

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA
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**TACKLING CHILD TRAFFICKING IN GHANA: CAUSES, INTERVENTIONS AND
THE WAY FORWARD**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that it contains no previously published work for an award of any degree in the University or any other University. All reference made to other studies have been duly acknowledged.

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DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this work to my wife Dr. Yvonne Loh and my children Elikem and Dzierdzorm Loh for enduring my absence while on the field. I cannot thank you enough.

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My gratitude goes to my family for their support during the period of this research. I am greatly indebted to Dr. Stephen Afranie for his patience and guidance as well as contributions throughout this study.

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of the study were to examine causes of child trafficking, identify current strategies and interventions being used to fight child trafficking and what interventions and strategies stakeholders recommend to address child trafficking.

Eight key informant interviewees and discussants were purposively sampled. Qualitative data were obtained using one on one interviews and focus group discussion that run between 40 and 170 minutes. The interviews were audio taped, transcribed and analyzed thematically informed by the economic disparity theory and the victim theory.

Respondent expressed economic, social and cultural causes of child trafficking. These causes were informed by institutional experiences through efforts to stop child trafficking. Current interventions focused on legal, economic and cultural interventions. Stakeholders recommended institutional amendment, economic and other socio-cultural interventions based on challenges that they encountered fighting child trafficking. Economic causes of child trafficking were the major cause of child trafficking. The economic disparity theory was the most dominant theory that explained the causes of child trafficking. The victim and economic theories shaped most of the interventions that are currently being used to tackle child trafficking. Recommendations prescribe that intervention be applied through a framework that combines cultural beliefs and practices with legal components of child trafficking.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

According to the international organization for migration IOM, over 3000 children are victims of child trafficking everyday: the trade or traffic of children is characterized by the recruitment, transport, transfer, and harboring of persons by different methods (Fanny Busutti; (2011)

Child trafficking has no universal definition, though many legal instruments mention it. One of these instruments is the convention on the rights of the child which refers to child trafficking in article11, line 1, which stipulates that “illicit transfer and non –return of children is forbidden”

Fanny Busutti (2011) has identified the main causes of child trafficking as poverty, humanitarian crises, lack of education, insufficient and un-informed legislation among others.

Interventions by way of policies, statute and legislation as well as protocols, conventions and regulations have been employed both at the international and domestic levels but same has not been very effective. The Convention for the Protection of the Rights of the Child is one of such convention which spells out several rights that children must enjoy. This convention was preceded by what was known as the Geneva declaration in 1924 and subsequently expanded on in 1959, both convention and declaration having the interest of children. However, the more extensive and revolutionary convention that is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child came into being in 1989, UNCRC defined “a child” as a person who is below the age of 18 years. Ghana was the first country to ratify the convention in 1990 out of 193 countries as at 2006 when Montenegro joined in to ratify the convention after becoming an independent state in the same year (Danailova et al., 2010).

Apart from the UNCRC, there exist several international, regional, and national legislations formulated to protect children. These include the International Labor Organization ILO Convention 182, on child Labor, the UN Convention against transactional Organized Crime. The Palermo Convention on suppression of trafficking, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the Children's Act of Ghana (Act 560) and the Human Trafficking Act 2005 (Act 694) (UNICEF, 2014).

Member States are obligated to promote these rights in their various states through domestic legislation.

One of the challenges confronting children in Ghana a country which incidentally was the premier signatory to the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is the menace of Trafficking in Children. Child Trafficking exposes children to dehumanized treatment and poses great danger to their young life.

“...Child Trafficking is defined in the Palermo Protocol as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of person by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of position of vulnerability or of giving or receiving of payment or benefit to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation” (UNICEF 2014).

Tamas (2009) Oluwaniyi, (2009) and Johannsen (2006) stated that the practice of child trafficking, is widely spread in poor countries mainly in Africa, South East Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Statistics available indicate that over 3 million children are trafficked worldwide annually for diverse reasons ranging from forced labor on farms, for lakeside fishing and domestic service among others (Oluwaniyi, 2009). In Ghana, child trafficking involves

mainly internal trafficking. However, children are sometimes trafficked into neighboring countries like Togo, Nigeria, Cote' d'Ivoire as domestic servants and laborers (Johansen 2006). This study examines the causes of child trafficking in Ghana, some interventions and efforts directed at reducing child trafficking and policy implementation challenges faced by local and international conventions that seek to advance the human rights of children as a result of the lack of synergy between these policies and local/traditional practices.

