UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

CENTER FOR MIGRATION STUDIES

VICTIMIZATION AND VULNERABILITY OF MIGRANTS IN THE STREET: CASE STUDY OF STREET CHILDREN IN AGBOGBLOSHIE, ACCRA

BY

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THIS DISSERTATION IS SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF MA IN MIGRATION STUDIES DEGREE

JULY 2019
DECLARATION

I, GEORGE OWUSU GYAMI, declare that, apart from the mentioned references, which have been duly recognized, this dissertation is the result of independent research supervised by Prof. Alex Boakye Asiedu, and as far as I am aware, it is neither part nor entirely presented elsewhere in order to obtain another Degree.

......................................................... .....................................................
GEORGE OWUSU GYAMI DATE
(STUDENT)

......................................................... .....................................................
PROFESSOR ALEX BOAKYE ASIEDU DATE
(SUPERVISOR)
DEDICATION

This work is first and foremost dedicated to my Ever living and Most Gracious Father, for offering me excellence. It is also dedicated to my mother, Mad. Esther Aryee, for investing every mite of hers in my studies to attain the highest level of education. This degree is not by my intelligence but it is by your dedication, your sweat and your love. Thank you, Mum.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I give praise and thanks to my Eternal and Ever Wonderful Father, Immortal, Invincible, and the only wise God forever and ever, for giving me this life I am having for free, sometimes I wonder how a villager like me found my way this far, my life is for His glory.

My sincere appreciation goes to my Supervisor, Prof. Alex B. Asiedu, for instilling in me discipline and time-consciousness, I will forever remember your role in my life, because you showed me a fatherly love I have never received from any man.

I thank all who have responded promptly and accurately to my interviews. I also want to thank all lecturers in my Center (Center of Migration Studies) for helping me dismantle my intellectual ability at another level and shape it.

I am infinitely grateful to all my colleagues of the M.A Migration Studies class (2019) for accepting me as equal and for showing me immense love I never thought of experiencing, and for your individual support and encouragement during the course of the programme.

Finally, I am highly grateful for the love and support my family (Mad. Esther Aryee, Mrs. Deborah Antwi, Mrs. Matilda Owusuaa Gyami, Bro. Ransford Amoah Gyami, Mrs. Irene Aryee and Sis. Elizabeth Aryee) have shown me and to my all friends for always helping me.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Ghana Statistical Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLSS</td>
<td>Ghana Living Standard Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization of Migration</td>
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<tr>
<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAMA</td>
<td>Greater Accra Metropolitan Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JHS</td>
<td>Junior High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHS</td>
<td>Senior High School</td>
</tr>
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<td>US</td>
<td>United States</td>
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</table>
ABSTRACT

In the world of unequal opportunities are children deprived of normal home life with kith and kin who have to be in the street to struggle and engage in all activities for their survival and that of their relatives. The number of children, both foreigners and nationals, on the streets is becoming alarming. The stigma involved and their fears on the streets have not received the needed attention as well as reactions. The objectives of the study were to investigate and comprehend their experiences on the streets and mainly to find out the problems the street children are vulnerable to as well as the bad situations they found themselves in. A total number of thirty (30) very young children who stay on the streets of Agbogbloshie were selected to participate in the study. A qualitative research was employed involving an in-depth knowledge (lived experiences) of the phenomenon. The findings of the study indicated that street children have problems regarding their accommodation and are dissatisfied with their jobs, which then place them at risk of involving themselves in social vices. They are vulnerable to theft, sickness, rape, assault, harassment, stigmatization, exploitation, abuse and accidents (car and motorbike accidents). The study admits that victimization is a societal problem that requires cooperation of agencies, organizations and individual skills and benevolence, and failure to do at least something endangers the life of these vulnerable young people.
# TABLE OF CONTENT

DECLARATION............................................................................................................................................ II

DEDICATION.................................................................................................................................................. III

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ................................................................................................................................... IV

LIST OF ABBREVIATION............................................................................................................................... V

ABSTRACT .................................................................................................................................................... VI

TABLE OF CONTENT ..................................................................................................................................... VII

LIST OF TABLES .............................................................................................................................................. X

LIST OF FIGURES ........................................................................................................................................ XI

CHAPTER ONE ............................................................................................................................................. 1

INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................................................... 1

  Background of the Study ........................................................................................................................... 1
  Problem Statement .................................................................................................................................... 3
  Research Questions .................................................................................................................................... 6
  Objectives .................................................................................................................................................. 6
  Operational definition ............................................................................................................................... 6
  Relevance of Study ................................................................................................................................... 7
  Organisation of the Study ........................................................................................................................... 8

CHAPTER TWO .............................................................................................................................................. 9

LITERATURE REVIEW ................................................................................................................................. 9

  Introduction ............................................................................................................................................... 9
  Migration in Ghana ..................................................................................................................................... 9
  Migration patterns in Ghana ....................................................................................................................... 10
  Migration by region in Ghana .................................................................................................................... 11
  Age and Sex differentials in Migration in Ghana ....................................................................................... 13
  Victimization of Migrants: Social Exclusion ............................................................................................. 13
  Victimization of Street People in Ghana .................................................................................................. 19
  Street People ............................................................................................................................................ 21
  Children in the Street ............................................................................................................................... 22
  Types of Street Children ........................................................................................................................... 23
  Causes of Streetism in Ghana .................................................................................................................... 25
  Implications of Streetism to the country .................................................................................................... 27
  Conceptualization of Vulnerability ........................................................................................................... 28
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability as Risk</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causes of Vulnerability</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual Framework</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER THREE</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METHODOLOGY</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Approach</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Area</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of data</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study area or population</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility Criteria for Inclusion</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling design</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample size</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of data collection and research instruments</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data handling and analysis</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethical consideration</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitation of the study</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Summary</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER FOUR</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective One: Socio- Demographic Characteristics of the street children</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age and Gender</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational background</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home region</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasons for migrating</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective Two: Exploring their lived experiences on the street in relation to their working and living conditions as well as their health status</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living conditions</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective three: Investigating the depth of what the migrants in the streets are vulnerable to and what have been victimized of</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability of the street children</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Victimization of street migrants ........................................................................................................61
DISCUSSION ..................................................................................................................................65
CHAPTER FIVE .............................................................................................................................67
Summary of Key Findings, Conclusion and Recommendation ..................................................67
Introduction ..................................................................................................................................67
Summary of key findings ................................................................................................................67
Conclusion ......................................................................................................................................68
Recommendation ..........................................................................................................................69
REFERENCES ...............................................................................................................................71
APPENDIX .....................................................................................................................................71
LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Extent of migration of population 7 years and older by sex and current locality of residence ........................................................................................................................................... 11

Table 2.2: Migration status by region (percent) ............................................................................ 12

Table 4.1: Age and Gender of respondents ................................................................................... 44

Table 4.2: Level of education of respondents ............................................................................... 45

Table 4.3: Home region of respondents ........................................................................................ 47

Table 4.4: Reasons for migrating .................................................................................................. 48

Table 4.5: Time spent on the streets of Abogbloshie .................................................................... 51

Table 4.6: Work of the respondents (street children) ................................................................. 55
LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework of Victimization and Vulnerability of Migrant in the street: Case study of street children in Agbogbloshie, Accra............................................................... 32

Figure 4.2: Vulnerability of migrants in the street................................................................. 58

Figure 4.3: Victimization of migrants in the street............................................................... 61
CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Migration has become a global phenomenon and has over the years been trending as one of the topical issues that involve several individuals, countries, organizations and other bodies. For years migration has engaged the effort of several organizations including the World Trade Organizations (WTO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) among others, and these organizations interconnect several countries. This portrays that migration involves every country which then benefits positively and negatively from it. The global world has experienced massive increase in international migration; thus, the phenomenon of migration is not recent news, rather it has transcended over time and space since the inception of humanity. It is therefore known to be as old as humanity. The result of complicated processes involving social, mental, financial, political and environmental factors (GSS, 2013) is a socio-economic occurrence. The flow, which is generally lengthy and ranges between countries, is referred to as global migration. On the other hand, the more frequent movement within a country is known as internal migration. Over the years the movement of people from developing countries to developed countries, from rural areas to urban areas and from less developed places to more developed places have been a global phenomenon. Most of the people in the rural areas for several reasons admire the idea of living in the city (Yeboah, 2010), however, they hardly consider the challenges associated with their decisions, the lifestyle within the city and its integration problems. This issue has resulted in many migrants being on the streets pursuing
several activities like hawking, pick pocketing and many more. These people constitute a greater portion of the people on the street, termed “the street people” (Kwakye and Anarfi, 2009).

Migrants on the streets are individuals on the sidewalks, pavements, roads and alleys of a town living a life. Migrants on the streets are often destitute, mentally disturbed at times, and also have a way of living that is ephemeral. For example, contemporary street migrants in the US include hipsters, mendicants who frequently request for spare exchange on the streets; bag women who often have the whole of their belongings in a basket accompanying them. They could involve individuals with debilitating mental illness and road actors as well. The phrase “migrants on the streets” in the USA is quite vague and can simply be used to refer to eccentric individuals living in Bohemian neighbourhoods. The distinguishing feature, however, is time spent on the highways and sideways, which makes up a considerable proportion of their livelihoods during day and evening.

In Ghana, the number of migrants on the streets is rising; about 300,000 persons currently live and work on the streets of Ghana (Department of Social Welfare, 2017). The figure represents over two times the number of migrant children, urban residents, and grown-ups (including minor, vulnerable individuals) documented in 2011, that did stand at 60,495 people. The figure above includes over 3000 “Kayayes” in only Kumasi, who have migrated from different places in the country. In addition, it includes children (both boys and girls above the age of 9 years) and they are largely internal migrants (Anarfi, 1997; Kwankye & Anarfi, 2009). Furthermore, these people in question also include physically challenged individuals who stand by the roadside to beg for alms and all migrants who are involved in several activities and operations on the street in their day to day living. These people are vulnerable, and some have been victims of theft, murder, disease, hunger and accidents.
The youth are the most significant human asset potential that can contribute greatly to a nation's general growth. Locally and nationally seemingly little is achieved to harness this great potential that will determine the strength and resilience Ghana needs in achieving the nation's socio-economic and political strategic goals. Although it is anticipated that parents and guardians will generally guarantee that their kids are well looked after socially, morally and educationally, the scenario prevalent in key Ghanaian towns is rather distinct. In Kumasi, it is strange and frightening to see children hawking, carrying luggage and participating in deception just to remain alive in every angle. In Ghana, particularly Kumasi, the number of street children is rising at an unprecedented rate. The problem has now become a concern for legislators as it becomes an actual social problem.

