their families. These children do not attend school and are considered to live in especially difficult circumstances. In addition, UNICEF (2006) noted that the number of children moving to the street is increasing worldwide. Furthermore, it was estimated that in 2020 there will be 100 million indigent children in Latin America, many of whom will predictably live on the streets (Fernandes and Vaughn, 2008).

Compared with Europe, Latin America and Asia the situation of street children in Africa was new before 1990s (UMP, 2000). According to Cummings (2006) street children in Africa are recent development although its roots originated from

colonialism in the early 20th century. The Consortium for Street Children (2002) noted that the problem of street children rose dramatically in the late 1980s and early 1990s due to civil strife, the demobilization of soldiers and the effect of Structural Adjustment Policies on family unemployment.

UNICEF (1994) found that there were an estimated 60,000 street children in Addis Ababa and 150,000 nationwide. Furthermore, in Khartoum Sudan, the street children were limited to a few boys only in 1984, but by 1990, were part of the urban landscape (Dodge and Raundalen 1991:40). Similarly, the same situation was experienced in Sierra Leone. The number of street children had increased geometrically, from 10,000 in 1990 to about 200,000 in 1998. However, in recent years, the situation is more critical in urban centres of many African countries. Ferguson (2003) estimated that Africa has about 10 million street children.

In East African countries, there are similar situations like other African countries. For instance in Kenya and particularly in Nairobi during 2001 it was estimated that there were 10,000 to 30,000 street children and in 2007 the graph was growing and it was estimated that there were between 250,000 and 300,000 children living on the streets in the country with more than 60,000 living in Nairobi (Smeaton, 2011). On the other hand Tanzania like Kenya the situation of street children persists and the problem is likely to get out of hand if strong measures are not taken. According to Ngowi (2012) it is estimated there were about 437,500 street children in Tanzania. Though, the problem of street children has no long history as that of Europe, Latin America and Asia but it can be traced as far back as during the 1980s.

In addition to that UNICEF (1994) noted that the benchmark of street children stems during the period of 1990s. During this era there had been a constant increase in the numbers of street children in Tanzania's urban centers. Likewise, a census conducted in northern Tanzania (2006) found that over 1,000 children live on the streets of Moshi and Arusha, with the largest concentration remaining in Arusha (Backford et al, 2008). It was further found that, the vast majority of street children work and live in large urban areas (Nyoni, 2007).

The magnitude of street children is found in all urban centres of Tanzania, the situation is worse due to its size and fast growing population; there are a bigger number of street children than any other urban centre in Tanzania. The city receives children from different parts of the country. The day-to-day life of the street children is a continuous struggle to survive. in Dar-Es-Salaam city than any other place in Tanzania. Niboye (2013) holds although that Some are barely four to five years olds. None of these children are in school and since they are separated from their homes for the most part of the day or all day. They are deprived of a particular care and guidance in their formative years something which contributes to negative social and physical development of children. The persistence nature of the problem of street children globally and in Tanzania is a crisis and threat to children's welfare and future of the nation as children are the tomorrow's leaders and potential adults. The evidence of high increase of street children as reflected above can be interpreted that, there is no hope that the number of street children will decrease but rather may increase.

In response to the problem, the Tanzanian government introduced different measures to address the problem and these include: the ratification of the Convention on the

Rights of the Child (CRC) of 1989 and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of 1990. Others include holding of National Summits for children, introduction of the law of the Child Development Policy of 1996, The Law of the Child Act, No 21 of 2009 and establishment of Ministries or department responsible for children like the Social Welfare Department and the Ministry for Gender, Women and Children and creation of good atmosphere for NGOs dealing with vulnerable children.

Despite the above efforts, the problem of street children is still on sharp increase in Tanzania. Ngowi (2012) noted that in Tanzania it is estimated that there are 437,500 street children. Besides, the problem is at tremendous increase but little is known about the underlying factors for persistence of the problem. Moreover, the problems and challenges facing the Government in addressing the problem are not clearly stated. According to Kopoka (2000) many governments have formulated child development policies and set up ministries dealing with children and family affairs. Yet very little is still done to address the problem. It is from the above weakness that this study was done. Findings of this study shall inform the government about best strategies to be adopted in addressing the malady.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Children are the society's promising seeds, the future and pillars of every country. The wealth of any nation is not only evaluated in its endowed economic and natural resources but it lies more absolutely in the breed and worth of her children. This means that children are the assets, treasurer, social security and shapers of a nation's tomorrow since the today's children are the tomorrow's adults and potential leaders. However, that is not the case in Tanzania since a significant number of children live a misery and

horrible life. Most of them are wandering on the streets and baptized as “*watoto wa mitaani*” (street children) and they are prone to different risks. Kopoka (2000) puts it that street children are roaming around and their faces show strain and sadness and they suffer from ill-health and malnutrition. This evidence gives an impression that; the welfare of children in Tanzania is in jeopardy as the situation may lead to loss of hope among children. This in turn may create a class of dangerous criminals. Veale (1992) noted that street children are the raw materials from which dangerous classes are formed. This indicates that the problem is quick pressing and appealing.

In response to the above problem, the government of the United Republic of Tanzania has introduced different measures. These include: the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) of 1989 and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of 1990. Others include: holding of National Summits for children, introduction of the law of the Child Development Policy (1996), The Law of the Child Act, No 21 of 2009 and establishment of Ministries or department responsible for children like the Social Welfare Department and the Ministry for Gender, Women and Children and creation of good atmosphere for NGOs dealing with vulnerable children.

Despite the above measures, there is still no sign of adequate improvement in reduction of the problem. The magnitude of the problem is still high. For instance, Ngowi (2012) noted that in Tanzania it is estimated that there are 437,500 street children. Moreover, country statistics suggest that Dar-es-Salaam city is hardly hit. In support of this, Niboye (2013) holds that there are a bigger number of street children in Dar-es-Salaam

than any other urban centre in Tanzania. Besides, while the situation of street children on the street continues to be at risk, it should be noted that street children have equal rights like other children. Based on the above, it is apparent that, the above research findings have only been able to show the magnitude of the problem. None of them had assessed why the situation is persisting and even getting worse. Besides, the problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem are not yet explored. This weakness signifies the rationale for this study.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

1.4.1 General Objective

The Main objective of this study is to assess problems and challenges facing the Tanzanian Government in addressing the problem of street children and recommend appropriate measures to address it.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

1. To identify underlying factors leading to the persistence of the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality.
2. To find out problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality.
3. To come out with alternative strategies to curb the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality.

1.4.3 Research Questions

1. What are the underlying factors leading to persistence of the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality?
2. What problems and challenges face the government in addressing the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality?
3. What are the alternative strategies to curb the problem of street children at Kinondoni Municipality?

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is significant, timely, and appropriate due to a number of reasons which include: Firstly, it will contribute to national efforts in formulation and implementation of policies that effectively address the problem of street children in Tanzania. Secondly, the study findings will contribute to the improvement of communities' responsibilities for children's upbringing by increasing public awareness on street children problem. Thirdly, this study will raise awareness to policy makers and implementers regarding appropriate measures to be taken in the eradication of the problem of street children. Likewise, this study is expected to contribute to the existing body of knowledge in the areas of street children.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of information gathered from a review of literature. The rationale of the literature review is to provide a picture on what has been done and what needs to be done. Boote and Beile (2005) suggest that literature review sets the broad context of the study, clearly demarcates what is and what is not within the scope of the investigation, and justifies those decisions. Therefore, this chapter focuses on discussion of the concept of street children. A global overview of street children and the situation of street children in Africa and Tanzanian context are also presented. It also explains on an overview on causal factors for the problem of street children and the international and national response to the problem. The theoretical framework of the study is presented.

2.2 The Concept of Street Children

Defining street children is a difficult task especially considering the many uncertainties surrounding the term. The term street child is usually applied to children under the age of 18, who either live or make a living on the streets. Some may have family connections, but others are simply abandoned or choose to run away from home, often due to domestic violence (the Consortium for Street Children, 2007). The Inter-Non-Governmental Organization (1983) defined street children “Any girl or boy who has not reached adulthood, for whom the street (in the broadest sense of the word, including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland) more than their family has become her or his real home, abode and/or sources of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected,

supervised, or directed by responsible adults”. In this study street child refers to any boy or girl less than 18 years for whom the street has become his or her habitual abode or source of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults.

2.3 The Global Overview of Street Children

Street children exist in every part of the world and large groups of children unsupervised by adults have been seen in almost every country. It is estimated that there are between 10 and 100 million street children in the world today (LeRoux and Smith, 1998). For example In Europe the problem of street children was virtually unknown, primarily as a result of ancient Roman law that provided the father with unlimited power over his children. This power enabled the father to eliminate unwanted children by killing them or selling them as slaves (Peacock, 1994). However, during the 19th century in Europe, the industrial revolution in the process of revolutionizing the British economy impaired the livelihood of many workers. This disrupted family life creating many homeless children, many of which could be found on city streets. As the industrial revolution appeared first in England, the problem with abandoned children may have appeared first in Britain (Ferguson, 2003). Moreover, it was noted that there were lots of destitute children then who were either orphaned or abandoned and had no place to live. There were street boys in major cities like London, Liverpool and Manchester.

Notwithstanding the above information, the problem of street children is not limited only to the developed world but rather it also prevails in the developing world which includes: Latin America, Asia and Africa. For example, Moran and Castro (1997) noted

that the surge of street children in many Latin American and Caribbean cities in the wake of the economic crisis of the 1980s sparked a sense of urgency. On the other hand Kopoka (2000) indicated that the problem of street children is a growing problem worldwide, more so in African countries. In addition to that, UNICEF (2007) noted that street children in Africa are estimated currently to be in the range of 40 million. Further evidence on the problem situation of street children in Africa is as discussed under the sub-section below:-

2.4 The Problem of Street Children in the African Context

In African continent the problem of street children rose dramatically in the late 1980s and early 1990s .However, in the 21st century the problem is rising at a geometrical level and thus presents a challenge to all stakeholders in the society. That means the street children phenomenon has become one of the biggest problems of social welfare in most African countries. According to Mwansa et al (1994) the condition of children living and working on the streets of most urban areas in Africa has assumed problematic dimensions because many people are beginning to identify with the situation as needing an urgent and pragmatic attention. Moreover, the realization of the problematic nature of the street children phenomenon has not corresponded with an aggressive response from governments to deal with the problem.