1.2 The Research Problem

There have been attempts both at the international and domestic level to combat the menace of child trafficking through several means. However, these interventions which consist mainly of formal policies and legal instruments have not been as effective as anticipated because in most cases local and cultural situations for example factors like harsh economic conditions, and/or poverty and, lack of education among others are not taken into consideration when formulating these laws and policies.

The above situation is aptly expressed by John Tobin (2009:374) when he postulated that there exists a dilemma between international law: the need to accommodate and respect cultural differences and at the same time protect the internationally recognized rights of individuals. Similarly, Van Bueren (1998:310) has pointed out that this situation presents a conflict between the desire to eliminate harmful practices on the one hand and the desire to preserve traditional lifestyles undergirded by traditional values, aspects of which are prejudicial to the health and development of children.

The inability of state actors and framers of policies to consider local practices and condition of the ordinary people who are usually poor and uneducated leads to the passage of un-informed legislation which ultimately hamper the attainment of expected results that the policy makers desire.

It has been argued that the distance between universal promise and socio-cultural tradition has resulted in local resistance to children rights (Harrison, 2010).

The above point is buttressed by a study undertaken by Vermin and Levine, (2000), which concluded that state mandate could not realize children's rights until historical, political and economic conditions in Ghana are in line with the agenda for children and communities. They admit a research gap in that regard. Therefore, this study investigates the reason why these legal and formal policy interventions are not readily achieving their intended purpose. Regardless of the differences in ideology, state, and non-state institutions continue to implement direct strategies at addressing child trafficking in Ghanaian communities. The experiences of these efforts provide key insights for policy and practice on how to enhance the fight against child trafficking. The learning experiences of these strategies have not been researched in ways that draw practical context based recommendations from stakeholders of child rights and anti-trafficking institutions and individuals.

1.3 Research objectives

This study aims at exploring the causes of child trafficking, the current approaches at addressing child trafficking and subsequently proposed policies and strategies intended at future resolutions for the enhancement of the fight against child trafficking.

Specifically, the study attempts to answer the following questions:

- What are the causes of child trafficking?
- What current interventions and strategies are being used to fight child trafficking? and
- What strategies and interventions are recommended to enhance the fight against child trafficking?

1.4 Significance of the Study

Child right issue has received substantial attention at the International level. This is manifested by the many international legal instruments that have been formulated in the form of treaties, convention, protocols and agreements which various member states are signatories to. These conventions are under the auspices of the United Nations or its various organs.

While it may appear to many that there are sufficient legal protections for children under international law and at the regional and state level, there seem to be implementation challenges inhibiting the full realizations of children's rights protection.

There have been several studies on child trafficking in recent times by individuals and some organizations by way of academic research, published works and in some cases film documentaries by organizations like International Justice Mission (2015) Agbenya (2008) the Danish Immigration Service (2008) among others. These studies have legal and migration focus of child trafficking which do not necessarily prioritize the diverse local causes that underpin the practice, exposing either the general problem of child trafficking, its legal, and development concerns.

There has not been much work on how that examine the causes from a solely bottom up approach, revealing what is currently being done to address the problem of child trafficking and linking experiences to new strategies that would enhance the fight against child trafficking which is the focus of this study.

This study is expected to contribute to the already existing literature and also make recommendations, on how to resolve the problems that militate against the attainment of desired result in the fight against trafficking of children.

The study was conducted along the southern part of the Volta Region. The expectation is that this study will contribute to the learning understanding of stakeholders namely scholars, NGOs, CSOs, and government as well as individuals as to why the effort put into dealing with the menace of child trafficking by way of legislation in Ghana is not yielding expected result (International Justice Mission, 2015).

1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATION

The phenomenon of child trafficking has assumed alarming proportions and has gained recognition both locally and internationally. This research focused on selected Communities along the Volta lake of Ghana. This is due to resource and time constraints as the time available did not allow for a more extensive study. It is also important to mention that one needs to exercise some amount of circumspection in generalizing the findings for all forms of child trafficking in Ghana as the study focused on child trafficking in fishing communities only.

1.6 ORGANIZATION OF THIS STUDY

This study is structured into five (5) chapters. Chapter one (1) looks at background information about the subject area of the study. Here the objectives and research questions underlying the study are presented. Study parameters and the limitations of the study has also been looked at in this chapter.

In chapter two (2) the relevant literature is reviewed to help assess the research under study. Studies past and present that provide suitable evidence levels for the validity of the research are used whilst maintaining the objectives of the study.

Chapter three (3) outlines the methodology used to undertake the study by looking at the selection of the samples, the validity of responses generated, the relevance of findings to the study objectives and subsequently talk about the method of analysis.