**Problem Statement**

*Migrants in street* is a broad term used to project the desperate and often harrowing situation of persons who are forced to spend most of their lives outside their homes, engaging in menial income generating activities and begging in order to make a living, and often having to brace unpredictable odds of cruel weather conditions to sleep in poor conditions on the streets. The street migrants include head porters, street vendors, kid and elderly vagrants, disabled individuals, suppliers, displaced people and street family members residing in the street (Apt and Grieco, 1997).

About one third of the total population of persons living in Ghana as at 2010, were young people within the age range of 10 and 24 years (Ghana Statistical Service, 2013). This portrays that the
population of Ghana is largely youthful, and this group of individuals are the persons who will be driving the affairs of the nation in the next generation. However, a great number of migrants in the street fall under this category of the population of Ghana, making the whole idea of migrants in the streets problematic to the development of the country. The increasing rate of people in the street in Ghana is very alarming and threatens our country’s future, economic growth, productivity status and security issues.

A great deal has indeed been done in cutting the social cancer called streetism by some officials, churches, individuals and NGOs. Despite these organizations and their continuing initiatives, huge awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns are also needed to shed light on the need, and how we as a nation can work together, to tackle this problem. The government’s attention has been drawn to this humanitarian issue in relation to the reality of the migrants on the street (about 300,000). The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection announced in 2018 a full campaign to get these individuals off the streets by defining numbers and profiling and reintegrating them with their relatives, carers and society. With the focus of ensuring that every citizen has a better access to quality social services and livelihoods to take into account both national and international obligations, such as the goals for sustainable development. The project was labeled as "Operation get off the street now for a better life". What is the advancement of this plan and to what extent has this plan addressed the social problem? Quantitatively, a lot of data and information has been collected about street people, their growing population and how they threaten domestic growth, but a lot of research and attention has not been provided to what they are going through in their day-to-day living, what they have been victims of and are susceptible to. Therefore, this research tries to close the knowledge gap by investigating the vulnerability of the street migrants and understanding the victimization of
migrants in the streets to make recommendations for improving access to quality social services
and migrants' livelihood.
Research Questions

1. What are the experiences of street children in relation to work and living?
2. What are the migrants in the street vulnerable to?
3. What have the migrants in the street been victims of?

Objectives

Overall, this study seeks to investigate the in-depth of comprehension on vulnerability and victimization of the migrant street children.

1. To provide the socio-demographic details of the street children and their reasons for migrating
2. To explore their lived experiences on the street in relation to their working and living conditions as well as their health status.
3. To investigate the depth of what the migrants in the streets are vulnerable to and what have been victimized of.

Operational definition

The following definitions are explained in the context of this study:

Victimization: This include all unpleasant conditions that the people in question have experienced. Victimization in this study consist of all unpleasant situations that the people in question have experienced whiles being in the street.
Vulnerability: This include unpleasant conditions that poses threat to the lives of the people in the street. It also includes situations that places the lives of the people at risk and makes lives uncomfortable.

Street Children: This include boys and girls for whom the street has become their habitual abode and or source of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults. Street children in this study includes persons who are less than 18 years and also few others who are above 18 years but entered the street at a tender age below 18 years.

Social Exclusion: It includes the absence or rejection of funds, freedoms, products and services, and the failure to engage in the ordinary interactions and activities that are accessible to most individuals in a community, be it in financial, social, cultural or political arenas.

Migration: Migration is the movement of people from one geographical place to the other for the period of 12 months. In this study, migration is mainly rural-to-urban migration, which is the movement from the rural areas to the urban ones.

Relevance of Study

Street people provide significant and beneficial services to their clients but their strategies expose them to vulnerability and exclusion in the city. Unfortunately, this poor group has been targeted by little studies and attention and there are no particular policies to assist them in their poverty. In addition, the number keeps on increasing despite the challenges they face.

The purpose of this research is to generate and analyze new information about the nature and experience that come the way of this group of people in Ghanaian societies and what are their
coping strategies. It also aims to find out whether there are gender disparities in the experiences they encounter. Further, is to find out the kind of help they receive and from what source.

Organisation of the Study

The dissertation is organised under five (5) chapters. The very first chapter, makes provision for the background study, problem statement, the focus and goals of the research and questions for the research and the significance/relevance of the study. The second chapter is about reviewed work in relation to the topic in question.

The chapter that follows, which is chapter three (3), focuses on the research methodology which elaborates on the approach the researcher used for the study and also includes the data sources, study area or population, the eligibility criteria for participants included in the study, sampling design and the sample of respondents or participants. It also includes the method of data collection and research instruments, data handling and analysis as well as the ethical consideration and the limitation of the study, and finally, the conclusion of the chapter. The fourth chapter covers the analysis and presentation of the study results, whilst, the final chapter focuses on the conclusion and recommendation of the study.
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

This segment of the research study reviews both theoretical and empirical literature. Literature review according to Boot and Beile (2005) describes, summarizes, evaluates and clarifies studies done that are related to one’s selected area. In light of this, literature was reviewed based on research done on the phenomenon under study. In addition, the theory that underpins the study is also discussed in this section.

Migration in Ghana

Migration occupies an importance in the study of peoples and populations. This is because it does not only involve just the mathematical spatial redistribution of people, but also because it has a great impact on livelihood, culture, economic, socioeconomic and political stability. In other words, migration affects the entire society. When used in the geographical context, the term ‘migration’ refers to the ‘permanent or semi-permanent movement from one residential area to the other by an individual or a group of people’. The people who engage in the movement one way or the other choose to move according to their own will; movement by choice (voluntary migration) or are coerced to move; bulldozed by circumstances to move (involuntary migration) due to many distinct reasons. The phenomenon of migration is not ‘a today’ story, instead it’s as old as humanity and this implies that it has been part of humanity for a very long time. It is a socio-economic phenomenon which is the result of complex mechanisms involving political, psychological, social, economic and institutional determinants (GSS, 2013). The movement
which is often over long distances and normally from one country to another referred to as International Migration, but migration within the country’s borders is also more frequent.

**Migration patterns in Ghana**

Migration patterns inside of Ghana have generally been between the north and the south, with the less advanced rural regions serving as development pole in comparatively developed areas. To know migration trends, we must know the proximity and magnitude of its determination by financial consideration, personal growth perspectives and how they are related to economic development requirements.

In the Table 2.1 it is demonstrated that the percentage of the population that has migrated is 48.6%. By locality of residence, Accra (GAMA) has the highest proportion of migrants (60.3%) followed by the rural forest (51.6%). The other developed areas (the cities) have 46.7 percent of migrants while rural coastal has 44.6 percent. Rural savannah (37.5%) migrant population has the smallest proportion.

The Table 2.1 further shows that half of the female population (50.1%) is made up of migrants compared with 46.5 percent of males. Except for Accra (GAMA) where the proportion of male migrants (60.9%) is slightly higher than females (59.8%), the proportion of female migrants is higher than males in all the other localities.
Table 2.1: Extent of migration of population 7 years and older by sex and current locality of residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Locality of residence</th>
<th>Accra (GAMA)</th>
<th>Other Urban</th>
<th>Rural Coastal</th>
<th>Rural Forest Savannah</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td>60.9</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>42.7</td>
<td>50.4</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>48.1</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>42.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>44.6</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>37.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(GLSS, 2014)

Migration by region in Ghana

Migration has massively affected the world, and Ghana is no exception. Ghana over the years has experienced the impact and the influence of migration in all cycles of national development: in livelihood, socio-economic, economic, cultural and political. In-migration, which is the movement of people from one locality to the other within a country, acquires a significant space in the study of the population of Ghana. In 2014, it was documented that 17.1 percent (17.1%) of the population of Ghana was in-migrants as against 51.4 percent (51.4%) of the population being non-migrants and the rest of the population (31.5%) was return migrants; migrants who have returned to their place of origin (GLSS, 2014). In the report, the Greater Accra region had the least proportion of the non-migrant population (40.4%) which implies that in the Greater Accra region more than half of the population was either in-migrants or return migrants. That can be as a result of the region hosting the national capital and therefore acquiring the largest inflow of in-migrants (38.7%) and return migrants (20.7%). In the Central region, half of the population was non-migrants (50.5%), however, the region had the second highest number of in-migrants
(24.3%) following Greater Accra region. Nonetheless, the Central region also recorded the least numbers of return migrants (20.3%). The Western region and the Eastern region, like the Greater Accra region, had over half of their population being in-migrants (11.1% and 11.3% respectively) and return migrants (41.7% and 39.7% respectively) with the Ashanti region and Brong Ahafo region having almost half their population being non-migrants (GLSS, 2014). Details of the report is shown in the table below:

### Table 2.2: Migration status by region (percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region of current residence</th>
<th>In-Migrants</th>
<th>Migration Status</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-migrant</td>
<td>Return Migrants</td>
<td>Non-Migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>51.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>47.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>55.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Accra</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>40.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volta</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>50.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>49.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashanti</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>50.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brong Ahafo</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>50.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>64.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper East</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper West</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>67.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(GLSS, 2014)
Age and Sex differentials in Migration in Ghana

Migration within the country, Ghana, occurs most often among people in their late teens, twenties and early part of thirties. In-migration in Ghana occurs most often among the youth as can be seen in the data below. People within the ages of 10-34 years move for education and employment and some depart from home for partnership and to initiate families. Surprisingly migration rate is also high for children under ten (10) years old. This represents migration with relatives, who usually live in high-mobility age groups. These two patterns have been established for many years and are discovered in other nations.

Migration rate rises between ages of 65+. As people age then, priorities change; high wages, job opportunities and education become less important, while climate, the natural environment and high quality of services and facilities remain important or become more so. For instance, a retiree will leave Accra for Aburi, where there are fewer jobs, but also where life is comfortable and the atmosphere is cooler. Additionally, in the oldest ages (80 years and above), the rate of migration again increases slightly because of people’s declining health or the death of their spouse. People in this group normally migrate to be closer to their family, or to go into residential care.

Victimization of Migrants: Social Exclusion

A large exclusion from erstwhile criminological, theoretical, and empirical research with respect to explaining victimization is the shortage of interest in how the social form may shove capability sufferers into excessive-chance conditions/ activities in the first vicinity (Miethe and Meier, 1994; Sampson and Lauritsen, 1990; Xu 2009; Zhong, et al., 2017). An interest is given to one structural deficiency that impacts the lives of a few marginalized groups and with the aid
of extension, will increase their threat of criminal victimization: the ordinary social exclusion they suffer in a particular society (Gaetz, 2004; Zhong, et al., 2017).