In recent years, Africa has experienced unprecedented level of crisis ranging from such natural disasters as famine resulting from drought to ethno-religious wars, wars of attrition and the devastating impacts of HIV/AIDS (UNICEF, 2007). In addition to that, the problem has further been aggravated by the introduction of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) and the sweeping effects of globalization. The SAPs and effects of

globalization have heightened the dramatic change of the fabric of African society. Consequently, these changes have multiplied the number of African children on the streets. Moreover, Kopoka (2000) holds that the presence of street children in Africa is due to the increase in poverty, politically instigated violence, war, harassment, abusive parents and effects of HIV/AIDS.

According to African Union (2011), in Africa the problem of street children should be seen as a response to a chain and accumulation of factors which are diversified and at various levels particularly structural factors (such as poverty, demographic explosion, rural exodus, undesirable material and psychological conditions of urban families and injustices. Furthermore, the inter-personal factors such as subjection to violence on a daily basis, rejection, scorn, forced imitation, imposed deviant behaviour or inability to resist the attraction to deviant forms of behavior contribute to the problem of street children. A vivid example of the countries in the African continent where street children is havoc is Tanzania. For instance, Ngowi (2012) noted that in Tanzania it is estimated that there are 437,500 street children. This means that Tanzania has a long way to go if the situation continues to persist. The discussion on the situation of street children in Tanzania is explained under the following sub-section as shown here under.

2.5 The Overview of the Problem of Street Children in Tanzania

Like any other developing Countries Tanzania is not exceptional to the problem of street children. Historically, the problem can be traced since the early 1990s where Tanzania witnessed a visible increase in the number of children living and working on the street. A number of studies reveal that street children are rampant in the country and especially urban areas where the situation is more critical. According to Lugalla

and Mbwambo (1999) the problem of street children is acute in big cities like Dar-es-Salaam, Arusha, Morogoro, Moshi, Tanga, Mbeya and Mwanza.

Moreover, Mkombozi (2003) identified 259 full time and 520 part time street children in Moshi and Arusha. In Moshi 14% (64) and in Arusha 29% (195) identified themselves as full time street children. While in the same regions 49% (224) and 44% (296) of children identified themselves as part time street children respectively. In both towns there are more part time street children on the streets than full time and more boys than girls. In terms of age in Moshi 92% of full time street children and 89% of part time street children are between 10 and 19 years of age. In Arusha 94% of full time street children and 96% of part time street children were between the ages of 10 – 19 (Mkombozi, 2004).

It has been reported that the problem of street children in Tanzania and towns is also attributed to the advantages of economies of scale that cities and towns offer, which are water, electricity, business and marketing infrastructure opportunities. The rural areas of Tanzania lack adequate provision of those amenities. Furthermore, the family as an institution is going through a lot of upheavals. Fewer and fewer children have stable and loving family environments. Many families have broken up with children left to fend for themselves. Many families are increasingly characterized by absent parents, alcoholism and domestic violence (Kopoka, 2000).

On the other hand it is estimated that Tanzania has an ever increasing number of street children. For example, in 1991 a total of 259 full time and 520 part-time street children were found in Moshi and Arusha regions, and the number in Bukoba town was

300 during that year. From that time, other studies have also revealed that the number of street children is increasing, despite various efforts to curb the problem. According to UNICEF (1992) the number of street children increased more than tenfold since 1991. Furthermore, between 1994 to 1995 it was the situation of street children was estimated that there were about 2000 to 4000 street children in Tanzania between and during that time, Dar es Salaam alone was estimated to have over 2000 fulltime street children (Lugalla and Mbwambwo, 1999). In order to curb the problem, the government of the United Republic of Tanzania has taken a number of Policies as action strategies. Yet, the problem still persists. Hence a need to determine challenges on the government in addressing the problem emerges.

2.6 Causal Factors Contributing to the Problem of Street Children in Tanzania

Different studies have been conducted on the problem of street children and came up with different findings on the causal factors to the problem. Findings of some of these studies are presented as follows:-

Blackford et al (2008) found that there has been a consistent increase in the number of street children in Tanzania's urban centers since the early 1990s. Furthermore; the study found that over 1,000 children live on the streets of Moshi and Arusha. The cause for children fleeing to the streets is complex and multi-faceted, and each child has his or her individual story and background.

The major cross-cutting cause, however, is poverty and an inability of families in rural areas and urban slums to provide for the basic needs of their children. Urban children are sent to the streets in search of work and return home at night. Rural children run away from abuse family life and find themselves with very few options once they are

on the street in a strange city. Other root causes include: HIV/AIDS, rising divorce rates, lack of rights for women and children, and the prohibitive cost of primary education (op.cit, 2008). Moreover, Girmay (2008) found that among the causal factors of child streetism is the situation of living in poverty that pushes children to move to streets. Nevertheless, Nyoni (2007) found that the major factors that contribute to street children include: divorce, orphanage, poverty and large family size.

Despite, different study's findings as discussed above, little is known regarding why the problem persist and what are the problems and challenges facing the government in addressing it. Most studies identified poverty, divorce and large family size as causal factors for the problem but in reality these are just symptoms of the problem and not real cause or underlying factors of the problem. Mwami (2002) documented that poverty has always existed on the African continent since the time of colonization. Therefore, the existence of poverty is understandable in light of historic events. However and there must be more specific explanations for such a drastic rise. The exodus of children indicates their lack of positive incentives to remain in their families (Boutin, 2006).

Based on these findings it can be concluded that none of the above studies have attempted to identify the underlying factors for persistence of the problem nor have they assessed the challenges facing the government towards addressing the problem. This limitation further justifies the basis of this study. Since street children is a global issue, and even the efforts to address the problem have both local and international response, the following sub-sections present information regarding international response to the problem as presented.

2.7 International Response to the Problem of Street Children

There exist different strategies to curb the problem at international level as set forth by UN and regional organizations including the African Union (AU) formerly Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Nevertheless, the governments have set up several legislative, regulatory and institutional mechanisms in response to the problem of children in difficult situations, with support from partners. These national legislations draw from two main sources: the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted in 1989; and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, which was adopted in July 1990.

Moreover, in many countries, there are also several actors who provide many forms of assistance to street children. The strategy commonly implemented in many countries is the provisions of Educational Assistance in an Open Environment. However, the increasingly growing presence of children on the streets proves to the urgency of increased actions and of adopting intervention strategies directed at them. Consequently, there is a need to devote the greatest amount of effort to finding appropriate solutions to stem the large-scale abuse of the rights of this category of children (AU, 2011). This situation justifies the need to conduct this study. However, a summary of the actions taken by the government of Tanzania are given below.

2.8 The Response of Tanzanian Government to the Problem

Tanzania has implemented plans and taken certain steps aimed at promoting child development. These steps include provision and strengthening of maternal and Child care, establishment of pre - school and provision of primary education for all. In addition to that, the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,

signing the OAU charter on the rights of children; the enactment and review of laws aimed at promoting and protecting the rights and interests of children; preparation and implementation of the National Programme of Action concerning child survival, protection and development in the 1990s (Nyoni, 2007). Moreover, the Government has also created a special Ministry to coordinate child development programme and encourage non - governmental organizations and individuals to establish centres for children in difficult circumstances; to set up special schools and institutions to cater for children with particular problems and established juvenile courts (URT, 1996). In addition to that, currently the Law of the Child Act, No 21 /2009 is in place.

Therefore, under this chapter it can be concluded that the problem of street children exists internationally, nationally and locally while poverty consistently reported to be the major cause of the problem. However, poverty is rather a symptom and not a real cause. For example, The United Nations (2012) indicated that poverty is just a symptom or pathway that leads children to the street and not a cause of the problem. Nevertheless, while poverty can be an important pathway to the street, the majority of children who live in economic poverty do not end up in the streets (op.cit, 2012). In addition to that it should be renowned that poverty does not create itself but is rather created by people and therefore, there must be some critical explanations why and how these people create poverty that push these children to the streets.

It is apparent that, the underlying factors of the problem are not well known and that is why most of the previous study findings have jumped into conclusion that, it is poverty that leads to street children and did not dwell deep to seek the root cause for the persistence of the problem. Besides, the above studies did not tell exactly what are the

problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children specifically in Tanzania. The above weaknesses justify the significance of this study. The study was guided by Durkheim's Structural Functionalism Theory as it is explained in the section below.

2.9 Theoretical Framework

Each study is guided by a theory as a framework. This study adopts Durkheim's Structural Functionalist Theory. The argument advanced in this theory is that a system consists of various components or sub-systems, which must function as a unit. Each structure is interrelated and interlinked and contributing in a different way to keeping the entire society healthy. A malfunctioning of one structure is bound to have a ripple effects on the whole unit. This study assesses the central and critical role played by the government in care and support of street children. Besides, this study assesses what are the problems and challenges facing the government in efforts towards addressing the problem. The assumption is that if the government fails to assume its roles, the problem is less likely to be well solved.

2.10 Summary of Literature Review

Based on the discussion from the above empirical evidence by different scholars, it is clear that despite the existence of multiple definitions of the problem and variations in magnitude, yet, the problem of street children remains the global issue that has neither geographical nor political boundaries. For example, in Europe the problem emerged as far back as during the 19th century and is directly linked to industrial revolution .On the other hand in Africa, Latin America and Asia the manifestations of the problem dates

back as far as during the 1980s and poverty, HIV/AIDS, Divorce and child abuse are considered to be the main causes for children migrating on the streets. Furthermore, Tanzania as one of the developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa is not exceptional to the problem of street children and especially in commercial cities like Dar-Es-Salaam. The main causal factors attributed to the problem include: poverty, HIV/AIDS, divorce, large family size and child abuse.

Based on the above findings, both international and national responses have been witnessed to address the problem. For example at international level, different strategies exist and these include: the UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child (1989) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990). Besides, at national level, different strategies exist and these include: ratifications of both UN and African conventions on the rights and welfare of the child of 1989 and 1990 respectively. In addition to that introduction of the Child Development Policy (1996) and The Law of Marriage Act, No.5/1971 (R.E), the Law of the Child Act, No.21/2009. Others include: the Criminal Procedure Act, No.9/1985, Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act (1998) and the Penal Code, Chapter 16 of the Laws (R.E 2002).