Chapter four (4) presents the findings of the study by observing the responses related to the research questions. These results are interpreted and presented in a report style for further conclusions to be made.

Chapter 5 presents the observed conclusions made per the analysis of the research findings in chapter 4. These conclusions serve as the basis for the recommendations made for studies of similar nature or as to the limitations of the study and how to better meet them in subsequent studies.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents literature overview of child trafficking as a phenomenon; it highlights the causal factors, the various legal instruments and approaches to fighting child trafficking as a development issue. Both theoretical and empirical literature underpinning the phenomenon of child trafficking are examined as empirical evidence of the existence on what has already been discovered by research that relates to the research questions.

2.2 Definition of child trafficking

Many authors, researchers and instruments have defined child trafficking, but the most expansive definition is found in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime adopted as resolution 55/25 on November 15, 2000. This is also called the Palermo Protocol. The Palermo Protocol thus explained Human Trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by means of the threat, or use of force or other forms of coercions, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payment or payments or benefit to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation (UNICEF, 2014).

The central idea of “exploitation” was defined to mean at a minimum sexual exploitation, forced labor, or services and practices akin to slavery, servitude or removal of organs (Harrison, 2010).

The protocol also reiterates the fact that recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation amount to trafficking in persons even if it does not involve any means set forth in a subparagraph of this article. It is imperative to take note that even though the protocol deals with human trafficking as a general theme, child trafficking involves a person below 18 years that is the accepted classification of child under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child (Manzo, 2005).

2.3 Theoretical Review

Every usual research is underpinned by a theory, as the aim is to inquire into a phenomenon or explore a subject matter and answer relevant question. Theories provide insight into the issues that drives the research.

The main theories that relate to child trafficking are reviewed to provide some explanation to the occurrence of the phenomenon of child trafficking. The relevant theories that can provide some insight into why the problem of child trafficking exists include the Economic Disparity Theory and the Victim Theory. The theories help us to understand the causes of child trafficking, the implementation of local and international conventions and how outcomes of interventions can be enhanced.

The Economic Disparity Theory (Keel, Juarez 2003) refers to the economic conditions of victims in the loop of child trafficking; from caretakers, to relatives and even to the victims. Thus, the theory espouses the fact that victims are more often than not from the lower income brackets and are socially down the ladder given that trafficked children are from economically underprivileged families. According to Juarez (2000) people become prone to child trafficking because of their powerless position in society, they come from mainly countries where the

economy is in depression, and from poor household hence they become easy prey for child traffickers Barner, Okech, and Camp (2014) and more recent evidence from

The victim theory also offers some insight into the persistence of child trafficking. The core point of this theory is that there is the availability of motivated offenders, as well as of suitable targets and the absence of capable guardians, as families may sell off victims. This theory thus indicates that most often the perpetrators of this evil capitalizes on the vulnerability of the victims and soon are able to sell them off without much remorse or consideration (Barner, Okech & Camp, 2018).

The two theories provide thought perspectives on what causes child trafficking where the study examined causes of child trafficking in context to the disagreements between laws and cultural practices and economic disparity which has proven to be the most associated cause of child trafficking. The Victim theory looks more closely to the child and the various vulnerability factors and provides different perspectives as to how the vulnerability of children will be reduced in terms of what can be done to reduce the prevalence of child trafficking. The child as a victim is a function of social, cultural and institutional factors as identified by Okyere (2012).

2.4. Global Trends in child trafficking

Trafficking in Children has assumed global dimension, this criminal phenomenon is perpetuated on children who are forced to work in various industries, like agriculture, fishing and sex trade. They are also used for other equally criminal activities as drug peddling, petty thievery, child soldering in conflict areas among others (Florida PTA, 2000 and NCDU, 2009).

Additionally, political, social and economic factors within a society or region can either pull or push victims into a situation of trafficking, child trafficking in persons (UN Office on Charges and Crime – UNODC, April 2006). Human trafficking is a global problem that has reached epidemic proportions over the past decade. As the Global International Security annual publication for the year 2007 indicates.

The publication further indicated that while every case of human trafficking has its unique characteristics nearly all follow the same geographical pattern, where people are abducted, transferred through a transit point and then exploited in a destination country/community.

The indication according to the publication is that the emerging trends show that human trafficking nearly always flows from poor or less endowed countries to rich countries with transit point falling somewhere in-between.