Social exclusion was defined in France within the seventies in respect to the “social misfits” unprotected through social insurance (Silver 1994). Social exclusion has popped out as a useful concept to understand the approach of social disintegration. However, there is no universally common definition. Here, a more systematic version from the College of Bristol will be looked at:

Social exclusion is a method that is complicated and multidimensional. It includes the absence or rejection of funds, freedoms, products and services, and the failure to engage in the ordinary interactions and activities that are accessible to most individuals in a community, be it in financial, social, cultural or political arenas. It affects both individuals' quality of life and society as a whole's equity and cohesion (Levitas et al., 2007:9).

The next consideration, with reference to the multidimensional and accumulative process of social exclusion, is how social exclusion increases the risk of victimization among marginalized populations in general and for street migrants in particular. Gaetz (2004) examined homeless youth in Canada and made the argument that they have several fields in which social exclusion is manifested, and these are limited public policies that decrease their ability to find appropriate jobs and create a healthy lifestyle, deny access to secure urban areas, and limited social capital (Zhong, et al., 2017). These young people are closer to more driven perpetrators under the impact of such multidimensional social exclusion, and have less competent guardians, thus increasing their likelihood of victimization as predicted by routine activity theory (Cohen and Felson, 1979; Zhong, et al., 2017).
For foreigners (in-migrants and global immigrants) similar explanations can be given. In previous research the probability of being victimized is also increased for foreigners who often face systematic social development exclusion (Gore, 1995; Hanish and Guerra, 2000; Le and Wallen, 2009; Sulkowski et al., 2014; Zhong, et al., 2017). According to Apt and Grieco (1997), street people, particularly migrants, are suffering from social exclusion that is responsible to victimization with regard to the above paragraph. Basing on the segmented assimilation framework, scholars in the immigration field have identified several mechanisms contributing to social exclusion of immigrants that may account for their high risk of criminal victimization.

Sutherland (1924) noted over 90 years ago that immigrants were often slowly acculturated and integrated into local societies in the mainstream. But a segmented theory of assimilation indicates that not all immigrants should follow this linear path and ultimately adapt to the host culture. In the process of acculturation and integration, the immigrant organisation and the interplay between individuals, cultural and structural activities can all affect (Morenoff and Astor, 2006; Zhou and Lin 2005) and adapt to the different forms of immigrant activity (Portes, 1995; Portes, et al. 1995; Pumariega, Rothe and Pumariega, 2005; Zhong, et al., 2017). Summarized assimilations expect the hierarchy of the recipient society to restrict immigrants' ability to assimilate into different social strata, such as labor markets, social relations and neighborhoods (Akresh, Do, Frank, 2016; Samson, 2014). Some disadvantaged immigrants, for example, have very limited access to decent jobs, adequate network of social support and secure US communities. Instead of classical inclusion, the majority of these can therefore experience long-term exclusion (majority marginalization) (Zhong, et al., 2017).

First of all, certain immigrant groups are probably excluded from decent jobs. The disadvantages of these immigrants on the labor market are explained in multiple ways (Burchardt, Le Grand
and Piachaud, 2002, Young, 1999 and 2007). Some think that these migrants lose their motivation in their host societies and rely on government aid. These immigrants are self-excluded from the society, although the welfare state is partially responsible for engendering a state of ‘‘dependency’’. (Murray, 1994; 1999, 2008; Murray and Lister, 1996). Some researchers accentuate discrimination against immigration or minority groups, which prevents many of them from finding satisfactory jobs (Wacquant, 2008), nonetheless, other researchers still highlight the roles of organizations and systems like capitalism and globalisation. By transforming the technology and decreasing the economy, some poorly qualified migrant workers have become unnecessary and redundant for capitalism at a late date (Bauman, 2004). While the reasons differ, reasonable employment exclusion may boost the attraction of migrants towards prospective criminals and thus boost their chances of victimisation. Previous studies, for example, showed that Latino immigrants in the US often take under-skilled employment because of their illegal status and insufficient knowledge; these jobs are most likely to pay in cash and make them look like "walking Automated Teller Machine", thereby, placing them at risk of robbery and salary theft (Barranco and Shihadeh, 2015; Fussell, 2011).

Secondly, exclusion in receiving societies from sufficient social support networks will also make a significant contribution to the high degree of victims of immigrants. The immigration process is often associated with 'the loss' of significant networking related to various supportive tasks, including data and assistance with resources (instrumental support) and mental support (expression of assistance), according to the large social network and social support literature (Zhong, et al., 2017). In order to rebuild their networks, immigrants must be able to transform their acculture experience into social support networks for fresh immigrants (Jasinskaja-Lahti et al., 2006; Vega et al., 1991). Regrettably, the adoption by the host culture of immigrants differs
from neutral to hostile; many of the groups of immigrants are closely connected but others aren't (Ports and Rumbauer, 2001). Immigrants will find themselves in serious difficulties by the presence of social rejection (i.e., lack of local friends) and fragile ethnic links (i.e., lack of family or hometown colleagues to reassemble their instrumental and emotional network). These immigrants will most probably be "excluded" instead of incorporating them into mainstream culture, and face many inconveniences, including poverty, stress and heavy crime and victimisation, owing to marginalization (Zhong, et al., 2017). In short, some immigrants could be exempted from the social majority and driven to risky routines and lifestyles as a consequence of their experiences with immigration. A recent study of Sulkowski et al. (2014) discovered that immigrant youth in the US are more probable to suffer physical assault because of their local counterparts' predominant anti-immigrant sentiments. Also, many bystanders may not be able to help immigrant victims due to this nativism. The scarcity of social welfare networks in a harsh community shows therefore, to an extent, that casual care in the face of crime is inadequate to increase the likelihood of these immigrants being victimised.

Third, exclusion from comparatively secure societies can also boost the danger of criminal victimization for immigrants. Because of restricted economic resources and the receiving societies' exclusive housing market/policy, some immigrant groups are more likely to live in bad ethnic enclaves with a focused disadvantage (Andersson, 2012; Van Kempen and Ozuekren, 1998). Therefore, the ways they assimilate and experience life after that are restricted by such a segregation of neighborhoods and differ from the other migrant groups which live in better communities (Akresh et al., 2016; Portes and Rumbaut, 2001). Following the traditional job of the Chicago School, individuals in criminal societies may face elevated rates of crime and victimization. Many immigrants come from under-developed countries to the United States and
are traditionally situated in high-recurring ethnic enclaves. Heterogeneity and high residential mobility for immigrants not only impede residents’ ability to sustain reciprocal and interdependent relationships but also intensify distrust and conflict within and among diverse groups, weakening informal neighborhood controls, and boosting crime and victimization rates (Shaw and McKay, 1942; Zhong, et al., 2017). According to Shaw and McKay, Frank, Cerda' and Redo'n (2007), if they live in societies with a higher proportion of Latinos and poverty, there is a growing probability of dangerous health behaviours among Latino youth (Zhong, et al., 2017). Moreover, poor and inefficient public control leads to the increased risk of victims in immigrant communities. The police are mostly understaffed or indifferent to these societies, which reduces the security of government guardians in the event of crime (Anderson, 1978; Venkatesh, S.A., 2008). On the other side, latest literature on social disorganization indicates that neighborhood social cohesion (or collective effectiveness) is negatively associated with crime (Sampson and Raudenbush, 1999; Sampson, Raudenbush, and Earls, 1997). She argues that the collective efficiency (sharing the same values and becoming increasingly engaged in the problems of the society), including fresh arrivals with minimal language and labor abilities, is in reality the result of Mexican American neighborhoods (Sampleson, Morenoff and Rodenbush, 2005) and other reinvigorating impacts for immigrants. This can actually be useful to migrants in these homogeneous neighbourhoods so that they have less chance to be victimized even if such enclaves are still comparatively excluded from society.

Recently, researchers have begun to give more extensive explanations of such immigrant revitalization impacts: instead of all enclaves, only well-established co-ethnic groups with the required facilities (i.e., powerful informal social control and long-standing links to mainstream political, financial and social organizations) could have a high level of social integration and
safeguard immigrants (Ramsey, 2013). That is, the riskiest group in terms of victimization is immigrants residing in recently founded enclaves with poor authority in the receiving community.

With this bigger theoretical background in hand, we are now placing this line of job in the context of Ghana, which is the place of this study.

**Victimization of Street People in Ghana**

Ghanaian street people are mostly rural-to-urban migrants; their migration to cities is largely work oriented and is always temporary due to institutional exclusion (Simon et al., 2004). They migrate most of the time separately, not with the whole family. The rootless migrants of Ghana cannot integrate into an urban environment, being excluded from multiple urban social welfare measures. (Zhong, et al., 2017). Therefore, Ghanaian internal migrants may experience a different, or at least partially distinct, tale in criminal victimization compared to international immigrants in different part of the world.

In addition to the fast urbanization of Ghana and the influx of rural to urban migrants in metropolitan Ghana, the crime rate in the country has also risen. It is widely observed that increasing numbers of street people (who are mostly rural-to-urban migrants) are a main reason for the upward trajectory of crime and victimization in contemporary Ghana. Many street crime offenders in urban Ghana, especially in the economically developed southern part of the country, are street people (mostly rural-to-urban migrants). International victimization research has long proved that for interpersonal crimes, offenders and victims are more often recruited from similar backgrounds (Anderson, 1990; Bourgois, 2003; Hampton, Gulotta, and Ramos, 2006). However,
migrants in the street and their children are more likely to be victims than local citizens (Cheung, 2013).

Rural-to-urban migrants in the streets of Ghana, like global immigrants, suffer from the absence of an adequate social support network (Zhong, et al., 2017; Awatey, 2014). These street migrants migrate to metropolitan regions from their rural hometowns with a distance from their initial family and friends. They therefore risk losing their old social ties and have to rebuild their network of social support in their receiving communities (Awatey, 2014). In Ghana’s cities, street migrants rely heavily on home networks or on familiar support. Such networks could provide rural-to-urban migrants both information/resource assistance for better jobs and emotional support when encountering negative life events such as discrimination and victimization (Cheung, 2013). As a result of widespread social rejection in urban Ghana, migrants on the street face great problems in developing strong social links with urban residents. For instance, Lan (2014) points out that street children are more probable to experience social segregation in urban public schools, and there are concrete social limits in the same school between such pupils and local students; local students may be immediately hostile and/bully these children because of their hometown accent, academic inferiority, “uncivilized” posture, and absence of wealth (Zhong, et al., 2017). This however, deters these children from attending schools, thereby making many of them end up in the street.