Despite these government efforts, the problem of street children still persists in Tanzania and especially in Dar-Es-Salaam city. According to Niboye (2013) , Dar-Es-Salaam has a bigger number of street children than any other urban centre in Tanzania .Based on the above evidence, it is clear that the underlying causes of the problem have not been revealed but what has been exposed are just manifestations of the problems and challenges facing the government to curb the situation .In addition to that, previous researchers have been able to tell that the problem continues to persist, but failed to

establish why problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem are not clearly articulated. It is from these evidence that the researcher of this study believes that the above pitfalls have led to failure of the government to come up with viable policies and laws to address the problem. The above weaknesses, further justifies the undertaking of this study.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DESIGNS

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research methodology and design. Research methodology helps to explain how the study has been undertaken, how the research problem has been defined, in what way and why the hypothesis has been formulated, what data have been collected and what methods have been adapted and why selected technique of analyzing data . Kothari (2004) suggested the contents of research methodology to include: the research design, area of study (coverage), sample and sampling techniques, methods for data collection and techniques for data analysis. In view of this, this study adopted the above outline as framework for presentation of this chapter.

3.2 Research Design

Cooper and Schindler (2008) indicated that research design is the blueprint for fulfilling objectives and answering questions. In conducting research, there, are many research designs in research but this study adopts in Descriptive Cross-Sectional Research Design, using both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection. The logic behind adopting this type of research design based on the fact that, it studies a broad range of issues at a single point in time. Therefore, it provides quick and rich information of a research problem on breadth and depth. The study involved one round of data collection at Kinondoni Municipality to collect data from all respondent categories. A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted with all the streets of Kinondoni Municipality serving as potential recruitment areas. However, for practical reasons, ted children from high-density areas such as the streets that are adjacent to the bus stops, car junctions and market places.

3.3 Area of the Study

The study was conducted at Kinondoni Municipality in Dar-Es-Salaam city. This area was selected based on the criteria of being a highly populated municipality in Dar-es-Salaam and therefore potential for huge number of street children. For example, according National Bureau of Statistics (2013) Kinondoni Municipality has bigger number of population (1.7 million) as compared to Temeke (1.3 million) people and Ilala (1.2 million) people. Kalimbira (2007) suggests that street children are found in areas with high population density. Based on these criteria Kinondoni has characteristics of being the study area.

3.4 Study Population

According to Kothari (2009), the study population is the group of which individuals in a study. But since the population is not accessible, therefore, the researcher selected study sample from Kinondoni Municipality. The study was conducted using different categories of subjects. Both simple random sampling and purposive sampling were used to select respondents. Firstly, Street Children, Community Development Officers and Ward Executive Officers were selected using simple random sampling. Secondly, Social Welfare Officers, Ward Councilors and Kinondoni Municipal Director were selected using purposive sampling.

3.5 Study Sample

A sample in research study refers to any group on which information is obtained (Frankel and Wallen, 2000). When it is possible, a researcher would prefer to study the entire population in which he/she is interested. However, this is difficult to do because

most populations of interest are large, diverse, and scattered over a large geographic area as well as time consuming and expensive. Sampling, therefore is used because it reduces the time, time and labour. On that basis, this study covered a sample size of 62 respondents from different categories as summarized under the Table 3.1 below:-

Table 3.1: Categories of Study Respondents

| S/N | Respondents | Number of respondents | Tools |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Street children | 20 | Structured guided questionnaire |
| 2 | Community development officers | 20 | |
| 3 | Ward executive officers Key informants | 10 | Semi-structured interview |
| 4 | Municipal Director | 1 | |
| 5 | Social Welfare Officers | 10 | |
| 6 | Ward Councilor | 1 | |
| Total | | 62 | |

Based on the above table, the study consisted of four (4) different groups of respondents. These include: street children, Community Development Officers and Ward Executive Officers. The other group was the key informants which include: Social Welfare Officers (SWOs), the Municipal Director and Ward Councilor. The involvement of Street Children was based on the fact that, they are the ones directly affected and hence have information about their own problem while Social Welfare Officers were selected based on their roles of ensuring the coordinated responses for MVC including street children.

On the other hand, the study involved Community Development Officers (CDOs) by virtue of their responsibilities of implementing the Child Development Policy and for assessing the implementation of programmes for vulnerable children and the

development and monitoring of national plans of action concerning children. Furthermore, the study involved Ward Executive Officers because... while the inclusion of the Municipal Director and Ward Councilor is based on their positions as administrators and politicians respectively, hence they have influence in decision making at municipal level. Besides, the inclusion criteria of street children is based on the fact that they are the victims and therefore have adequate experience on challenges of being street children.

3.6 Sampling Procedures

There are different sampling procedures in research in research which can either be probability or non-probability sampling. The probability sampling constitutes: Simple random sample, Systematic random sampling, Stratified random sampling, multistage sampling, Multiphase sampling and Cluster sampling. On the other hand non-probability sampling comprises of Convenience sampling, Purposive sample and Quota Sampling. However, in this the study respondents were selected by using two main sampling procedures as discussed below:-

3.6.1 Simple Random Sampling

Simple random sampling method is the one in which each element of the population has an equal and independent chance of being included in the sample (Frankel and Wallen, 2000). Simple random sampling was done where by a sampling frame of all 34 wards found in Kinondoni Municipality was made. The names of all wards written in the small folded pieces of paper which was then drawn at random under lottery method until the required four(4) numbers of wards obtained. The wards selected were Manzese,

Magomeni, Kigogo and Makurumla. From the sampled wards another sampling frame of all streets was done to obtain a sample of streets from where the respondents were drawn and the streets included: Mbuyuni, Magomeni Mapipa, Kilimani and Kimamba. Then by applying availability sampling of all street children, found in the selected areas, 20 street children below the age of 18 were conveniently involved under structured guided questionnaire five (5) from each street. The major inclusion criteria included: children working on the streets, begging either alone or accompanied by an adult beggar. Other criteria includes: touting, loitering, scavenging and frequent presence at aggregation points even at odd hours. All children meeting the inclusion criteria were randomly recruited for the study after informed consent was given. The research then was conducted using structured guided questionnaire. The instrument was translated to Kiswahili language, the predominant language in Tanzania and back translated to English language to ascertain construct validity.

3.6.2. Purposive Sampling

Purposive sampling is a type of sampling in which the researcher chooses subjects with specified characteristics (Kothari, 2001). This sampling involves use of own judgment or intuition to identify a sample unit and sample out of it. Purposive sampling is preferred to select key informants who have rich information to the central issues being studied. The selected respondents for the study include: Social Welfare Officers (10), Community Development Officers (20) and Ward Executive Officers (10). The inclusion criteria included: knowledge and experience of respondents of dealing with Street Children at their respective localities. Other respondents which also referred to as key informants included: Social Welfare Officers, Ward Councilors and District Executive Director of Kinondoni Municipality. These key informants were involved by

virtue of their positions as professionals, political figures and administrators respectively. Data from key informants was collected through semi-structured interview and the researcher was being guided by an interview guide.

3.7 Methods of Data Collection

Data Collection is an important aspect of any type of research. Inaccurate data collection can impact the results of a study and ultimately lead to invalid results. There are many ways of collecting data; however in general they can be classified into Primary and Secondary Data. Both primary and secondary data collection methods were used in the process of collecting data as explained here under.

3.7.1 Primary Data

Primary data is information and data that are collected at the time of the study (Kothari, 2008). Furthermore; Kothari (2004) defined primary data as those which are collected a fresh and for the first time and thus happen to be original in character. Importance of Primary data cannot be neglected. A research can be conducted without secondary data but a research based on only secondary data is least reliable and may have biases because secondary data has already been manipulated by human beings. The primary data in this study are intended to be derived from the answers of respondents given in the structured questionnaire and semi-structured interview as described below.

3.7.2 Structured Guided Questionnaire

There are different types of questionnaires in research but under this study the researcher adopts structured questionnaire. Kothari (2008) suggested that Structured questionnaires are simple to administer and relatively inexpensive to analyse. Under

this study the original questionnaire was designed in English, administered in Kiswahili before answers being translated back to English for recording. All questions were closed ended. Data was collected by an interviewer (researcher) through structured questionnaire to collect data from 20 street children, 20 Community Development Officers and 10 Ward Executive Officers. The inclusion criteria of street children included: being a loitering child or child in groups, scavenging, begging either lonely or accompanied by an adult pauper, selling petty business during school hours or washing car window screens and touting. The mode of approach is that the researcher begins by identifying the child and establishes an informal, close and friendly relationship with him/ them that they become familiar with the researcher, purpose of the study and then asks them to participate in the study.

3.7.3 Semi-Structured Guided Interviews

Saunders et al (2009) defined an interview as a purposeful discussion between two or more people. There are different types of interview, however, in this study the researcher adopts Semi-structured interview. In the process of collecting data the researcher was guided by an interview guide that contained a set of questions. The interview guide helped the researcher to cover all important aspects he requires in the interview as well as keeps records of interview. Basically, the choice of interview method in this study was based on its usefulness for getting the story behind a respondent's experiences and the loophole for the researcher to probe deeper into the given situation. In addition, the researcher can explain or rephrase the questions if respondents are unclear about the questions. Under this study 12 key informants (respondents) were interviewed. These include: Social Welfare Officers (10), Ward Councilor and the Municipal Director.

3.7.2 Review of Secondary Data

According to Kothari (2008) secondary data means data is available. It includes data which have already been collected and analysed by someone else. The strengths of using secondary data under this study are that they are a cost-effective way of gaining a broad understanding of research questions and is also helpful in designing subsequent primary research as well as can provide a baseline with which to compare primary data results. The reviewing of secondary data is important to set the background of the problem, formulation of problem statement, research questions and gap of knowledge. In this study secondary data were derived from the findings in published documents and literatures related to the research problem. For the purpose of this study data was based from the recent literatures related to street children and the concepts expected to be cited by the respondents.