It is postulated that child trafficking victims in America and Europe are mainly from backgrounds of countries who have a history of violence and abuse or religious minorities. Most of these victims are trafficked with the promise of jobs, school, and other opportunities of making moneys so they can remit some home, (Florida, PTA 2000 and NCDU 2009).

As far back as the mid-1990s UNICEF estimated that close to 200.000 foreign child laborers 70 percent of them boys had been lured into Thailand from Burma Laos, Cambodia and Southern China, tens of thousands of them are trafficked within their own borders.

Cambodia is another haven for child trafficking and serves as a permanent transit and destination point for child trafficking. It offers a thoroughfare for children to be trafficked into neighboring

countries like Thailand, Taiwan, Vietnam and Macao (SND 2009) children trafficked are usually between the ages of up to 17 years. These children are employed in farms, fishing, prostitution etc. (SND 2009).

UNCIEF also identifies Thailand as a regional hub for the trafficking of children, children are sent to other cities and countries in the region including Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan. (Voanews.com child-trafficking-prevalent-throughout-south East-Asia October 29, 2009).

2.5 Child Trafficking in Africa

Although the menace of children trafficking is a global phenomenon, statistics show that it is rife in Africa and is on the ascendancy. The Global report by the United Nations indicates that child trafficking increased by 5 percent from 2007 -2010 (UNDDC 2014, Nov 24). In recent times, the Government of Rwanda has reported increases in the number of children trafficking in that country (Sandner , 2014).

Comparatively, countries such as Ethiopia and South Africa have had a fair share of child trafficking. The Reuters report filed on March 16, 2017, indicated that Ethiopia is experiencing a rise in the trafficking of children while South Africa was cited by a U.S state department report on December 2, 2016 as a haven for child trafficking. In West Africa the situation is not very different. (Reuters Child trafficking, 2017)

“In 2006 alone over 40,000 children were trafficked to or through Benin a Country with population of about 8 million (Carin Brown, trafficking in West Africa 2010). Neighboring Togo is no exception, infant children as young as 3 years are exploited as domestic and agriculture workers in several countries. A Scandal over the issue of child labor in west Africa blew up in 2002, when nearly half the chocolate produced in the United States was linked to cocoa beans

harvested by child laborers in Cote' d'Ivoire. Many of these children had been trafficked from neighboring countries like Mali and Burkina Faso (Human Rights Watch N.Y April 1, 2003.)

According to Jonathan Cohen a researcher with Human Rights Watch an author of this report; Trafficking in child labor comes along numerous routes in West Africa and governments are not doing enough to stop it.

2.6. Trafficking of children in Ghana.

Ghana is on tier 2 rating according to the US State department report on trafficking in persons; this indicates that the menace of child trafficking is still a problem in the country (Harrison, 2010). The report says the exploitation of Ghanaian children within the country is more prevalent than transnational trafficking of foreign nationals. Trafficking of children in Ghana can be attributed to a combination of reasons, these factors can be put into two main categories, namely the push factors and the pull factors, and these are sometimes referred to as, the supply side factors and the demand side factors (Chuang, 2006). This categorization has received some attention from scholars and researchers on the subject. According to scholars, the push factor includes poverty and traditional practices while the pull factors include the need for cheap labor and use of false information etc. (Danailova et al., 2010).

2.6.1 Supply Side Factors (Pull Factors)

Traditional practices like fosterage and the trokosi (ritual servitude) practices among some tribes in Ghana make children vulnerable to child trafficking (Afenyadu, 2009). The practice of child trafficking encourages the parents to unwillingly give their children out to traffickers in exchange for various items. Challenging Heights, a child rights non-governmental organization

(NGO) has established that child trafficking persists in parts of the country. “Let eliminate child trafficking in Ghana is the headline of a report published in the Ghanaian Media (David Kofi Awusi September 4 2015) on graphriconline.com a news portal.

The round 6 of Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS6), 2014 estimates that there are over 8.6 million children between the ages of 5-17 in Ghana, of this number over 1.8 million (21%) of them are engaged in child labor and over 2.1 million engaged in hazardous child labor. An International Labor Organization ILO/GOG study in 2013 estimates that there are 49,000 children working in the fishing industry on the Volta Lake. Many young people are enticed with promises of education and jobs including monies or sometimes the promise of apprenticeship or education of the child victim, thereby putting their children at risk (sewa foundation report 2013-2017 under the slogan ‘se eye wo ba anka’) Child fostering as a tradition is prevalent in many Africa societies including Ghana, this is done through the practice where children are allowed by their parents to go and live with close or distance relatives or sometimes even non-relatives as a result of poverty, or and to promote family bonds.