Moreover, many migrants end up in the street because they experienced exclusion from mainstream urban neighborhoods with relatively good public order, strong conformity to law, a beautiful and clean environment, and a harmonious neighborhood relationship, though some
local governments have tried to improve the safety of migrant-concentrated neighborhoods (Zhong and Broadhurst, 2007). There are consistent findings that many of the migrants in the street tend to reside in poor enclaves (urban villages) characterized by high population density, low level of regulation, unhealthy living environment, frequent safety, and other social problems (Liu et al., 2010). While in these dangerous neighbourhoods they are more likely to suffer, many of these migrants do not want to go out because they prefer low living costs and helpful social networks that have been established in these enclaves (Chen and Chen, 2015). In other words, geographic segregation continues in urban Ghana and migrants from rural to urban areas have little opportunity of achieving spatial upward mobility in these enclaves.

**Street People**

Globally, street people are viewed as being a problem to the society they find themselves in. This is because some of this group of people in the society steal for survival although these people are group of people whose first place of abode is the street (Apt and Grieco, 1997, Alenoma, 2012). Obviously, their deprivation which is in its extreme and exclusion socially create opportunities and capacities for engaging in crime and/or entangling themselves with criminal activities. According to a Roman statesman, “poverty is the mother of crime” and in view of that, these people who are mostly poor are seen to be related to crime and some people found within these group of persons are suspected of engaging themselves in criminal activities. Nonetheless, little evidence exists to support street people actively or deliberately planning or involving themselves in criminal activities. Street people hold the perception of themselves been discriminated against (Apt and Grieco, 1997). Street people are also mostly hated by others and the authorities at the jurisdiction they find themselves (Hatloy and Huser, 2005, Alenoma, 2012). The situation of
street people is the consequence of a varying social transformation and life-destabilizing transformations. Many of these vulnerable individuals take their toll in the streets because of poverty, social unrest, lack of social conscience, misery, and because of the breakup of the extended family’s system they cannot look forward to their social and financial survival. (Apt and Grieco, 1997). Family system also serve as a unit for social cohesion and solidarity (Awatey, 2014). These factors are used as a network of synergies that deny to victims the essential necessities of life such as food, clothing, shelter and health. Subsequently, most of these people in Accra and major cities of Ghana sleep on pavements, in front of stores and on benches especially around Accra Central, Tetteh Quarshie Roundabout, Agbogbloshie and Kaneshie at the mercy of unscrupulous people like rapists, resulting in furtherance of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS.

Children in the Street

The United Nations defines street children as: “any boy or girl … for whom the street in the widest sense of the word … has become his or her habitual abode and or source of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised, or directed by responsible adults” (UNESCO 1995). There are three important elements in this definition: the time children spend on the street, the street as a source of livelihood, and the lack of protection and care from adults. These three elements inform this study. In the streets, markets and transport terminals of the major cities of Ghana today are an estimated number of 300,000 people as of 2017 according to a report from the Department of Social Welfare. Comparing to the previous estimated number which was 60,495 in 2011, there is a great increase in the number of people in this group in the country. The growing number of street children in Ghana is poignant to national development.
The overwhelming majority of street children in Ghana are not enrolled in school. The kind of jobs these children engage themselves in, are not jobs that requires skilled labour. In other words, the jobs these children engage in are low-skill jobs and this provides them with little or even no prospect in terms of opportunities for future employment. A great number of these children sleep in the street and lack parental care and guidance at a stage of their lives with which they are vulnerable to peer pressures, immorality and a lot of others. At the malls and several traffic lights joints in Ghana today, especially Accra and the other major cities in Ghana, are very young children begging for money every day. The paved lanes and courts of the market places in the major cities (like Central Market of Kumasi, Madina market, Kaneshie market and Agbobloshie market of Accra and several others in the various regions) are depended on by these children as sanctuary more especially the homeless migrants in the cities. Many people hold the perception that, street children are migrants drawn to the cities due to their elusive attractions. The situation on the grounds, nonetheless, is that the majority of these children have been forced into this way due to poverty in the home, thereby making their presence in the streets engendered primarily by constraint instead of it being choice. Perception of society of these children and their poor background have resulted to most of these children living lives of rejection, no care from anyone, take decisions by themselves and keep secret to themselves, thus, these group of persons in question turn to their peers for advice, financial and emotional support and friendship.

Types of Street Children

Much was written to describe street children, but the main problem is that there are no accurate classifications, but a cycle, from children that work some time on the road and sleep in a house with adults to people who reside fully on the streets and who do not have adult oversight or
UNICEF has created a taxonomy recognizing that distinct kinds of street children differ on how well they participate in street and relatives contacts. Hatloy and Huser (2005) indicated that children on the street are those that are involved in certain sort of financial activity and may, at the end of the day, go back to contribute their income to the support of their relatives. They can study and maintain a feeling of family membership. Street children are kids that in some way have selected not just for financial reasons but to engage completely in street life (Hatloy and Huser, 2005). They generally have a family available to them, but the road is their main place of residence. Street children lack homogeneity and obviously recognizable characteristics that distinguish them from others (Apt and Grieco, 1997), share some distinctive life style which may be sometimes considered deviant by society. The "deserted children" is a subcategory of street children in the UNICEF typology.” This category is also children of the street (Apt and Grieco, 1997), however it is distinct from the reality that they have cut off all links and are entirely on their own with their biological families. This category involves runaways, refugees, runaways and others not visited by their homes, maybe because the parents are dead or rejected or because the extended family is not available.

Another subsection is high-risk children. They are usually urban children, who are at high danger of being engaged in life on the streets because of the intense poverty and lack of home or insufficient care and oversight by working parents. (Hatloy and Huser, 2005). These children often spend a significant amount of time on the streets and risk being street children. (Apt and Grieco, 1997, Alenoma, 2012).

The typology of children grouped into "of the road" and "on the road" by UNICEF to distinguish street or homecent street children was hard to maintain. This definition has in reality not been
satisfactory because these generalities have been challenged by the children themselves. There are many children who sleep at home as well as on the streets.

**Causes of Streetism in Ghana**

In the major Ghana metropolises (Accra, Cape Coast, Kumasi, Takoradi, Koforidua, Sunyani) today are people both day and night can be found especially children, who should have been living under the care of adults in family settings, fending for themselves in the street, engaging in different activities (hawking, carrying loads, cleaning cars’ wind screen and the others) for survival (Apt and Grieco, 1997). A literature has classified these “street children” into two groups and they are, “*On the street children*” and “*Off the street children*”. The *On the street children* are children who spend greater period of their day on the street carrying out all kinds of economic activity but return home after the day’s work (Alenoma, 2012) and there are several adults who also live like that, they work in the street to perform all forms of economic activities mainly trading and mostly leaves at sunset or at night to spend the night at home however, there are some people whose work begins at sunset and ends at sunrise (especially, the people that sells indomie in the street and many others). The second group of people are, the “*Off the street children*” and this include all children who engage themselves in types of work in the street, eat, even bath and sleep on the street (Alenoma, 2012); and there are adults related to this category of streetism, these people work, eat, bath and sleeps in the street and some of these people have grew up from childhood to adulthood on the street (Apt and Grieco, 1997). In a nut a shell, with the understanding from street children we can classify street people into two categories and that are, “*on the street*” and “*off the street*”.

25
Literature emanating from streetism in Ghana point out that poverty is the major driving force for the phenomenon. In the street of many cities in Ghana today are many people who have forgo education and are in the street daily hawking, serving as trotro conductors ("mates") and several economic and other forms activities; many adults and young people in the major cities of Ghana, make living out of the street and most of these people are migrants (Kwankye and Anarfi, 2009). In a research conducted among street children in Bamako and Accra, 68% of the kids quoted family deprivation as their reason for being on the streets, 12% said other reasons, while 8% said that they are on the streets due to their lack of interest in schools (Hatloy and Huser, 2005).

Financial poverty runs through almost all the scholarly writings on the upsurge of street children phenomena and the scholarly writings include Apt and Grieco (1997), Campbell and Ntsabane (1995) Hatloy and Huser (2005) and Karboe (1997). Studies on the street people and migrants and their youngsters in Kumasi and Accra (two major cities in Ghana), points out that, the migration theory of push and pull accounts for the upsurge of street people in Ghana. With the unfavourable economic conditions perceived to be the push factors, while the favourable economic conditions of the cities are perceived to be the pull factors. According to the Ghana Living Standard Survey five (GLSS 5), the three (3) regions at the northern part of Ghana are the poorest regions in Ghana and due to that many young people leave there and they occupy the greater percentage of the street people according to Karboe (1997). It has been indicated by Apt and Grieco as well as Hatloy and Huser that in Accra and Kumasi a greater part of children in the street are people coming from the northern sector of Ghana (Upper West, Upper East and Northern regions).

According to Hatloy and Huser, street children in Ghana have target to achieve on the street, they always have plan to achieve a set objective (Hatloy and Huser, 2005) and willing to go all extent
to achieve that and this is because most of these people come from poor background and in their escape from poverty they engage in different economic activities in order to satisfy themselves and transfer some to their family back home.

**Implications of Streetism to the country**

The most important indicators demonstrate that street children were deprived in the field of financial and social growth (UNICEF 2005). A facetious Viewing the social context of streetism indicates that almost every child on the road, whether from a near family or society as a whole, is due to some kind of violence or negligence. Some children are on the streets because they have poor families that are desperately poor. Focusing on the kids and their families on their own tends to relate the problems to the poor policies and conduct of the state and society. "According to UNESCO (1995), road life comprises of latent or open violence, egoism and solitude. The child is going to want to flee, and this must be assisted... Clearly, the street cannot be an area in which the child can develop favorably over the long term. Globally, street children are being stigmatized because they have no power to ask government and private organisations for attention. They are susceptible to numerous effects, including HIV / AIDs, due to their almost universal participation in "survival sex" (prostitution). Street children are relegated and no one cares about how they eat; sleeping or access to healthcare and government forgets that street children are victims of circumstances. Whether neglect or abuse; the interests of children are ignored. By misconstruing the problem, they raise, overlooking these physiological demands of street children is not only an injustice against humanity under the Children's Act of 1998 (Act
Conceptualization of Vulnerability

Although instability has always been established in human life, the apparently ubiquitous and powerful dangers of the contemporary age, ranging from atomic meltdowns to terrorist attacks to climate change to infectious diseases, have raised our consciousness of human vulnerability. Meanwhile, contemporary policies are increasingly trying to mitigate or even eradicate human vulnerability. In recent years, vulnerability assessment has pursued a multifactorial strategy that includes separate social, political, economic and environmental circumstances, along with future scenarios for climate change.