Secondly, data from materials such as text books, news papers, journals and internet were used to back up primary information and relate the findings to other approaches already in existence. In this study, the documents include both governmental and non-governmental documents including: the Law of the Child Act No.21/2009, Child Development Policy (1996), The Law of Marriage Act, No 5 of 1971 and empirical Reports and Surveys relating to the problem of street children in Tanzania.

3.8 Data Analysis Methods

According to Hatch (2002) data analysis is a systematic search for meaning. Saunders, et.al (2009) indicated that data of no greater value, if not processed and analyzed. In this study, data was collected by the researcher in respective areas. For consistency purposes all filled questionnaires were rechecked for completeness every day after field

work. Manual data cleaning was done to check accuracy and completeness of the questionnaires. Quantitative, data was then entered in the computer and cleaning was done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 16.0 for computation of frequencies and percentages. Subsequently, data was summarized and presented using frequency distribution tables, pie charts, histograms and bar charts using Microsoft Excel software.

On the other hand, qualitative data was analysed using Thematic Analysis. The researcher analyzed data based on themes (objectives) that were prepared. Thematic analysis approach involved reading through the transcribed texting of each interview and identifying responses relevant to the main questions asked by the study. The approach involved shortening of the text and creating categories. Main steps that were involved for thematic analysis in the study was by organizing and preparing the data for analysis, reading through the data, coding the data, generating categories and finally interpretation of data.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

Ethics can be viewed as the norms for conduct that distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. De Vos et al.(2002:62) describes ethical aspects as a —set of moral values or principles which is suggested by a group or individual, and which is subsequently accepted as the rules and prescriptions of how participants and researchers should conduct themselves. In research and especially social work research that primarily uses human beings as research respondents; the following ethical issues must be considered and attended to in every research endeavour: informed consent, anonymity/confidentiality and management of information. Under this study the

researcher is aware of, and respectful of, children's limitations, level of cognitive development and social and emotional needs. Thus, he is able to recognize, and accommodate children's emotional and social vulnerabilities as they were administered through the questionnaire in the guided interview. The researcher ensured that every child was allowed to complete the interview with his dignity intact.

3.10 Pre-testing of Instruments

The first draft of structured questionnaire was pre-tested in the field by a random sample of 5 Street children and 1Municipal Community Development Officer. In contrast, the interview guide was also pre-tested to one (1) Municipal Social Welfare Officer and 2Ward Executive Officers. Thereafter, necessary adjustments and corrections were done to instruments before the researcher embarked on actual data collection. The pre-test sample was not included in the final sample of 62 respondents.

3.11 Limitations of the Study

Although the research permit was granted to allow the conduct of this study, the Ward Executive Officers were reluctant. However, the researcher tried to educate them on the need of the significance of the study to the community and student himself. Another limitation was financial incapability, taking into consideration that the researcher had to incur all costs himself as he had no sponsorship from anybody or institution.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1. Introduction

This chapter presents analyses and interprets the findings from data collected from the field. The findings were obtained from the questionnaire, and semi-structured structured interviews. The study involved six (6) categories of respondents. The first category was street children, aged 5 to 17 years and the second category was Community Development Officers. The third category was of Ward Executive Officers and the fourth one was of Social Welfare Officers. The fifth and sixth category included Municipal Director and Ward Councilor respectively

This chapter aimed at presenting, analyzing and discussing the findings. The aim of this study was to assess problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children in Tanzania, particularly in Kinondoni Municipality (Dar-es-Salaam). The analysis was divided thematically according to the three specific research objectives. The objectives include: to identify underlying factors leading to the persistence of the problem of street children, to find out problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem and to come out with alternative strategies to curb the problem. Both qualitative and quantitative data are presented side-by-side in themes. Subsequently, conclusions were drawn from the findings as presented.

Data was collected from 62 respondents. The respondents were selected using purposive and simple random sampling. The Municipal Director, Social Welfare Officers (10), Community Development Officers (20), Ward Executive Officers (10)

and Ward Councilor(1) were selected using purposive sampling while 20 street children were drawn using simple random sampling. Before the initiation of the survey process, the researcher explained to the respondents the main aim, specific objectives and the rationale of the study. The researcher guaranteed respondents of confidentiality of any information shared. All questions asked in the survey questionnaire pertain only to the respondents' insights on the topic of the study. Data is analysed both quantitatively and qualitatively.

In order to give an appropriate flow of discussion, this chapter includes five (5) sub-sections. Section one is about demographic characteristics of respondents. Section two focused on duration of stay of street children on the streets. The third section concentrated on impact of persistence of street children while the fourth section presents and analyses responses on whether government efforts are adequate or not in addressing the problem of street children. The fifth and last section presents and analyses the major findings in accordance with the three specific objectives of study. The presentations and discussions are presented below.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

As already stated, a total of 62 respondents were involved in the study, whereby 50 respondents were involved in the structured questionnaire while 12 took part in semi-structured interview. The following table shows demographic data of respondents. The logic behind presenting and analyzing characteristics of respondents in terms of age, sex and education lies on the fact that responses are determined by sex, age and education level of respective respondents. Table 4.1 as presented below summarizes these characteristics (n=62)

Table 4.1: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

| Variables | Category and percentages of respondents | | | | | | Total |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Street children | CDO | WEO | SWO | MD | WC | |
| <i>Sex</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Male</i> | 13(21%) | 4(6.4%) | 5(8.1%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 40.3% |
| <i>Female</i> | 7(11.2%) | 16(26%) | 5(8.1%) | 9(16%) | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 20(32.2%) | 20(32.2%) | 10(16.1%) | 10(16.1%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 62(100%) |
| <i>Age</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>5-7</i> | 1(1.6%) | | | | | | 1(1.6%) |
| <i>7-10</i> | 8(12.9%) | | | | | | 8(12.9%) |
| <i>10-14</i> | 7(11.2%) | | | | | | 7(11.2%) |
| <i>14-17</i> | 4(6.4%) | | | | | | 4(6.4%) |
| <i>18-25</i> | | 1(1.6%) | 2(3.2%) | 1(1.6%) | | | 4(6.4%) |
| <i>25-35</i> | | 5(8.1%) | 4(6.4%) | 3(5%) | | | 12(19.5%) |
| <i>35-45</i> | | 8(13%) | 4(6.4%) | 2(3.2%) | | | 14(22.6%) |
| <i>45+</i> | | 6(9.7%) | | 4(6.4%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 12(19.3%) |
| <i>Total</i> | 20(32.2%) | 20(32.4%) | 10(16.0%) | 10(16.0) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 62(100%) |
| <i>Education</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>None</i> | 8(12.9%) | | | | | | 8(12.9%) |
| <i>Primary</i> | 9(14.5%) | | 1(1.6%) | | | | 9(16.1%) |
| <i>Secondary/incomplete</i> | 3(4.8) | 6(9.7%) | 4(6.4%) | 3(4.8%) | | | 16(25.7%) |
| <i>University/college</i> | | 14(22.5%) | 5(8.1%) | 7(11.2%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 28(45%) |
| <i>Total</i> | 20(33%) | 20(33%) | 10(16.1%) | 10(15%) | 1(1.6%) | 1(1.6%) | 62(100%) |

Source: Researcher (2013)

As it has been indicated under Table 4.1, that in terms of sex of respondents, the majority 60.7% of respondents were females as compared with only 40.3% males. Despite, the big proportions of females in this study, yet, for the case of street children,

males constituted the highest proportions 13(65%) males as compared to 7(35%) females. The findings are in line with a study carried out by Lugalla and Mbwambo(1999) that there are more street boys than girls in Tanzania and various reasons explain this situation.

Firstly, cultural sanctions towards girls are stronger and thus they are subject to more controlled supervision or monitoring by their families. The chances of being able to run away from their homes are slim. As a result there are fewer girls living on the streets in Tanzania. Secondly, even if girls do manage to run away from their homes, most of them end up living with a family for whom they are being working as domestic servants. As they grow up and become independent, they often join the entertainment industry as barmaids, hotel attendants or prostitutes. Thirdly, street girls are always vulnerable to physical and sexual assault making street children less attractive to girls than to boys.

In addition to that, as many parts of the world have shown, street children tend to be predominantly male. According to Lusk et al (1989), in a study of 103 children in Mexico found that about 83% of the sample to be male. Moreover, in Rio de Janeiro, Rizzini (1991) found that only approximately 10% of Street Children are female. Furthermore, Onyango et al (1991) in a sample of Kenyan Street Children reported that 91% were boys.

According Mufune (2003) worldwide there is a higher incidence of street boys than girls, a trend that might be explained by parental fears regarding the dangers of street life to females. In addition to that Veale (1993) noted that girls are absorbed into households because they are perceived to be more able than boys to do chores such as

child-minding and domestic work. Another common explanation for finding fewer girls in the streets is that they are more likely to be engaged in commercial sex work (Volpi, 2003).

The age range of respondents were between 5-45 plus, however, the majority of respondents were in between 35-45(22.6%). On the other hand, 1(1.6%) of respondents was between 5-7 years. According to UNICEF (2002), street children are between the ages of about 5 and 17 years old and they are mainly deprived of family care and protection. This indicates that even youngest children are involved in the street life. The findings confirm the study by, Msekwa (2009:26) that street children started working at an early age.

In terms of education, the majority of the respondents 28(45%) had university or college education. However, 8(12.9%) of respondents had no formal education and these are street children. These results portray the reality of most of the street children in all over the world including Tanzania, that, the majority of them have no access to formal education.

In connection to these findings, Ahmad (1999) found that, street children have little or no access to basic education. Although primary education has been declared free and compulsory, many parents cannot afford to send their children to schools due to financial and social factors. Being members of very poor families, these children are often involved in different odd jobs to supplement their family income involved in different odd jobs to supplement their family income. In addition to that, according to Shrestha (2009) street children's access to education remains very low. A 2008 census

of street children in Mwanza indicated that 26% of participants had never attended school, and a further 45% had dropped out of school.