Families who have resources or have rich relatives are more likely to resort to fostering as a means to escape poverty as parents believe they can enhance their children’s circumstances by sending them to their richer or more endowed relatives, friends and acquaintances (Akresh 2005).

There are other traditional practices like trokosi which is very prevalent in parts of South Eastern Ghana, which aids the practice of child trafficking. This practice allows very young virgin girls to be sent to shrines to atone for the sins of family members ostensibly to avert curses. These

girls are handed to fetish priests who force them to work all day and sometimes act as wives to these priests (Akresh 2005) Casely Haryford 2006.

Poverty is another common reason that aids child trafficking. A UNICEF report on combating child trafficking observed that when poverty is rife, a girl may be regarded as an economic burden for her family and her marriage to an older man may be seen as a family survival Strategy (UNICEF, 2005).

2.6.2 Demand side factors (pull factors)

The fishing industry along the Volta lake of Ghana has been a consistent decline in volumes of catches because of the construction of the Akosombo dam and the global phenomenon of climate change.

The decline coupled with the increase in the cost of fishing implements and logistics has led to the dwindling of profits for the fisher folk and the industry in general. The fisher folk therefore have resorted to various strategies to reduce cost of labor; hence, they seek the assistance of young children who are mainly trafficked or under fosterage to help them in the business as a source of cheap labor. This has led to the demand of child laborers leading to the increase in trafficking along the Volta Lake. These children are used to diving and going deep down the river to untangle nets at the risk of their young lives. The US states department on trafficking in person in its 2007 report on trafficking children labeled Ghana, as “Source, transit and destination country” for trafficking children. The children are trafficked within the country and used on farms as domestic servants on cocoa plantations, street vendors, porters and for sexual exploitation. Children are also trafficked to and from neighboring Togo, Cote d’Ivoire, Benin and Nigeria (Johansen 2006).

2.7 International legal Regime for the protection of children, and combating human trafficking.

The International legal regime is replete with conventions, treaties and protocol for the protection of children and combating of the menace of human trafficking. These legal instruments are geared towards ensuring that member countries adhere to the upholding of rights that children must enjoy.

These instruments can be segregated into International, Regional and sub-regional levels.

Prominent among these protocols, conventions and agreement are: -

- ❖ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child (UNCRC).
- ❖ Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in person, especially women and children. Supplementing the UN convention against transnational organized crime (The Palermo Protocol).
- ❖ ILO Convention on worse form of child Labor 1999 (No. 182).

At the regional level the most extensive and prominent treaty is the African Charter on the Rights and welfare on the child. The ECOWAS Convention A/P1/7/92 on mutual assistance in Criminal Matters as well as the bilateral agreement between Ghana and other West African countries on the immigration of Labor are some of the significant legal agreements entered into at the sub-regional level. These international legal instruments were adopted at various times with the view of protecting the rights of children against abuse of all forms including child trafficking. The UNCRC, which was entered into in 1989, was a call on member countries to provide appropriate legislation as well as develop institutional framework for the protection of children from violence and abuse. It availed the children the right to freedom of expression and conscience, as

well as the right to be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, of abandonment, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse with the view to guarantee their social emotional and moral welfare as well as physical and mental health. (Ana-Maria 2009:16). The UN Convention against Organized Crime or the Palermo Protocol, call on member states to take measures to prevent suppress and punish persons who engage in the Human trafficking. It among other things lay down the legal foundation for judicial co-operation between member states (UNICEF 2002). The ILO Convention 182 targets the elimination of worse forms of child Labor. It identifies child Labor to include all forms of slavery such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage, and serfdom and forced Labor. It also identifies forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts as well as for prostitution it abhors work which by its nature is likely to harm the health, safety and moral of children (Tamas 2009). The African Charter on the Rights and welfare of the child, to which Ghana is a signatory emphasizes that children occupy a unique and privileged position in the African Society. It emphasizes the protection of children from harmful socio-cultural practices.

2.8 legislative framework for the protection of children and combating child trafficking in Ghana

Ghana can boast of quite a member of legislation that seeks to protect the children and these include legislation against the trafficking of children. The Constitution of Ghana promulgated in 1992 has several clauses that ensure the protection of the rights of individual liberties including that of children especially clauses 28 of chapter five Many other laws have been passed by the legislature in furtherance of the protection of children. The Ghanaian Trafficking Act 2005 (Act

694), the children's Act 1998, Act 560, criminal offences Act (Act 29). The Domestic Violence Act 2007 (Act 732) and children Regulations 2003 (LI705) are all legislations passed to ensure that the rights of children are protected. There also exist several policies by government which deals with issues of children welfare. Most of these legislations take their roots from the International treaties, protocols and conventions that Ghana has entered into as a State party.