The vulnerability concept has been modified and adjusted in different methods. For instance: The biophysical method focuses primarily on vulnerability or degradation of biophysical circumstances. The strategy extrapolates the biophysical estimates to the effect of a landscape on human occupants. This method is commonly used in natural hazard and climate change vulnerability research. The human ecological approach basically incorporates human systems into ecological procedures (Liverman, D.M., 1990).

The Political Economic Approach is modeled on marginalization theory (Susman et al., 1983) and food claims. It highlights the key role of differential financial and political power in determining people and groups’ vulnerability (Greenberg et al., 1994). The strategy was criticized for neglecting historical reaction diversity, underlining the function of human agency, and diminishing the position of the environment as an independent factor affecting social relationships (Bryant, 1992). In vulnerability assessment, political ecological approach to
vulnerability utilizes a political ecological perspective. A project directed at understanding vulnerability in Southern Honduras is an instance of a study project using this methodology (Stonich, 1993).

The word vulnerability generally relates to exposure to contingencies, stress and difficulty in dealing with them. It has been noted that the notion of vulnerability has lately attracted several attentions from different academics, below is a review of their opinions.

*Chambers and Ellis – internal and external*

The starting point for disaggregating vulnerability is the internal / external difference suggested by Chambers (1989): vulnerability thus has two sides: an external side of the hazards, shocks, and pressure to which an individual is subjected; and an inner side that is defenseless, meaning a lack of means to deal without harmful loss. Loss can take many forms or be physically weaker, economically poorer, socially dependent, humiliated or psychologically damaged.

*Moser- sensitivity and resilience*

Moser (1998) also uses a two-step vulnerability model, but uses the ideas of awareness and resilience to considerably alter Chamber's internal / external distinction focus and emphasis. "Vulnerability analysis includes not only identifying the danger but also defining the resilience or resilience as the resources and entitlements that people, families or groups can mobilize and handle in the face of hardship."
Vulnerability as Risk

Chronic risk exposure is a key cause of vulnerability. Risks vary in nature, ranging from macroeconomic shock, natural disaster, health hazard, private insecurity, to socially compulsive expenditure like dowry. There is a wealthy subset of varieties in each of these classifications. Changes in the external trade environment as a result of national policies can cause macroeconomic shocks (Kamanou, 2002). Natural disasters cause harm to crops, homes, and the like induced by cyclone, flood, river erosion, drought, and increasing salinity. Health hazards include both member disease expenditure and disease-based animal death. Personal insecurity involves theft, land eviction, money cheating, property litigation, physical abuse, physical threats, police harassment, court / police spending, rape and women's abandonment. Dowry involves costs incurred for the marriage of a daughter. Others include the primary earner's death.

Causes of Vulnerability

There are many variables that lead to vulnerability. These variables undermine self-protection ability, block or decrease access to social protection, delay or complicate recovery, or expose some groups to more or more frequent risks than other organizations. They include fast population growth, poverty and hunger, bad health, low levels of resource and service access, including information and technological means, social pattern disintegration (social vulnerability). Other causes include failure to access political power and representation (political vulnerability), (Aysan, 1993). Their vulnerability is further exacerbated when individuals are socially disadvantaged or absence a political voice. The financial vulnerability is linked to a number of interacting components, including its significance in the domestic economy as a whole, income from trade and foreign exchange, assistance and investment, global commodity
and input prices, and patterns of manufacturing and consumption. Environmental vulnerability is associated with land degradation, earthquake, flood, hurricane, drought, storms (Monsoon rain, El Nino), water scarcity, deforestation and other biodiversity threats.
Conceptual Framework

Figure 2.1 Conceptual Framework of Victimization and Vulnerability of Migrant in the street: Case study of street children in Agbogbloshie, Accra

Underlying Determinants
- Financial Problems
- School Drop out
- Quest for greener pastures

Challenges
- No/poor accommodation
- No job

Source: Author’s own construction, 2019
CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter focuses on the method used to carry out the research. Research methods are used to obtain and analyze research data and it includes questionnaires, observation and interviews and statistical and non-statistical techniques (Neuman, 2000). This further includes the systematic way in which the research was conducted. The section involves research design, target population, study population, sampling method, sample size, data sources, data collection methods, data processing and analysis techniques, and ethical considerations. Finally, problems that the researcher encountered throughout the conduct of this study are outlined and steps used to resolve the difficulties are also discussed.

Research Approach

A research design, according to Emory (1985), offers a perceived exploration plan, structure, and strategy for acquiring answers to study issues and regulating inconsistencies. The researcher employed the qualitative research design to conduct this research. Mason (2002) defined qualitative research as a way of exploring the various aspects of the social world, including the weave of everyday life, the understanding, practices and imaginations of people, how those social processes and institutions work, and the importance of the meanings that they generate to the people.

The reason for employing qualitative research design for this study is to help get a comprehensive understanding of the topic under study. It also provides the researcher an opportunity for systematic and in-depth evaluation of participants’ response. Using the qualitative method afforded the researcher the opportunity to observe participants’ nonverbal cues and explore their surviving experiences through the interviews. Finally, using this research
design enabled the establishment of a relationship of trust between the researcher and the participants. Trust guaranteed the provision of responses that are factual and true.

**Study Area**

The study area, Old Fadama (generally referred to as Agbogbloshie), is a suburb of Accra. Agbogbloshie is made up of five Enumeration Areas (EAs, similar to census tracks in the United States) defined by the Ghana Statistical Service in 2010. The Enumeration Areas in Agbogbloshie include ‘Efo Market’, ‘Presbyterian Church’, ‘Happy Corner Spot’, ‘H/No. Blk 12’, and ‘31st December Market’. Researchers from the U.S. and Ghana have created digital boundary files of EAs in the AMA; the study area is in the Korley Dudor locality: http://www.geointerest.frih.org/accra.swf (Verutes et al. 2012; Weeks et al. 2010; Weeks et al. 2012; Weeks et al. 2007).

Agbogbloshie is a densely settled, resource-poor setting; most of the people there lack access to clean water and sanitation. According to the 2010 census, the population size of Agbogbloshie is 8,305 (54% female and 46% male), of whom 5,466 are aged 15–49 (same sex distribution) (Ghana Statistical Service 2012). Unlike such neighboring areas as Ussher Town and James Town, which are predominantly inhabited by residents of the Ga ethnicity, Agbobloshie residents come from many regions in Ghana and represent a wide range of ethnicities. Residential dwellings are a mix of concrete structures and wooden shacks; often many unrelated families live within one structure. Agbogbloshie is situated near the banks of the Korle Lagoon, northwest of the Accra Central business district, and is prone to flooding, which has been responsible for significant morbidity and mortality (Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit 2011).

Finally, Agbobloshie is home to Ghana’s largest commercial fresh produce market, which attracts traders from all over the country, as well as seasonal migrants who engage in trade or
transport goods for clients in the congested market area (Oberhauser and Yeboah 2011). Agbogbloshie has recently garnered international attention for its large electronics waste processing site, and the resulting burning of plastics is an ongoing environmental hazard to Agbogbloshie residents (Agyei-Mensah and Oteng-Ababio 2012; Arguello et al. 2013; Hugo 2010; Oteng-Ababio 2010, 2012). Recently, the market has suffered from fires from unknown causes, which have caused severe damage and affected livelihoods.

Sources of data

Data were gathered using both main and secondary data sources for the purpose of this study. The secondary data contributed to the creation of background information that the investigator required to construct the project constructively and the reader required to understand the study result more deeply. The secondary data granted the advantage of enormous savings of resources, more particularly time and money (Ghauri et al., 2005); unforeseen discoveries, comparative and contextual data, permanence of data (Denscombe, 1998) were sourced from textbooks, internet, newspapers as well as international and domestic journals.

In relation to Secondary data, the data employed in the study was derived from the Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS) 2014. The GLSS (2014) presents the main results of the sixth round of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS6), a nationwide household survey designed to generate information on living conditions in the country. This study used the data on migration pattern of Ghana, migration status by region, migration status by age and sex and migration flows within the country. The GLSS takes into account all the regions of Ghana. This information is crucial for making informed policy decisions and planning, monitoring and evaluating programmes related to migration within Ghana, at both national and regional levels.
Other secondary sources of information such as journals, articles and books were reviewed to provide a strong foundation for the literature used.

The primary data collection became more evident as there was a need to study the in-depth lifestyle and well-being of street people, hence the primary data was gathered through interviews. Interviews were organised in the study region with migrants on the street. In order to collect their stories, interviews are performed to find out what is in and on someone else's mind. It is about their experiences, perceptions, views, sentiments and understanding (Bryman, 2001; Boeje, 2010)

**Study area or population**

Population involves an entire group or aggregate of people or parts having one or more common characteristics (McNeil, 2005). Population is also the larger group that a researcher generalizes; it includes specific classes of people and events (Sharp et. al., 2002). Creswell (2009) also defines the population as the total or aggregate amount of the concern occurrence of the researcher.

The population of the research includes the following: homeless children, street hawkers and beggars in the Accra Metropolitan, Agbogbloshie, Greater Accra Region. The investigator used this category of respondents to ensure that only respondents who were intellectually mature enough to provide genuine answers were sampled to engage in this study.

**Eligibility Criteria for Inclusion**

1. People who are between the under age of 18 years and are migrants, ranging from young people who spend some time on the streets and sleep with others in a house, to people who live entirely on the streets without supervision or care.
2. Persons who are above 18 years, who are migrants and came to the street at a tender age (before age 18). These people should be people who have been in the street since childhood and are still in the street.

**Sampling design**

The study used both snowballing and purposive sampling method when selecting participants for the studies. Purposive sampling is one of the most common sampling methods used to classify respondents based on selected criteria suitable for a specific research question, accessible resources and time, as well as the objectives of the study (Mack, Woodsong, Macqueen, Guest & Namey, 2011).

Snowballing Sampling also known as chain referral sampling is considered a type of purposive sampling in which participants with whom contact has already been made use their social networks to refer the researcher to other people who could potentially participate in or contribute to the study. Snowball sampling is often used to find and recruit “hidden populations”, that is, groups not easily accessible to researchers through other sampling strategies” (Mack, Woodsong, Macqueen, Guest, & Namey, 2011). The researcher first talked to the market women and they directed him to one or two people that eligible for the studies and after getting to them, they then linked the researcher to people in their domain who qualifies to be participants of the research.