4.3 Guardians of Street Children

The study wanted to identify the household compositions of families of origins of street children. This was important in explaining the push factors for migration of street children into the streets. Distribution of respondents (street children) based on guardians of street children are presented under Fig.4.1 below (n=20)

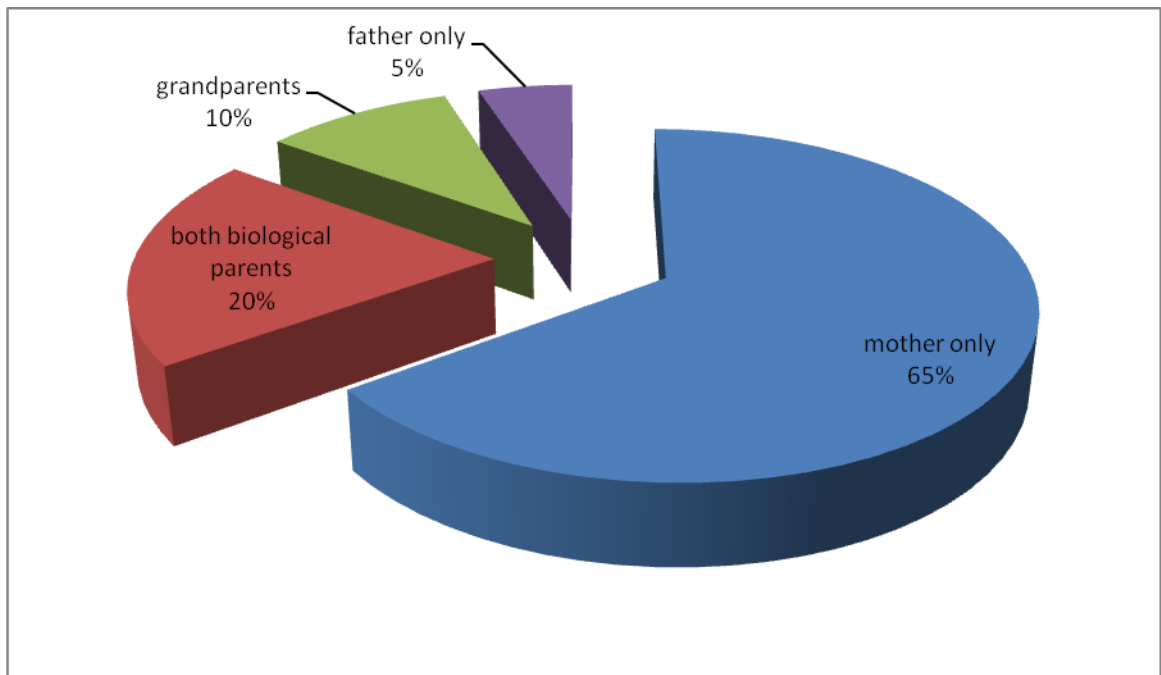


Figure 4.1: Distribution of Street Children based on their Respective Guardians

Source: Researcher (2013)

As it has been indicated under Fig 4.1, that, the majority (65%) of respondents (street children) lived with their mothers and only 20% of respondents lived with their biological parents. In addition to that 10% of respondents lived with their grandparents and 5% lived with their fathers only. The implications of the study findings are that

women are still overwhelmed with the burden of child care in Tanzania as a result of patriarchal principles while men in holidays.

4.4 Areas of Domicile of Street Children

The researcher wanted to know whether all street children were living on the streets permanently or some of them were part-time street children and maintain contact with their parents. Figure 4.2 summarizes distribution of street children based on areas of domicile (n=20).

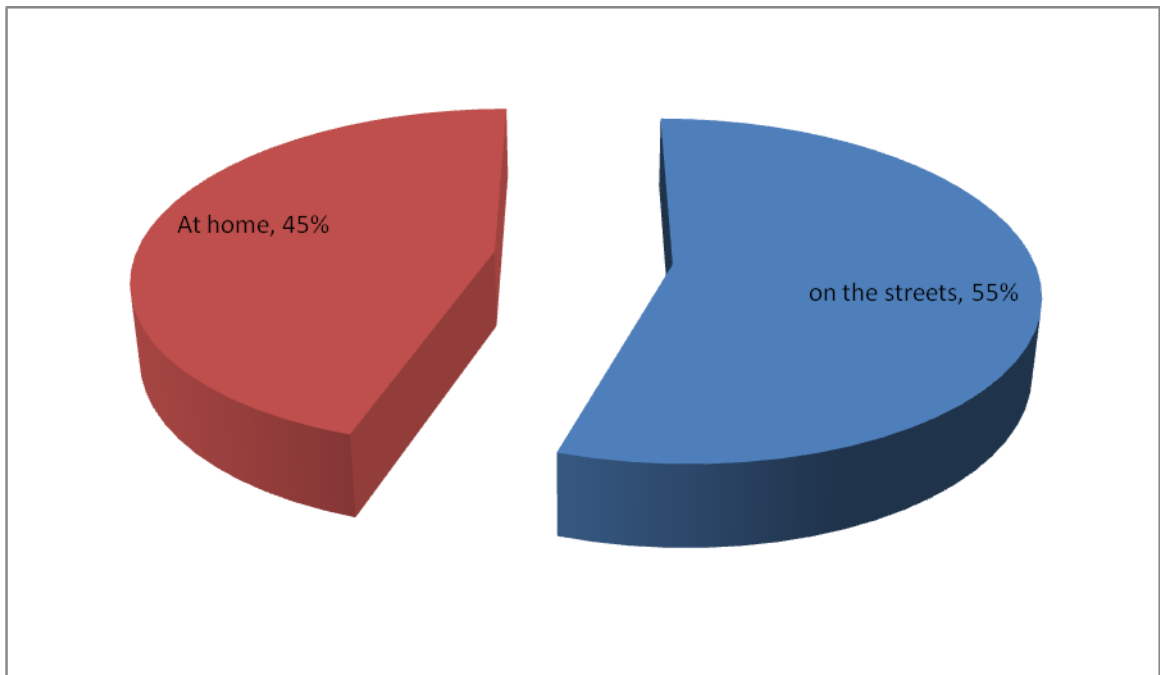


Figure 4.2: Distribution of Street Children based on Areas of Domicile

Source: Researcher (2013)

The majority 11(55%) of respondents indicated that they were living on the streets while the remaining 45% were living at home. The results are consistent with OVC Report (2001:9) as cited by Mella (2012) that street children exist along a continuum of varying degrees of connection with their families. There are children in a grey stage or

transitional stage other than the usual characterization of children as of the street and children on the street. Sleeping both at home and on the street, the child finally chose the street when home conditions are no longer supportive. In addition to that, the study conducted on 100 boys from Alexandria by Salem and Abd El-Latif (2000) showed that, majority of the children (94%) slept on the street while only 6% slept at home on a regular basis. Therefore, the results provide justification that some street children have either parents or guardians but failure of government enforcement organs led to irresponsibility of these parents or guardians.

4.5 Duration of stay of Street Children on the Streets

The street children were asked on their duration of stay on the streets. The statistical figures revealed variations in terms of duration of stay of street children on the streets as presented under Table 4.2 here under.

Table 4.2: Duration of Stay of Streets Children on the Streets (n=20).

| Duration of stay on the streets | Frequency | percentages |
|--|------------------|--------------------|
| 0-1years | 12 | 60% |
| 2-5years | 7 | 35% |
| 6-10 years | 1 | 5% |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Researcher (2013)

Table 4.2 indicates that majority (60%) of respondents was living on the streets between 0-1years, 35% lived between 2-5years (2-5 years) and the remaining 5% had lived between 6-10 years. The findings suggest that every year Tanzania the new generation of street children is formed. In addition to that, the results imply that these

children started living on the streets at very young age and that is why there are 5% of street children who had lived between 6-10 years.

4.6 Impact for persistence of the problem of Street Children

The researcher wanted to know what happens if the problem of street Children continues to persist. The respondents' views on this question as collected through structured questionnaire are presented under Fig. 4.3 below (n=50).

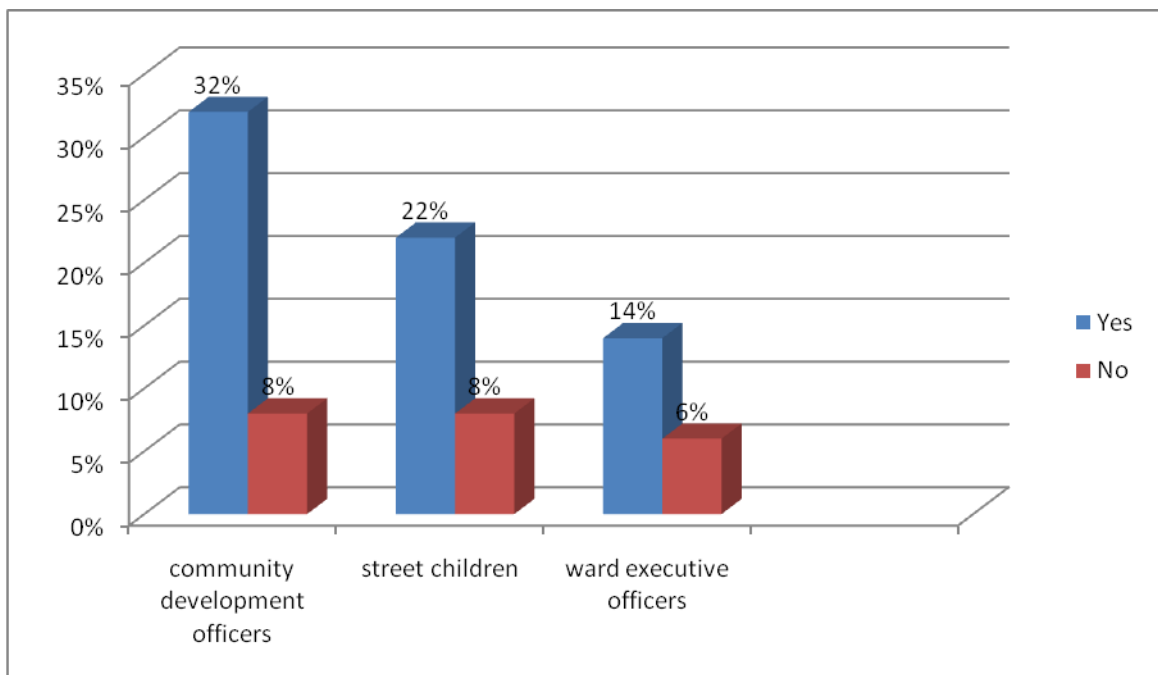


Figure 4.3: Responses on Whether Persistence of the Problem of Street Children has impact

Source: Researcher (2013)

From Figure 4.3, it is shown that the majority (68%) agreed that the persistence of the problem of street children has impact. These impacts include: increase of crime rate, perpetuation of street children (vicious cycle), persistence of HIV/AIDS and increase of unemployment rate. In contrast, 32% of respondents disagreed with the assumption that,

the problem leads to crime and HIV/AIDS. To further, qualify these findings, respondents in semi-structured interviews were asked on this question and a 48 years old Social Welfare officer at Kinondoni Municipality had this to say:

“.....if the problem continues this way, Tanzania is at risk of producing criminals, since, the today’s’ street children are the tomorrows’ pickpockets or bandits. Of course, street children are highly involved in unprotected sex as they have no access to education and also due to life hardships, they are compelled to engage in prostitution which jeopardizes their lives. On the other hand, since most of them have no adequate education, it is likely that they will have no skills for formal employment”.