The children's Act (Act 560) is a byproduct of the United Nations Convention of the Right of the child, it spells out the rights of children as well as the responsibilities parents are to bear for the care, protection and welfare of the child. Central to the Act is the principle of the best interest of the child at all times. The act spells out the responsibilities that the state and parents have to children which includes, the provision of shelter, education, health, guidance, assistance, care, non-violent and non-abusive environment among others, for the child (Casely Hayford, 2006).

Act 694 of 2005 which deals with Human Trafficking, outlines the various violations and penalties for the offence of Human Trafficking. One Unique thing about the Act is the fact that a person with information about the offence of child trafficking who fails to report to the appropriate authority is also liable to punishment under the Law. Responsibilities of institutions especially for the rescue and care of victims and the necessary support to be given to the victims are all contained in the Act.

2.9 Conclusion

This chapter points that two theories; the economic disparity theory and the victim theory, explain the reasoning why child trafficking evolved and continues to thrive amidst many interventions and strategies implemented to fight it.

It also points out that the act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring of a child, for the purpose of exploitation constitute the crime of trafficking in persons per the Palermo protocol. The chapter also identifies and discusses two major facts that promote child trafficking especially in Ghana, the (push and pull) factors, which include poverty and some traditional practices and customs. The chapter gives a general overview of the menace of child trafficking on the Global, Regional and State level. The next chapter focuses on the methodology to be employed for this study.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Methodology is essential for the results one can get in a study or research. It spells out various steps one takes to ensure the integrity of the results. Methodology defines the types of choices one makes about cases to study, how data is gathered, the type of data analysis among others in planning and executing a research study (Silverman, 2005). This chapter outlines broadly the technique that was used for this study, which was qualitative. It also explains the research design and methods, the sampling method used, the way data was collected and how data collected were analyzed. Ethical considerations are explained in this chapter.

3.2 Research Design and Methods

This study was a solely qualitative case study research of child trafficking in the study area. Qualitative case study allowed for the collection of more in-depth information from the field as it enabled the researcher to examine the objectives thoroughly by probing to draw insights which may have been missed if quantitative methods were employed. The qualitative methods allowed the researchers to explore the views of the adult male and female residents separately as well as male and female children separately. Bringing community members together to discuss the research questions yielded more information that is more nuanced than data that would have been derived from a quantitative survey (Dudwick, Kuchmast Jones and Woodcock, 2002). Secondly, this being an exploratory research, qualitative methodology provided more flexibility in terms of design of data collection instruments. The open-ended nature of questions made

participants able to express personal views without the limitation of close ended questions (Yanch and Stendel, 2003).

A qualitative research approach was used as the method and case study research design used as the research design. This enabled the study to examine context factors to reveal traditional/local practices related to child trafficking amidst conventions at national and international quarters of development work. This research method was qualitative because the study collected descriptive, explanatory and life story data that best answers the research questions. The case study makes the study findings relevant in understanding challenges of national and international conventions in situations comparable to the study area. Yin (2017) prescribes three key components of a case study design. The study must have a clearly defined unit of analysis. In this study the child trafficking as a phenomenon. The second design requirement is that the case study is bounded, setting the boundaries of a case study defines what the case is not. The boundaries of this case study are bounded by phenomenon and location: the experience of child trafficking along the southern part of the Volta Lake. Case studies also require clearly stated prepositions. This study's posit is that: child trafficking is underpinned by local/traditional norms of economic and social conducts that challenge international and national level strategies.

3.3 Sampling technique

The study used purposive sampling, a non-probability sampling technique to recruit participants for the study. This non probability sampling technique was suitable because information from recognizance visits to the community revealed that the number of institutions engaged in child trafficking were few and scattered with unique focus areas. The study targeted these few institutions purposively because their activities and numbers were rare and they provided

opportunity for diverse institutional perspectives that was compared with views from community members.

3.4 Sampling frame and size

The sampling frame shows the number of key informant interviews (KIIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs) conducted with a brief description of their background. Gender disaggregated focus group discussions were organized to prevent tendencies of either male or female intimidation of opposite gender's views. Key Informant interviews were conducted separately at the convenience of the targeted Key Informants. Seven Key informants were interviewed, three from both public and private institutions. Four focus group discussions were organized with two groups of males and females. There were seven discussants in each Focus Group Discussion.