**Sample size**

The study population which is the overall number of people who meet the sampling criteria within the research context of the study according to Creswell (2009). The total assessible population for this study was estimated at 8,305 are people drawn from the Agblogbloshe of the
Accra metropolis Assembly. A sum of thirty (30) individuals were used in an in-depth interview which were conducted within the study area, Agbogbloshie, between 25\textsuperscript{th}, July and 7\textsuperscript{th} August, 2019.

**Method of data collection and research instruments**

Individual face-to-face interview was used to gather participant information. In line with the study's goals, an interview guide was created and used as a guide to help the researcher conduct the interviews. Using an interview guide is very important to grasp a general plan of the questioning and to ensure that the study is in line with the objectives (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). The interview guide created was used for the in-depth interviews on the field. Below are examples of questions that was listed on the interview guide of this study;

1. Do you have any relations here in the city?
2. Can you tell me about the life on the street?
3. What are you vulnerable of?
4. Can share your experience with me on what you’ve been victimize of since you started being in the street?
5. Do you have challenges in your socialization? (Religion/ Church, work etc)
6. Do you feel a sense of rejection, discrimination and or hatred?
7. What form of discrimination do you experience at the workplace or any other place?

The interviews were conducted in places convenient for the respondents. Using the interview manual, the investigator was able to collect from the respondents' in-depth information on a number of issues. More importantly, the use of interviews enabled the researcher not only to
obtain verbal information related to the participants' experiences, but also to take particular notice of their non-verbal clues and relate these expressions to what was said by the participants. The strategy also helped the investigator develop a trust connection with the participants. As qualitative study, trust is imperative towards the relay of truthful and authentic information to the researcher. This is important because, the research design involves the collection of information on the experiences and personal profile of respondents, some of which can either be embarrassing, or unlawful. Relationship of trust is hence paramount in ensuring that clients’ anxieties concerning their private information are eradicated.

Finally, the technique of data collection allowed the investigator to use audio tape recorder and field note books to gather field information. The tape recorder was essential because all the information listed during the interview were stored by the investigator. In other words, tape recorders ensure that the participant takes and records every piece of information passed on to the researcher. These audio files were subsequently played and transcribed with the Microsoft Office Word for evaluation. Nonverbal information was also collected from the respondents with a field notebook and pencil. Letters of introduction from the Center for Migration Studies were provided to support the field studies.

Data handling and analysis

In qualitative studies, confidentiality is even more essential because it deals with the compilation and evaluation of private data on respondents. In this respect, the researcher downloaded the audio files and kept them on a password protected laptop to guarantee the Privacy and confidentiality of respondents’ information gathered. Files that have been transcribed and printed have also been held safe from third parties.
The six-step thematic analysis proposed by Braun and Clarke (2006) have been used for the analysis. They include the following:

**Familiarisation with the data:** The researchers first took a look at the data they supplied and sought to get closely acquainted with it in order to comprehend completely the information supplied by the respondents. The investigator made adequate original analytical findings in order to be efficient in this search, read the information and listened to the recorded audio information at least once.

**Coding:** This is an important but common component of qualitative analysis methods. Here, using study questions as guidelines, the researchers recognized and produced labels for significant information relevant elements.

**Searching for themes:** A theme is a consistent and significant design that can be identified in the data on the basis of research issues. The researcher built themes based on study goals and the emerging information problems. All the coded data applicable to each theme were then collected by the researchers.

**Reviewing themes:** This includes checking that both the coded excerpts and the full data set are applicable to the topics. The researcher reflected as to whether the topics tell a convincing information tale, and started to delineate the nature and relationship of each individual subject. Where necessary, two or more topics have been divided into one theme or two or more, or discarded in total.

**Defining and naming themes:** Here, the researchers carried out and wrote a thorough study of each subject to define the tale each tries to say and the essence of each subject. For each theme, a concise, punchy and informative name is built.
**Writing up:** Writing in the subject analysis is the final but most significant component of the analysis phase. In order to tell a complete and convincing story about the information and contextualizing it in the context of other studies, it involves the preparation of the analysis description and data extracts.

**Ethical consideration**

Before commencement of data collection, the intention of the study was clarified to respondents. Participant data was also kept secret. All books, newspapers and other data sources used have been duly recognized.

Prior to the recruitment of respondents to guarantee that respondents were completely conscious of the purpose of this study and guarantee that only appropriate data was supplied in line with the study purpose (Remenyi, D., et al., 1998). Every study participant consented to the study by signing a consent form prepared by the investigator prior to the interviews.

The need to protect the privacy of participants is also of equal significance. The data provided to the researcher were kept completely confidential and the interviews were conducted in an environment which guaranteed the privacy of the participants. The investigator used pseudonyms for replacing the true names of individuals involved in this research in order to guarantee that the identities of all respondents are protected. Each interviewee was free at any moment and without any punishment to cease involvement.
Limitation of the study

The following are some limitation of the study. The study was mainly based on street children (in-migrants) and their livelihood on the street. Hence, findings from the study cannot be generalised across all types of migrants in the street as well as, children who happens not to be migrants but are street children. The finding was also limited to only the Agbogbloshie, suburb of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly, Greater Accra and may not be applicable to other places.

Chapter Summary

The methodology section examined problems such as the conception of the studies and the method used for information collection from the respondents. It also examined the sample size of the study and how they were selected and the ethical aspects made in the study and how data were analyzed in order to draw conclusions.
CHAPTER FOUR
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

The focus of this section is to discuss the analysis for obtaining the research objectives for the studies. The data were collected from thirty (30) young people in the street of Agbogbloshie, Accra. The analysis and discussion of data involves results from the interviews that have been conducted.

Objective One: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the street children

Age and Gender

The sample size of 30 respondents included both male and female participants from different age groups. The ages of the participants were grouped under four distinct age ranges (i.e. 10-15, 16-20, 21-25, 26-30 age groups). The table below shows the responses on gender and age of the study participants.
Table 4.1: Age and Gender of respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-25</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>63.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field Work, 2019)

From the Table it can be noticed that children formed the majority of the respondents. They were within the age group of 16-20 age. They were fifteen (15) in number which is 50% of the total percentage. Respondents within the age group of 21-25 were also nine (9) which is 30%. In addition, respondents within the ages of 26-30 were four (4) in number which represents 13.3% of the entire percentage. Finally, the respondents within the ages of 10-15 were two (2) which represents 6.7% of the total percentage. In an interview with a twelve (12) year-old she said, “I came down with my brother to Accra who is a truck pusher at the age of 10 years”.

Also, it can be noticed from the table above that, female street children were more than their male counterparts. The majority of the respondents were females and they were nineteen (19) in number which represent 63.3% of the total percentage of the participants.
Educational background

The research respondents were people from different educational backgrounds. In the study, the respondents pointed out the following:

The data from the study is presented on the table below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Schooling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Primary (Class 1-3)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Primary (Class 4-6)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior High School</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior High School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field Work, 2019)

As shown from the table 4.2 above, the majority of the respondents were in Junior High School (JHS). The number of respondents in JHS were twelve (12) out of thirty (30) which is 40% of the total percentage of the respondents.

On the table it can also be seen that, out of the total number of 30 respondents, seven (7) of them schooled to lower primary. And this represents 23.3% of the total percentage of the represent.

Again, it can be seen from the table that 6 respondents said they school to Upper Primary representing 20%. Three (3) respondents representing 10% said they have not been to school
(formal education) before unlike the other respondents. One lady said, there was no school in her hometown and the closest one was in the next two (2) towns from her town and that made it difficult for her to go to school.

However, a least number of two (2) respondents which represents 6.7% of the total percentage have had SHS education. The first one could not continue after SHS because she failed her exams. The other person said he couldn’t continue because he impregnated a lady, so he dropped out of school at SHS 2 to work and take care of her. Below is what he said,

I impregnated a lady and my parents asked me to stop schooling in order to get money to take care of the lady and the unborn child. (Dei, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

I was sacked from school at primary three (3) because I could not pay my school security fee which was just 5 cedis. My parents could not give me money to pay so I dropped out of school. (Boye, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

**Home region**

The table below demonstrate the responses of the respondents in answering where they came from.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Frequency of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Region</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper East</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper West</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Region</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Region</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Region</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volta Region</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashanti Region</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brong Ahafo</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field work, 2019)

From the table 4.3, it can be seen that, seven (7) respondents which represent 23.3% were from Ashanti region, six (6) respondents representing 20% were from Northern region and four (4) respondents representing 13.3% were from Upper East. It can be seen from the Table again that, four (4) respondents representing 13.3% were from Brong Ahafo and three (3) respondents were from Western region which represent 10%. With two (2) respondents representing 6.7% coming from Volta region, the same applies to Central region with two (2) respondents which represent 6.7%. One (1) respondent representing 3.3% came from Eastern region and Upper West region.
One thing was significant about them: almost all of them, in figures twenty-four (24) of the thirty, said that they migrated from deprived environment (villages and small towns) to the city.

**Reasons for migrating**

The distribution of the respondents on the basis of reasons why they are on the streets is shown in Table 4.4 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for migrating</th>
<th>Frequency of Responses</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To work for money</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>63.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to Conflict</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escaping abusive parents</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For being pregnant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Breakdown</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money and experience</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field work, 2019)
Table 4.4 indicates that a majority of the respondents migrated to work on the streets for money. A total of nineteen (19) out of the sample of thirty (30), representing 63.3%, are on the street to work for money for various purposes. First, they have come to work for money in order to buy their personal effects such as clothing, utensils, hand bags, sound systems. Some of these people come from poor a background with difficulty to even continue their education due to lack of funding, and their parents or guardians find it difficult to afford their other personal effects for them as well. This propelled them to migrate to make money.