According to respondents’ views as collected through questionnaire and interview it can be argued that street children is a problem with big impact .Therefore, the problem needs an immediate intervention if Tanzania is to be free crime, HIV/AIDS, high rate of unemployment and perpetual increase of street children. A study carried out by ILO (2002) noted that street children may earn a living through theft, prostitution drug trafficking or other illicit activities. In addition to that, UNICEF (1993) noted that street children are involved in drug trafficking, and those trapped by crime syndicates who induce them to pick-pocket, commit burglaries and hold-ups, or appear in pornographic print and media productions. Furthermore, street children may fall into one of these categories. Boys engage in serious crime may become targets for assassination hit squads/street girls are easy prey for recruitment into prostitution.

Moreover, Kembo and Nhongo (2002) as cited by Mella (2012) noted that there were significant numbers of children involved in prostitution. Street children, especially

those that live on the streets, are vulnerable to sexual exploitation. These findings provide an impression that street children is a national disaster because its persistence can result into multiple problems including but not limited to HIV/AIDS, drugs abuse, moral decay, and national insecurity due to increase of crime as exacerbated by living circumstances of these innocent children.

4.7 Responses on whether Government's Efforts are adequate or not in Addressing the Problem of Street Children

The researcher wanted to establish if the existing government efforts on addressing the problem of street children were adequate or not. The summary of responses was summarized under Figure 4.4 as shown below (n=50).

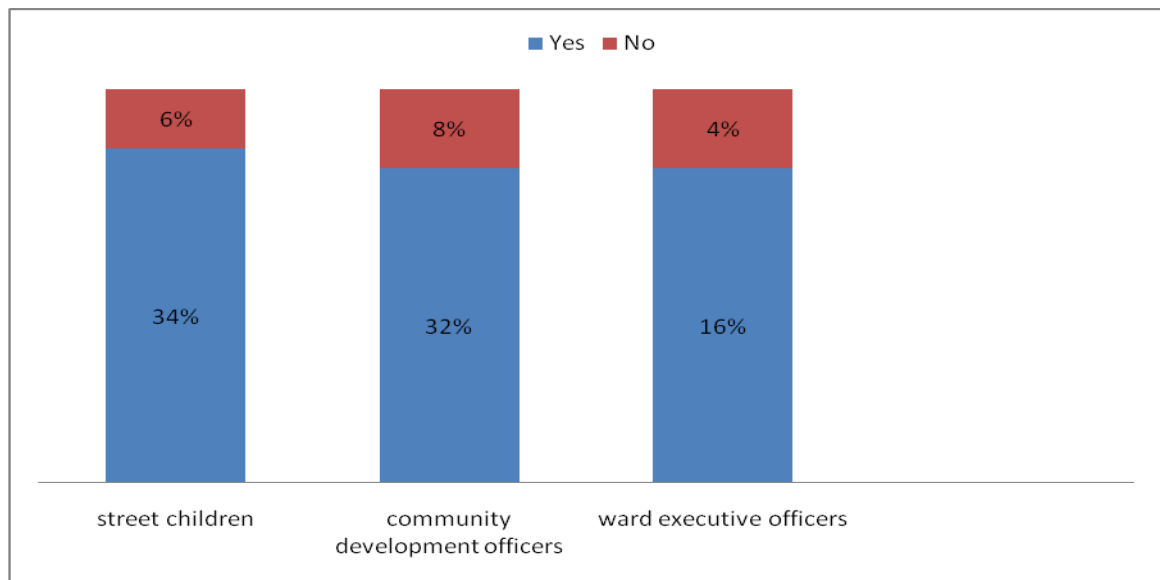


Figure 4.4: Respondents' views on whether Government Efforts are adequate or not in Addressing the Problem of Street Children

Source: Researcher (2013)

It is indicated under Figure 4.4, that, the majority (82%) of respondents reached through questionnaire said the existing efforts by the government are not adequate. Besides,

18% of respondents rejected the researcher's assumption that government efforts are inadequate. This argument is in line with one of respondents (Ward Councilor) aged 51 at Magomeni ward who said that:

“...the government is trying its level best to solve this problem, however, the problem of loopholes in terms of monitoring of funds and activities set back the expected achievements”. In addition to that, sometimes, laws are written in English, hence, difficult for Ordinary citizens to know exactly what it means”.

This extract justifies the ineffectiveness of laws and policies, because if the language used is not known to implementers/stakeholders, it means the laws are useless. In addition to that there is weak enforcement of laws as justified by loopholes as stated above. It is surprising to see no action taken against people misusing funds. The finding provides a clear justification that the government existing structures and strategies like laws, policies and guidelines have proved failure. According to Kopoka (2000) not enough is being done to address the problem and that indeed the problem of street children remains an ignored tragedy.

4.8. Underlying factors for persistence of the problem of Street Children

The researcher wanted to identify the underlying factors leading to the persistence of the problem of Street Children in Tanzania and specifically at Kinondoni Municipality. The assumption was that most previous studies on street children have just attempted to identify mere symptoms of the problem and not the root causes. Therefore, the researcher had assumed that poor government planning, ineffective child policy and legislation, lack of interdepartmental coordination and poor enforcement of the existing

laws play part as underlying factors to the problem of street children. The summary of respondents' views to this question was summarized under Figure 4.5 (n=50).

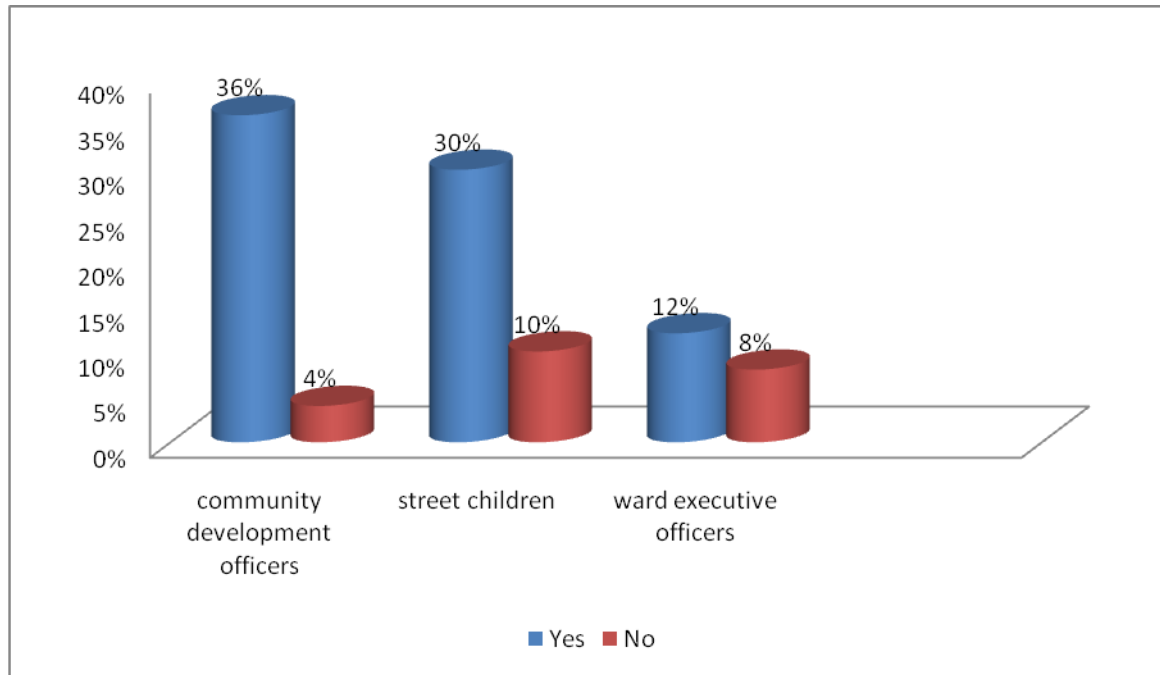


Figure 4.5: Responses Regarding Underlying Factors on Persistence of Street Children

Source: Researcher (2013)

From Figure 4.5 indicated that, the majority (78%) of respondents agreed that ineffective child policy and legislation, poor government planning and ineffective enforcement of laws are of are the roots for persistence of the problem of street children. On other side, 22% of respondents declined the assumption. The results signify that Tanzania is facing the problem of street children due to lack of sound policies and legislations as well as poor planning either due to inadequate knowledge on priority setting or lack of political will.

The findings are supported by respondents in semi-structured interviews as one female Social welfare officer aged 48 years old at Kinondoni Municipality said:

“...there is no any country in the world that successfully eliminated the problem of street children .However, in Tanzania laws and policies are in place though not specific to street children but laws and policies without the cost of implementation are likely to be less effective”.

This means that the current policies and legislations have not properly addressed the problem simply because of lack of specific sections that primarily focus on street children and if any do not target at preventive measures. Moreover, the existing laws and policies are difficult to implement due to lack of budget for facilitation of professional staff. Lefeh (2008) holds that, the enactment of various policies and legislation, are not adequate enough to have a positive impact in the lives of street children. It was further noted that government's efforts may be having some positive effects on the plight of street children, but to have an impact on the general situation of street children nationally, the government needs to double its commitment and efforts in funding and in social service provision by way of costing the implementation of policies.