Table 1 Sampling frame

Target group	Data collection tool	Number
Male and female adults residents in study community	Focus Group Discussions (FGD)	One group with adult male residents and one group with adult female residents (FGDs)
Children residents in study community	Focus Groups Discussions (FGD)	One group with male children and one group with female children (FGDs)
Key Informants	One-on-one interview	Four from state agencies and four from non-state agencies
Total: Four FGDs and Eight KIIs.		

3.5 Data Collection

Research thrives on accurate data (Surbhi, 2016), for this study to ensure that accurate data is collected, a semi- structured interview guide and discussion guide were developed with open ended questions around the research questions. The data collection tools were reviewed and pre-tested to ensure the suitability of the questions, as well as the objective of the research. The interview guide was administered to the purposively sampled key informants and discussants in the FGDs.

A letter from the University of Ghana introducing the researcher was obtained and used by the researcher to make community entry easier and increase access to institutional KIIs. The researcher paid visits to the various respondents' institution that were pre-selected for preliminary interaction to seek permission and also have initial discussions concerning the research. The study area was visited and initial community entry procedures undertaken that ensured that the researcher had easy access and co-operation of the discussants who took part in FGD.

3.6 Data Analysis

Thematic analysis (Attride-Stirling, 2001) was used to analyze data in this study. The adopted three steps of profiling, coding, and thematic frame work were conducted after data were transcribed. All conducted interviews were recorded. Recorded interview audios were transcribed from audio to text before analysis.

3.6.2 Transcription

The qualitative in-depth interviews with beneficiaries, key informant interviews with stakeholders and focus group discussion with various groups of community members were recorded and transcribed verbatim from English and Twi and Ewe (the original languages that participants expressed themselves) into English. Verbatim transcription ensured that no relevant data was lost during transcription. Transcripts were reviewed with the audio recordings to check for possible omissions of relevant responses of participants, cases of transcription summarizing and interpreting responses of the interviewees. After interviews were transcribed they were checked for quality by sending the transcripts back to the respondents for content validation.

3.6.3 Respondent Profiling

Validated transcripts were assigned identification numbers according to the number of interviews conducted. In all, Eight Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) were conducted; these interviews were labeled KII1, KII2, KII3...KII8 according to when the interviews were conducted. Four FGDs were conducted and named in similar order to the KIIs. Identified data were profiled with some background data using different variables. Profiling respondents in a study enables some shared views to be attributed to their unique characteristics. Key Informant interviewees were profiled with their designation, type of institution; whether state or external non state, and the number of years they had served in the institutions. These were considered possible reasons for diverse perspectives. Focus Group Discussions were profiled by the gender and age of the focus group discussants. This was done to observe any differences in perspectives within the study area.

The following in identifications in Table 2 were assigned to the respondents.

Respondent ID	Institution	Description
KII1	Ghana Police Service (GPS)	State
KII2	Gender and Social Protection	State
KII3	Christian Council of Ghana	State
KII4	International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Non –state
KII5	Jack Dawson (Apple)	Non-state
KII6	Community focal person	Individual
KII7	Community focal person	Individual
KII8	Community focal person	Individual
FGD1	Male adults	Group
FGD2	Female adults	Group
FGD3	Children males	Group
FGD4	Children females	Group

3.6.4 Coding

All transcripts were uploaded into NVivo 11. Three parent nodes were created one for each of the research objectives. I coded all transcripts inductively. First I read all the transcripts to get a fair idea of issues emerging under all three research questions. Inception issues were noted as memos and attached to their related nodes. Based on emerging ideas, I created child nodes and grandchild nodes under the three parent nodes. The second reading highlighted and coded quotes into the grandchild nodes. After coding quotes into the grandchild nodes, I described the grandchild nodes in the node properties by summarizing the central views depicted in the quotes.

The underlining contribution in two or more quotes in the grandchild nodes was used to label the child nodes that categorized the grandchild nodes. The coding frequency table is presented as Table below.