Furthermore, a lady said that, she has gone through hairdressing training but she is unable to set her own job up so she came to work in order to get money to do that. Below is what she said:

My uncle gave me money to undergo hairdressing training and I did that. It wasn’t easy at all due to the financial problem of my family members but I managed to go through the process; my other two (2) siblings look up to me to help them and I didn’t have money too to set up my own hairdressing shop so I came here to work in order to set up my own business. (Akos, Agblogblishie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Interestingly, two respondents said they migrated to work in order to support their families back at home. One of them said he took the personal decision to migrate in order to support family back home looking at how the family was suffering. The other said his mother asked him to migrate after the death of his late father in order to work and take care of the family. Below is what they said:
The situation of my family wasn’t getting better, I noticed someone had to do something and I happened to be the eldest son so I left home to come and work to at least solve some problems at home as a result of financial constraints of the family. (Kwame, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

After the death of my father it became difficult for us financially, my late father’s siblings took the land we used to farm on and our lives were getting worse day after day. My mum asked me to migrate like other guys have been doing in my hometown to work and support the family. (Ben, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Quite a few of them also come to work to enable them learn vocations. These girls desire to become hairdressers and seamstresses in the future but have no money to enter into it because their parents are poor. It is in view of this that they are on the streets.

**Period of stay in the street of Agbogbloshie**

The table below demonstrate the responses given for the number years stayed in the street as a migrant.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Spent</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5+ years</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>43.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field work, 2019)

From the Table it can be seen that thirteen (13) responses, which represents 43.3%, was 5+ years, a lady who is twenty-three (23) years said she had been sleeping at the market since she came to Accra at the age of 16 which means she has been on the streets for seven (7) years.

Eight (8) responses, which represent 26.7%, was 3-4 years, six (6) responses which represent 20.0% was twelve (12) months (a year), and the number of people who had spent two (2) years were three (3), representing 10.0%.
Objective Two: Exploring their lived experiences on the street in relation to their working and living conditions as well as their health status.

Living conditions

A great number of migrants live at the Agborgbloshie. The notable places of sleeping are the market, in stores and kiosk. Some sleep on verandahs of stores. Some of the respondents mentioned that they sleep in Mosque. Some also sleep in fitting shops. Below is what one respondent said:

Life in the city is not easy, for the past 3 months I have been sleeping on verandah; I have been sleeping on this verandah here with my friends. Initially, I found it difficult to even close my eyes due to how hard the floor is, I felt so uncomfortable. Even though, I still don’t feel comfortable for sleeping on the verandah but since it’s the only option I have to manage here like that. (Yaa, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Some people also stated that they have rented rooms with other migrants and due to number and the size of the room, sometimes sleeping becomes difficult because they are more than the number the room can take. Some also rent spaces in front of people shops and pay money for that.
I slept at the bus station for weeks with my colleagues till we managed to contribute to get a single room around. Due to our numbers, I feel highly uncomfortable. When someone take your money, it becomes difficult to trace the one who did that, I wish to even leave the room because it is sometimes annoying. (Akwasi, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

I have been sleeping in front of a shop at night with like 6 other guys. Regardless the fact that, the ground is rough and it lacks protection from the weather, we still pay money every day before sleeping here. We make payment of 5 cedis and sometimes do some work for the owner. (Ebo, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

I sleep in an open space with others. It is so close to a toilet thereby, making us opened to mosquitoes. Sometimes I walk around the area till I’m feeling sleepy before I can sleep there. Above all, the place is overcrowded and it makes life uncomfortable to me. (Mercy, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

There are reasons why these children cannot easily gain access to rooms in the city’s houses. First, landlords are increasingly demanding relatively high lump-sum advances (of two to four years’ rent) from newcomers. Also militating against their chances of securing room accommodation is the stigma associated with the street world. In an interview with the respondents it was noticed that, they are discriminated against because they are seen as wayward children. Such is the reason while some property owners will accept the street’s child money in
return for a cramped veranda or courtyard at night, they are perceived as vagrant. A respondent said, that an adult who happens to be the property owner of the place he sleeps at night with his colleagues, made the expression concerning where they sleep that, it is their rightful place for animals like them. Lacking places of their own put street children in a particularly awkward position, when they are ill or convalescing. Finally, they mentioned security and bathing facilities as challenges.

Few of the respondents pointed out that, they sleep with their relatives so leave the street in the evening and comes back at dawn to carry out their activities.

For me my sister sells indomie at this place and she has rented a room for the two of us. So, for accommodation I don’t have problem “koraa”. I can say that, so far as I’m concerned, accommodation is not a problem at all. (Jane, Agblogboshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

**Work**

The respondents mentioned the kind of work they engage themselves in and they are presented in the table below.
Table 4.6: Work of the respondents (street children)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portering (Kayayo)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Hawkers</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck pushing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car washing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaners</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chop bar assistance</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field Work, 2019)

From the Table, it can be noticed that seven (7) representing 23.3% of the respondents were porters (Kayayo), however majority of them, which is twelve (12) representing 40.0% were street hawkers, with majority of this group of people selling iced water (pure water) and rest of them were selling bread, clothing, Handkerchiefs and phone credit, medicine and fruits.

It can be viewed from the table that Three (3) respondents which represent 10.0% were truck pushers. Also, four (4) representing 13.3%, said they were chop bar assistants and a respondent also said she is a cleaner representing 3.3 from the entire percentage.

However, the respondents said in order to maximize their earnings they end up doing any job available that fetches them money. Even though none of the respondents said that, he or she works as a prostitute or as an armed robber/thief, however, three (3) respondents made an
assertion during the interviews that, some of the lady colleagues work in the night as prostitutes and he also said that, some of the guys go about stealing things and many of them are into gambling for survival. This makes the street problem a comprehensive one and this is because it is becoming a contributing factor to the growth of crime and other social vices in the country.

**Health**

Investigation concerning their health information was limited to one (1) year proceeding the research. Three areas that were specifically investigated are below;

- Frequency of sicknesses in the period stated above before the research
- Nature of the sickness.
- How do they deal with the sickness?

Six (6) of the interviewees pointed out that in the year under question they had no illness or sickness: Sixteen (16) said they have experienced sicknesses within the period of time under review. Five (5) of the respondents said they have at least experienced three (3) sicknesses within the period. And the other three (3) respondents said they have experienced more than three (3) sicknesses within the stipulated period of time.

Many of the respondents said that within the stipulated period, they have experienced malaria. Twenty (20) of the respondents said they experienced malaria and they explained by saying that, it is because they are exposed to mosquitoes at their places of abode. The others made mention of severe headache, stomach pains, vomiting, loss of appetite, severe pain and coughing.

Out of the thirty (30) respondents interviewed only eight (8) people said they attended hospital when they weren’t feeling well. The rest of the twenty-two (22) said they couldn’t attend
hospital and most of them (17 of that number) said emphatically that they don’t have the money to attend hospital. Twenty-seven (27) respondents said they rely on self-medication whenever they are not well.

**Objective three: Investigating the depth of what the migrants in the streets are vulnerable to and what have been victimized of**

**Vulnerability of the street children**

During the interview the migrants pointed out some problems they are vulnerable to. Several responses were given, below are concerns raised by the respondents:

- Theft
- Murder/ death
- Assault
- Rape
- Sickness and Body Pains
- Pregnancy

They figure below demonstrates the responses given in relation to migrants’ street children and vulnerability.
From the Figure 4.1 it can be seen that, twenty (24) respondents made the assertion that they are vulnerable to theft which was the majority out of the responses. According to sixteen (16) of them they are vulnerable because of where they sleep at night. Two (2) ladies said they hear of theft everyday amongst themselves and it makes it uncomfortable to hold money and sleep at the
place of abode. Some said, they carry their entire possessions on their persons all day and use them as pillows at night and makes them vulnerable to theft.

 Says one of them,

 It is difficult to let others see your progress and how successful you become in a day because I hear theft every day from friends and people afar and sometimes it makes life uncomfortable to even have money on you and have a good sleep. (Mat, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Seven (7) out of the thirty (30) respondents said that, they are vulnerable to theft because they are too young. One (1) of them said, the area is full of migrants and because they all want to make money it then makes everyone vulnerable to theft.

 Says one of them,

 My money has been stolen before and due to my age, I have received signals of theft and this is because people see me as defenseless. (Bee, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Eleven (11) of the respondents said they are vulnerable to murder/death. A lady said that, it’s not safe at all to sell things on road as a street hawker and this is because she has witnessed knock down by a car and she believes that any of them can lose his or her life any day. Four (4) of the respondents complained of threats of death by robbers and this makes them uncomfortable. Nine (9) respondent added that, they are vulnerable to assault. Therefore, among them, group
protection is needed and it is acquired through peer groups which built along gender, tribal and job lines.

Twelve (12) respondents said they are vulnerable to car accident. Some of the street hawkers lamented that, their work highly places them in vulnerable positions. In a group discussion some members said they have come very close to being knocked down by a car. Interestingly, a truck pusher said, there has been incidence that he was nearly knocked down by his on cart.

Sixteen (16) of the them said they are vulnerable to rape, four (4) ladies said that, they have received signals of it. A respondent said the street guys have been foundling her breast and touched her buttocks during an interview. Some topped it in different interviews that, the kind of harassment they have been experiencing from both street boys and other guys around put them in a very uncomfortable position.

Twenty- one (21) respondents said they are vulnerable to sicknesses and body pains. Some of the respondents said they have feeding problem and they explained by saying that, due to the low earnings they don’t eat well enough neither do they eat to their satisfaction. Six (6) of the respondents said they are vulnerable to pregnancy. Two (2) ladies said that, they have been having unprotected sex so they fear they can be pregnant. A lady also said, she has been raped recently and it was unprotected sex so she fears she will be pregnant.

Says the respondent,

I have been having sex with my boyfriend and he doesn’t like the use of condom and I really fear I will get pregnant in one of these days. (Agnes, Agblogblogshie, In-dept interview, 2019)
Victimization of street migrants

In relation to what the street children (people) have been victims of in the past as a result of being in the street, the respondents mentioned the following problems as the problems, they have been victims of; Theft, Exploitation and abuse, Dissatisfaction with current work, Car accident, Rape/Defilement, Harassments, Pregnancy and Social exclusion and rejection (mainly). The outcome is displayed the figure below:

Figure 4.2: Victimization of migrants in the street

Multiple responses are included

(Source: Field Work, 2019)
The Figure 4.2 above indicates that, harassment had the highest number of responses which was sixteen (16) respondents which represents 36.4%. Three (3) ladies said during the interviews that, there have been several occasions that some guys forced them to fondle their breasts. The respondents said they have been receiving harassment from their customers and their masters as well. Thirteen (13) said, they have been subjected to verbal abuse. Three (3) cart pushers said that, they have been referred to as “animals”, “dirty” and “smelly”. Below is what two of them said,

I have been forced in several occasions by the guys here and they touch my breast, and some of them too have been slapping my buttocks. Aside that, they have been calling me names. I’m tired of those things, it is making me uncomfortable. (Yaa Birago, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

I receive insults almost every day. At first, I was sad always because I was referred to as an animal and some people were using words like, “stupid”, “bastard”, “smelly”, “dirty guy” and “dirty smelly goat” on me. I am not the only one who have suffered this, my friends have also lamented on this too. (Bright, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)

Eleven (11) respondents said they have been victims of theft which represent 25%. The respondents explained that, aside their money that has been stolen, they have lost their belongings; they mentioned phones, cloths, shoes and other valuable things belonging to them.
Due to the accommodation problems street children face, some of the respondents said they carry their whole possessions with them all day and sleep on it as pillows at night and this made them prone to robbery. Three (3) people which comprises two (2) ladies and one guy said they left their possession with a store keeper and in their return he told them that, their possessions have been stolen. This is making them not trust anyone and aside that, it makes their living uncomfortable and unsecured.