Nonetheless, failure of the government to have strong measures can be evidenced by the Destitute Persons Act, Cap. 389 of 1923. This law recognizes the existence of destitute people in society and the right to have children; however, while this legislation was enacted to make provision for the control of destitute persons, it fails to provide for their children. This is especially pertinent now, that there are an increasing number of destitute persons with children in the streets, something amounting to street families.

Another limitation in this legislation is that it fails to provide for destitute children in the country. Over a period of almost four decades now, there has been an increase in the

number of street children and children with other forms of destitution. It is from this evidence; it can be argued that the problem of street children is a product of the macro-environments and not micro environments .This means that street children have no free will to live on the streets but rather, the circumstances that have compelled them to live on the streets. Ashford and LeCroy (2010) noted that human beings become what they are at any given moment not by their own free decisions, taken rationally and in full knowledge of conditions, but under the pressure of circumstances [living conditions] which delimit their range of choice and which also fix their objectives and the standards by which they make .

Therefore, it is explicit that Tanzanian government has invested much on remedial or treatment measures and less on preventive measures and therefore the tap root of the problem is not yet cut and that is why the situation is continuing getting worse. The existing child law is ineffective as it does not address the root cause. For instance, the Law of the Child, No.21/2009 which is in place can be condemned for continuation of the problem due to failure to address the underlying causes. For example, under Section 94(4) of this law states “*The local government authority shall have the duty to keep a register of most vulnerable children within its area of jurisdiction and give assistance to them whenever possible*”. This section paints a picture that, in addressing the problem of street children the government has been employing reactive approaches instead of proactive approaches.

Nevertheless, there are signs of lack of seriousness of the government in terms of legislation. For instance, despite the enactment of the law of the Child, Act, No.21/2009, yet, there are controversial laws which give different meaning of a child.

For example, while the law of the child under section 4(1) defines a child as any person under 18 years, the Penal Code (Chapter 16) of the laws under section 166 recognizes and protects a child whose apparent age not more than fourteen (14) years. This is true as Kopoka (2000) noted that with each passing day, it is becoming increasingly clear that many African governments of countries where the problem is most acute have been unable to give it the attention it deserves and have contributed to its continuation.

In addition to that, most governments have formulated child development policies, set up departments and sometimes ministries dealing with children, effective action to address the problem is yet to be taken. Moreover, very little is being done to address the problem. According to Lugalla and Mbwambo(1999) street children are seen as a problem which further compounds the nature of urban crisis. Politicians, policy makers and urban planners seem to be helpless in their efforts to either resolve the problem or to assist street children and have so far failed to prescribe plausible solutions which are realistic, down-to-earth and concrete. Nevertheless, Kopoka (2000:p-3) noted that , Tanzania has been able to formulate and put in place a Child development Policy that was adopted by the government in 1996. This document is however very generalized and fails to identify street children as a special category requiring special attention. There is growing need for African countries to formulate and implement dynamic child development policies if we are serious to deal with the problem of street children.

Therefore, based on the findings, it is clear that Tanzania has neither effective policy nor legislations to adequately address the problem of street children and that is why the problem of street children continues to persist. Hence, it is confirmed that though government has demonstrated its commitment to children's rights issues by drafting the Law of the Child Act, No 21/2009 and Child Development policy (1996), more still

needs to be done with regard to street children's problem. This means that immediate measures to curb the situation before it gets out of hand are vital.

4.9 Problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children

The researcher had assumed that there are problems and challenges facing the government and that is why the problem of street children persists. Through structured guided questionnaires data was collected from 50 respondents. The respondents' categories include: Street Children (20), Community Development Officers (20) and Ward Executive Officers (10). Findings of respondents are presented under Figure 4.6.

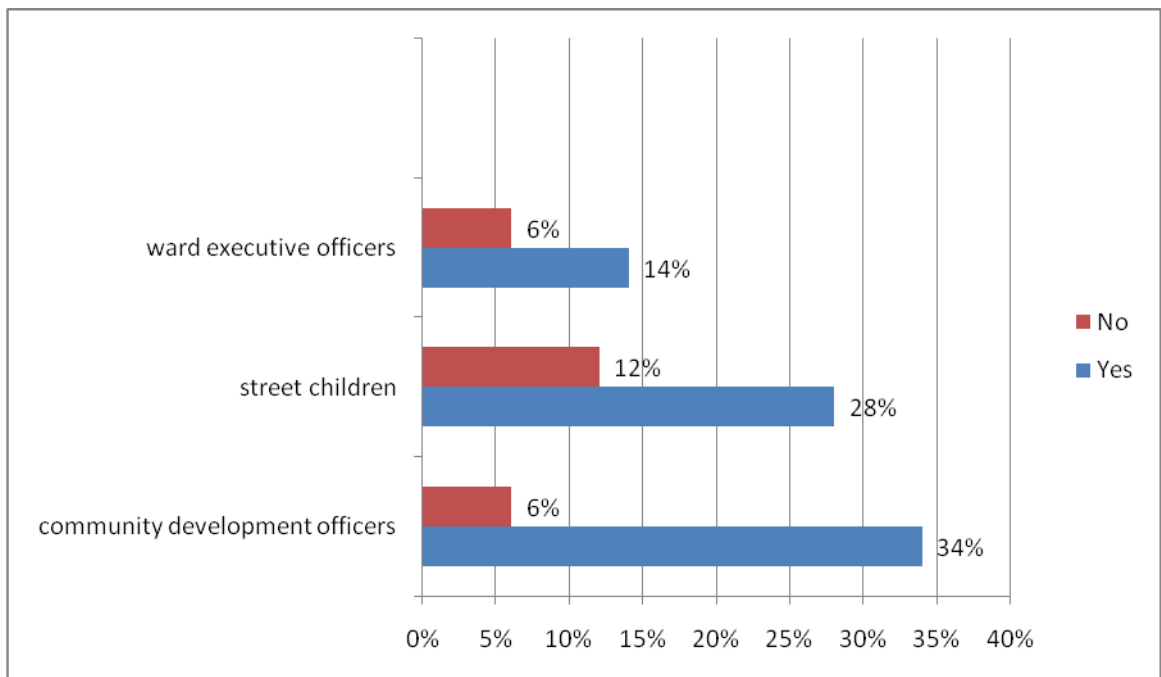


Figure 4.6: Respondents' Views on Problems and Challenges facing the Government in Addressing the Problem of Street Children

Source: Researcher (2013)

The majority (76%) of respondents supported that lack of political will, lack of interdepartmental coordination of government departments, incompatibility between

macroeconomic policies and social policies and existence of ineffective child policy are problems and challenges facing the government in solving the problem. The findings are supported by one Social Welfare Officer aged 36 years old as he said:

“...the problem of street children is a multi-sectoral and hence needs multi-sectoral approach, but recently we have been witnessing social welfare and community development departments are not coordinated. I wonder why the two departments are treated as separate entities while dealing with the same person”.

The extracts from this quotations proves the lack of political will and poor government planning in efforts to address the problem of street children. For instance, two departments are serving the same person, but they are working separately though their activities aim at supporting the same child. According to Guga, et al (2009), the two ministries are organized differently. Both ministries have children’s departments the Child Development Department (MoCDGC) and the Social Welfare Department (MoHSW). Lefeh (2008) discovered that little coordination of activities exists between government institutions working with street children. This situation has led to duplication of projects and activities for street children and also leading to a waste of resources.

4.10 Alternative strategies to curb the Problem of Street Children

In this study, the researcher wished to get respondents’ views on alternative strategies or measures towards addressing the problem of street children. Findings from both structured questionnaire and semi-structured interviews suggested different measures.

For instance responses from structured questionnaire indicated that the majority 40 (80%) of respondents had the same opinion with the researcher, that amendment of policies and legislations, effective government planning and effectiveness in enforcement of laws by the enforcement can bear a durable solution to the problem. In contrast, 10 (20%) of the remaining proportion of respondents declined this suggestion. The findings are supported by responses from semi-structured interviews as collected from key informants. For example, during an interview session, one of the respondents (Kinondoni Municipal Director, aged 51) said:

“....the government has shown commitment of addressing the problem of street children, but the challenge remains to be minimal budget to support these children directly or through their respective families. Therefore, I suggest more funding on these programmes from different key stakeholders”.

The implications of this extract is that the government has not yet adequately funded the programmes that address the problem of street children and that is justified by low budget as stated by the Municipal Director. This is a sign of lack of political will by the government which resulted into lack of priority setting, because if the government does not support her children to get rid of the embarrassing and terrible situation, then what kind of a nation's future are we expecting.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter is designed to summarise the main findings, state whether or not the objectives have been met and draw conclusion. Hence, this chapter presents a summary of conclusions and recommendations of the study. It is hoped that the recommendations presented here will contribute in making policies geared towards combating the problem of street children in Tanzania. These recommendations have been drafted to contribute to elimination of problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children.

5.2 Summary

The study intended to realize three (3) specific objectives from which the researcher extracted respective research questions. Firstly, the results (78%) of this study confirmed that (78%) ineffective policies and legislations, ineffective enforcements of laws and poor government planning comprise the underlying factors for persistence of the problem of street children. Secondly, the researcher wanted to find out what problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children. According to study findings, the majority (76%) indicated that the main problems and challenges facing the government include: lack of political will, lack of coordination of government departments, incompatibility between macroeconomic policies and social policies and existence of ineffective child policy.

Thirdly, the study found that, 80% of respondents suggested that amendment of policies and legislations, priority setting in government planning and strict enforcement of laws by the government could eradicate the problem. Other suggestions include: NGOs'

paradigm shift from rehabilitative approaches to developmental approaches, community support to respective families in form of soft loans and change of mind-sets of able-bodied parents to assume their responsibilities as of care and support of their children. The suggestions are in line with views from semi-structured interviews as one of Social Welfare Officer Aged 35years old at Kinondoni Municipality (head office) commented that:

“...the problem of street children cannot only be eradicated through introduction of policies and legislations, but rather change of mind sets of some families who either do not want to take care their families due to ignorance or negligence”.

The statement implies in Tanzania, not all street children originate from the poor families but sometimes negligence of parents puts the child at risk of being a street child. The government and other key stakeholders should not only think legal approaches but also awareness raising programmes strategies can minimize the possibility of children migrating into the streets.