Nine (9) of the respondents said they have been victims of exploitation and abuse before. They lamented on customers exploitation and they explained by saying that, customers either refuse to pay them after rendering their services or they pay less. Their customers also verbally abuse them and give them threats of beatings and even in some occasions received beatings from customers and other people around (i.e. the market sellers, their suppliers and natives).

One (1) said he has been a victim of car accident, even though it was a mild one he was in pain for weeks. He said that, aside been in pain he lost his money and the most intriguing part was he didn’t get any attention from the man who hit him with the car.

This is what he said,

I was selling my things at the roadside and a car that was making overtaking just hit my leg, notwithstanding the fact that, the car was not speeding up thereby making the whole incidence trivial to some people, I fell down and I thought I will get a slight attention from the driver but I was rather insulted by him, it made me sad for a long period of time.

(Mat, Agblogbloshie, In-dept interview, 2019)
Four (4) responded said that, they have been assaulted before. Some said that, they have received threats of it and even one of them said he has escaped assaults in three different occasions since he started being in the street of Agbogbloshie.

One (1) respondent said, she has been impregnated. According to her, a man gave money and he slept with her on two occasions and she got pregnant, she then informed the man but the man rejected the pregnancy. She was just sixteen years old but now she is twenty-two (22) and the baby is six (6) years but she lamented that life have not been easy for her and her child at all.

Six (6) respondents said they have been victims of rape/defilement.

Almost all the participants felt rejected and excluded from the society. Rejected by the society and these people are left with only one option and that is to be glued with other children in similarly difficult situations or those with common need. While this enables them to receive a measure of emotional support which we all one way or the other need, it is arguably an unsatisfactory condition. With virtually eighty percent (80%) of the children living on their own, pushed them into premature independence and lacking parental guidance they are pushed into peer pressure which can be very strong on their lives. If one falls into a bad company, it is not particularly likely that he / she will succeed in fending off adverse influences. Group protection is obtained among street children through peer groups structured along the lines of gender, ethnicity, and work but not through gangs.

In the brief term, children mainly focus on fending for themselves and maximizing money on Accra street. The interviewees appear satisfied with their short-term ambitions. Some people had expected that they could return to school, but the short-term appeal of gains seems to have deterred them from this. Long term issues mainly relate to the search for stable jobs.
DISCUSSION

From the literature, scholars, like Simon et al. (2004), Apt and Grieco (1996) and Kwankye and Anarfi (2009) argued that, internal migrants in the streets, are mostly rural-to-urban migrants and their migration to metropolises are mainly job-oriented and are momentary owing to institutional marginalization.

This study attest to what was said in the scholarly works of the scholars above that, most of the street children in the study area come from rural areas and they migrated to the cities largely to work. From the study, twenty-four (24) which represents eighty percent (80%) of the total respondents said they migrated from rural areas (either a village or small town) to the city.

In addition, the study also points out that, the migrants on the street mainly move due to work. In the study it was found that, a majority of the respondents, which represent 63.3%, were in the study area with the purpose to work. It is worth noting that, the literature confirms that, people migrate largely for work. The study also, point out that, many of the street people are people who are poverty driven and are forced to stop schooling to be in the street to fend for themselves as adults as said by Kwankye and Anarfi (2009) in the literature.

However, most of them, seventy (70) percent of them, despite their challenges of staying in the city have spent three (3) years or above that in the streets. This is worth to note, because according to the literature, they always stay temporary due to institutional exclusion (Simon et al., 2004), however, from the study it was noticed that, they stay for long period of time no matter the level of institutional exclusion due to their quest of achieving their purpose of migrating which was mainly, work and get enough money home.
Due to accommodation problems and nature of jobs they involve themselves in, these people are placed in a vulnerable circumstance which results to sickness and other problems like theft, murder/death, assault, rape/defilement and pregnancy. And they have been victims of theft, exploitation and abuse, car accidents, rape and defilement, harassments, pregnancy and social exclusion and mainly rejection and this makes life highly uncomfortable to them. There are a lot of efforts the Ghana government have made to educate every child up to secondary high school for free but why are these people on the streets and not in school, are they also not citizens worthy enough to benefit from the policies of the government?
CHAPTER FIVE

Summary of Key Findings, Conclusion and Recommendation

Introduction

The chapter presents a summary of findings of this study and then the conclusion and recommendation.

Summary of key findings

The study first objective was to provide the demographic details of the street children and their reasons for migrating. Through the studies it was noticed that, the street children are group of people in the society that have been forced out of school due to mainly financial constraints. Many of the children in the street of Agbogbloshie migrated from Ashanti region and the Northern region. Primarily, the reason for their migration is to work for money in the urban places. From the studies it was noticed that many of these children have stayed in the city for over 3 years working and most of them sleeping in the streets.

The second objective was to identify their experiences on the street in relation to their work and living. The study found out that they have challenges with accommodation and most of them too are not satisfied with their current work, which places them at risk of involving themselves in social vices (prostitution and stealing) and multiple jobs to get more money.

The third objective was to investigate the depth of what the migrants in the streets are vulnerable to. The study showed that, the street children are vulnerable to theft, murder/death, assault, rape, sickness and body pains, pregnancy and this is mainly as a result of where they sleep and their living as a whole.
With the fourth objective which was to investigate into the depth of comprehension on victimization of the migrants on the streets, the study found out that, the children have been victims of theft, car accident, pregnancy, exploitation and abuse, rape/defilement, harassment and primarily they feel socially excluded and rejected by the society.

**Conclusion**

The results point to the reality that street children are the country’s disgrace and issue. Disgrace in the form that these great number of young people are left on the street and sideways without any parental assistance leading them to poignant situation, hence, making them problematic. It thus becomes a humanitarian issue, however, it is more of policy issue, particularly with Ghana being a signatory to the SDG as it makes Ghana fail to attain its objectives as a country. The number of children, particularly migrants, entering the street job domain is disturbing. The fact that such a large percentage of children lack protection, family supervision and a helpful atmosphere amenable to the growth of their human potential should raise eyebrows.

Stereotyped as rapscallions, and living rejection and socially excluded life, migrants without housing (mainly) suffer harder circumstances than others. Rejected by the community as a whole, for friendship, emotional support and guidance they are fast to turn to their colleagues. It is impossible to leave unaddressed the hazards involved in such limited alternatives for friendship, help and personal development. Although the proof of deviant behavior is not great, being on the street risks falling into unsatisfactory business. Destitution is obviously the main factor underlying the street movement choice.
Recommendation

I recommend that at a remedial stage, it would be particularly useful to foster street babies to prevent the development of street children of second generation. Properly staffed day care centers on the market would allow children and infants to receive quality care and provide child health and hygiene for mothers on the avenue.

Again, collaboration with agencies and partnerships with civil society volunteers will be vital to a successful response arrangement. Such cooperation should lead in avoiding duplication, particularly at project level, enabling the useful mopping up of hidden redundancies in the government sector and improving access to knowledge in social work. Not only must the growing interest in street children be sustained, but also strengthened and expanded. The level of debate should be re-pitched in specific to address to include the poorer and less educated parts of the population, these homes are prospective reservoirs of street children. In this respect, it is necessary to consider the use of media, television, radio and even modern social media as a means of communicating messages to impoverished urban households.

Furthermore, effective organisation of street children into recognizable communities would promote supporting communication and help to forge and/or reinforce connections with service suppliers in the city such as health / sanitation and nutrition teachers, social workers and ambulatory care staff.

Moreover, Ghana was one of the first signatories of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children, but still a lot needs to be done with regard to the legal conditions of Ghana to clarify the particular obligations for street children, who are in need of legal care and protection. A committee is therefore recommended to examine all elements of the problems experienced by
Ghanaian children on the streets, primarily from the cities (in particular Accra, Kumasi and Takoradi) and to take legal action to protect them.

In conclusion, a cross-cutting strategy is required to effectively resolve an issue as complicated as the street child issue. Such a strategy would acknowledge the complex connections between this perceptible urban occurrence and important informal variables such as rural impoverishment, woman poverty, big family size, household dissolution, parent analphabetism, and access restrictions on fundamental social services. This would not restrict the strategy to corrective measures, but would also include elements intended to avoid, or at least lessen, the prevalence of the issue of street children. This is an admittedly challenging job that requires both benevolence and skill, but failure to address these issues can only increase the danger of widening and propagating what is already unsatisfying. The possible social cost of failure to act could be very large.
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APPENDIX

INTERVIEW GUIDE

8. Can you please tell me about yourself? Marital status, religion, occupation, educational level, Place of Birth and Place of renumeration.

9. How long have you have been in the city and what have you been doing for living?

10. What was the expectation for migrating and what was the process?

11. How often do you visit your family at your hometown and how many times do you get in contact with your family and other relatives?

12. Do you have any relations here in the city?

13. Can you tell me about the life on the street?

14. What are you vulnerable of?

15. Can share your experience with me on what you’ve been victimize of since you started being in the street?

16. Do you have challenges in your socialization? (Religion/ Church, work etc)

17. Do you feel a sense of rejection, discrimination and or hatred?

18. What form of discrimination do you experience at the workplace or any other place?

19. How do you deal with sickness and body pains? Probe for: Do you visit the hospital or use personal medication or other and why?

20. Have there been any instance where you have been subjected to any form of mental, physical, verbal and violence abuse etc.? How did you feel? Did feel stigmatized?

21. What has been the coping strategy?

22. Where do you seek help from? Probe for:

   a. Emotional Needs
b. Social Needs

c. Economic Needs

d. Financial Needs

23. Would you say that you feel a sense of accomplishment, satisfaction, and inner tranquility like others?

24. Do people patronize your services? Do they know you are a migrant? Do you think they will patronize if they know your background?

25. Do you have anything else to share with me in line with what we have discussed?