5.3 Conclusions

In light of the findings, it can be concluded that Tanzania has no effective ways of dealing with the problem of street children. Most of the laws, policies, plans and guidelines are reactive in nature and does not aim at tackling the tap root to the problem. On the other hand, the government planning seems to be myopic, in the sense that there are no funds allocated for development of families but rather small amount targeting provision of material support to most vulnerable children. This implies that the government has presumed that the child is a problem and not the environment. Lugalla

and Mbwabwo (1999) supports that the government assumes that, it is street children who are problems and not the social environment.

Therefore, the current government's response to the problem of street children is not promising since most of towns and cities especially Dar-Es-Salaam is saturated with street children, yet, the problem of street children in Tanzania remains the threat to the well-being of the nation's tomorrow and security of the nation .Therefore, based on findings, the governments did not do enough to confront the causes that lead to children turning to the street. The problem is seen as the responsibility of the individual and not the socio-economic and political environments. As a result it is left to private and voluntary organisations to take initiatives to support street children.

Thus, the existing strategies are like "*fire brigades attack*" that means, the government has measures to address street children but actually these measures do not target the tap root of the problem. It is from this basis that, it can be concluded that laws, policies, poor planning and weak enforcement of laws play part both as underlying factors and challenges towards addressing the problem of street children. Therefore, review of policies, laws, guidelines, effective planning and enforcement of laws are fundamental to get rid of this problem. In order to address the challenges, the recommendations are explained here under section 5.3 below.

5.4 Recommendations

Based on the study findings, the following key recommendations are proposed to rectify the situation. The recommendations are directed to different stakeholders as follows:-

To the family

- The family should use family planning (child-spacing) to avoid rapid increase of population growth which in turn can be a challenge to government planning.
- Effective socialization of children by families can reduce rapid increase of street children

To the community

- It was suggested that, the community should support street children's family through giving them soft loans to involve themselves in income generating activities, instead of expecting charity alms from god Samaritan.
- Also, the community should make sure that for those children whose parents are still alive but appear on the streets as street children, are reported to appropriate organs for legal actions.

To NGOs

- The NGOs should change paradigm from rehabilitative approaches to developmental approaches. For instance, instead of engaging in activities that are based on provision of material support, it is high time to focus on training or capacity building, advocacy and community mobilization to effectively utilize resources at their disposal.

To the government

- Since the problem of street children is a multi-sectoral and cross-cutting issue, then, social workers as trained helping professionals helping marginalized and vulnerable groups including street children are supposed to actively engage themselves in advocacy and lobbying to the respective organs to bring about a

positive change. In addition, at macro level social workers should actively participate in policy analysis and planning at all administrative levels. Furthermore, social workers are supposed to engage in further researches in order to come up with tangible solutions to the problem.

- The government as a key stakeholder should make sure that ineffective laws and policies are reviewed or amended to suit the current circumstances.
- Deliberate actions should be taken by the government to ensure that there is strict enforcement of laws and policies related to children
- The government should stimulate rural development through improving infrastructures like roads, electricity and water supply.
- Enhance participation of community in planning and development at all levels of government
- Designing income-generating programs for families of identified street children so that they can stand with their own feet..
- The government should shift the approach of solving street children from treatment to preventive, protective and rehabilitative interventions and effective to enforcement and monitoring of all international and national commitments to children. Nonetheless, the Tanzanian government should devise a comprehensive child protection system that addresses the problem of street children in all districts.

5.5 Suggestions for further research

Since the study covered a small area of Kinondoni Municipality in Dar-es-Salaam region, there is a need to conduct a study in a broader coverage to allow generalizations of the study findings. Likewise, though the problems and challenges facing the government in addressing street children have been identified but the

government attitude toward the problem of street children is not known .Based on these arguments, it is suggested that researches to be conducted on:

1. A country study on problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the problem of street children in Tanzania.
2. Government attitudes towards persistence of the problem of street children in Tanzania.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I Structured Guided Questionnaire for Street Children

Dear Respondent,

My name is **Twaha I.Waziri**, a student at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT). I am conducting a research on **Problems and Challenges Facing the Government in Addressing the Problem of Street Children in Tanzania** as part of fulfillment for the Masters Degree Programme in Social work. The information I would like to collect from you is only for academic purposes and will therefore not be used for any other purposes. Therefore, you are kindly requested to participate in this research by answering all the questions per instructions.

SECTION A

Demographic Data of Respondents

1. Sex
 - i. Female ()
 - ii. Male ()
2. Age
 - i. 5 - 7 Years ()
 - ii. 7-10 Years ()
 - iii. 10-14 Years ()
 - iv. 14-17 Years ()
3. Highest level of education attained
 - i. None ()
 - ii. Primary School Education ()
 - iii. Secondary Education ()

iv. Other (specify).....

4. What is your area of domicile?

- i. On the street ()
- ii. At home ()

5. Indicate duration of stay on the streets in the space provided

- i. 0 – 1 Years ()
- ii. 2 – 5 Years ()
- iii. 6- 10 Years ()

6. What is your current or previous household structure?

- i. Mother only ()
- ii. Father only ()
- iii. Both biological parents ()
- iv. Grandparents ()
- v. Other (specify).....

7. Increase of crime, unemployment, poverty, HIV/AIDS and vicious cycle of poverty are the impact of persistence of street children.

- i. Yes ()
- ii. No ()

SECTION B

Underlying factors leading to the persistence of the problem of Street

8. Do you agree that, poor government planning, existence of ineffective Child Policy and legislation and lack of political will and ineffective enforcement of laws can be considered as underlying factors for persistence of the problem of Street Children?

- i. Yes ()
- ii. No ()

SECTION C**Problems and challenges facing the Government in addressing the problem of Street**

9. Do you think that the government is adequately addressing your problem?

i. Yes ()

ii. No ()

10. Is it true that ineffective policy ,legislation ,poor planning, lack of political will, lack of coordination and weak enforcement of laws can be considered as problems and challenges facing the government to address the problem of Street children?

i. Yes ()

ii. No ()

SECTION D**Alternative Strategies to Curb the Problem of Street Children**

11. Effective planning, formulation of specific Street Children Policy and legislation, effective enforcement of laws and proper coordination are the alternative measures towards addressing the problem of street children.

i. Yes ()

ii. No ()

Appendix II**Structured Guided Questionnaire****For Community Development Officers and Ward Executive Officers**

Dear Respondent,

My name is **Twaha I.Waziri**, a student at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT). I am conducting a research on **Problems and Challenges Facing the Government in Addressing the Problem of Street Children in Tanzania** as part of fulfillment for the Masters Degree Programme in Social work. The information I would like to collect from you is only for academic purposes and will therefore not be used for any other purposes. Therefore, you are kindly requested to participate in this research by answering all the questions contained in this questionnaire as per instructions given.

SECTION A**Demographic Data of Respondents**

4. Sex

a) Female ()

b) Male ()

5. Age

i. 18-25 Years ()

ii. 25-35 Years ()

iii. 35-45 Years ()

iv. 45 > Years ()

6. Marital Status

- i. Single ()
- ii. Married ()
- iii. Divorced ()
- iv. Widow/widower ()

7. Highest level of education attained

- i. Primary school ()
- ii. Secondary School ()
- iii. University degree /Equivalent ()
- iv. Masters degree ()
- v. Doctorate ()

SECTION B**Underlying Factors Leading to the Persistence of the Problem of Street**

8. Poor government planning, ineffective policy and legislations, lack of political and ineffective enforcement of laws can be considered as underlying factors for the persistence of the problem of Street Children?

- i. Yes () [go to question No.9]
- ii. No ()

SECTION C**Problems and challenges facing the Government in addressing the problem of Street**

9. Are the government efforts adequate towards addressing the persisting problem of Street Children?
- i. Yes ()
 - ii. (ii) No ()

10. Is it true that ineffective policy ,legislation ,poor planning, lack of political will, lack of coordination and weak enforcement of laws can be considered as problems and challenges facing the government to address the problem of Street children?

- i. Yes ()
- ii. No ()

SECTION D

Alternative Strategies to Curb the Problem of Street Children

11. Effective planning, formulation of specific Street Children Policy and legislation, effective enforcement of laws and proper coordination are the alternative measures towards addressing the problem of street children.

- i. Yes ()
- ii. No ()

Thank you for Your Participation

Appendix III

Interview Guide for Key Informants [Social Welfare Officers, Ward Councilor and Municipal Director]

Dear Respondent,

My name is **Twaha I.Waziri**, a student at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT). I am conducting a research on **Problems and Challenges Facing the Government in Addressing the Problem of Street Children in Tanzania** as part of fulfillment for the Masters Degree Programme in Social work. The information I would like to collect from you is only for academic purposes and will therefore not be used for any other purposes. Therefore, you are kindly requested to participate in this research by answering all the questions contained in this questionnaire as per instructions given.

SECTION A

Demographic Data of Respondents

1. Sex

i. Female ()

ii. Male ()

2. Age

i. 18-25 Years ()

ii. 25-35 Years ()

iii. 35-45 Years ()

iv. 45 > Years ()

3. Highest level of education attained

- vi. Primary school ()
- vii. Secondary School ()
- viii. University degree /Equivalent ()

4. Marital Status

- v. Single ()
- vi. Married ()
- vii. Divorced ()
- viii. Widow/widower ()

SECTION B

5. What are the impacts for persistence of the problem of street children if strong measures are not taken by the government to curb the situation?.....
.....

SECTION C

The Underlying Factors Leading to Persistence of the Problem of Street Children

6. In your opinions, what do you think are the underlying factors for the persistence of the Problem of Street Children? Please give reasons for your answer.....
.....
.....

SECTION D

Problems and Challenges facing the Government in addressing the problem of Street Children

7. Are the government efforts adequate towards addressing the persisting problem of Street Children?

(a) (i) Yes ()

(ii) No ()

(b) Give reasons for your answer.....

8. What are the main problems and challenges facing the government in addressing the persisting problem of Street Children?

.....
.....

SECTION E

The alternative Strategies to curb the Problem of Street Children

9. What alternative measures would you recommend to be taken by the following actors as shown below in addressing the persisting problem of street children in Tanzania?

i. Family.....
.....

ii. The
Community.....
.....

- iii. NGOs.....
.....
- iv. The Government.....
.....

Thank you for Your Participation