Table 3 Sample coding frequency table for research questioned on KIIs

Themes	KII1	KII2	KII3	KII4	KII5	KII6	KII7	KII8	Total
Causes of child trafficking									
Economic causes									
<i>Household poverty</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8
Current intervention and strategies									
<i>Economic interventions</i>		*		*	*				3
<i>Skills training of girls and other vulnerable groups</i>		*	*		*		*	*	5
Recommended interventions and strategies									
<i>Institutional interventions</i>									
<i>Increase resource to state instructions</i>	*	*			*				2

3.6.5 Thematic frameworks

The three parent nodes were organized into a table that presented a framework of the results of the coding. Thematic framework was organized into six tables; the first table indicated the parent node as the global theme. The next column had all organizing themes under the global theme in merged rows in the second column. The third column had all the basic themes under each organizing in merged rows. The fourth column was a description of the basic theme; this was the same description assigned in the node NVivo properties. The fifth column indicated the frequency of the basic theme, and the sixth column provided quotes that were coded to that particular basic theme. The summary of the thematic framework for each of the research questions are presented below for illustration. The full tables are appended and quotes in the tables were used in the presentation of findings and discussions. The total number of quotes under frequency represent both KII and FGD quotes. The sample coding frequency presented has only the frequencies for KIIs.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

I complied with all relevant ethical standards required in this type of research by ensuring that all confidentiality tenets were followed.

All information elicited from respondent were treated as confidential, and also got their full consent prior to recording the interviews.

The consent of the parents or guardian were sought before involving the children in the study.

The identity of the respondents is protected from the public. Codenames and other pseudonym have been used replace names of respondents cited in the research report.

3.8 Conclusion

This study was a qualitative research that used one-on-one interviews with Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) from state and non-state agencies. Adult and children residents of the study area were disaggregated by gender and grouped in separate focus group discussions (FGDs). The next chapter deals with the data analysis in detail, presentation, and discussion of the results.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter briefly summarizes how the data analysis was conducted in the preceding chapter and discuss emerging themes under each research question to reveal basic and organizing themes that emerged to summarize the answer (global theme) to the research questions: What are the causes of child trafficking? What interventions are directed at addressing child trafficking and what? Policies and strategies relating to child trafficking.

4.1. Data analysis

Thematic analysis (Attride-Stirling, 2001) was used to analyze data in this study. The adopted three steps of profiling, coding, and thematic frame work were conducted after data were transcribed. All conducted interviews were recorded transcribed and coded to reveal themes that provide answers to the research questions.

4.2.0 Causes of Child Trafficking

Child trafficking has been revealed to be one of the serious cases that infringe on child right and have severe impact on child growth and development. The incidence of child trafficking has been shown to result from various economic, social as well as cultural and institutional factors. These are the major themes that emerged under the causes of child trafficking – economic, social, and cultural factors. Under these broad categories of themes or parent nodes, sub-themes were developed under these themes which are discussed under the parent themes.

4.2.1 Economic factors

Economically, child poverty has been revealed to be linked to income poverty and unemployment (Chuang, 2006). Thus, the economic status of parents or guardians have implications for child trafficking, especially in the remote and rural areas. Income poverty according to key informants and discussants in the focus group discussion (FGD) compels guardians and parents to give their children out to work in other countries. This was remarked by a key informant that;

“... I will say predominantly poverty. Trust me, parents out of poverty are willing to give up their children for a pittance out of poverty, they do this because they are promised that the children will be well catered for ...” – KIII

A participant in a focus group discussion also had this to say about the causes of child trafficking in Ghana,

“... I have given birth but don't have the means to look after my child and for that matter I trade the child for money and the child is taken away...” – FGD1

Unemployment was one of the basic themes that emerged under economic-related causes of child trafficking. Lack of jobs has been explained by some respondents as a one of the economic factors that influence perpetrators of child trafficking. This is illustrated in the following remarks by some respondents or participants,

“... I have a child that has dropout of school because I don't have the means to support his education and say a fisherman also comes looking for someone to help him with a promise of paying GHC500 in return, since I have a lot of kids and doesn't have any work doing, I will trade my child for the money to help me cater for the rest of my

children, but unfortunately, when these kids are taken away, they are exposed to several cruelty and slavery ...” – FGD2

“... they are ignorant of the hardships and harm their children are subjected to by those who traffic them. Lack of Education is also part of the problems. The parents are mostly illiterates so they don’t understand what is normally at stake...” – KIII

This finding confirms the economic disparity theory of Juarez (2003) which contends that victims of child trafficking are mainly from low income homes. Again, an unemployed person is more or less economically powerless and highly prone to child trafficking. Poor homes usually lack income fetching assets to provide non-earning incomes to support consumption expenditure, the consequences of unemployment could trickle down to child abuse cases like child trafficking with the aim of providing some economic support to the perpetrators.

4.3.0 Social factors

Child trafficking has also been shown to be influenced by the social status and standards of the culprits who are usually parents of the victims (Manzo, 2005). Parents who engage in child trafficking are often naïve and ignorant of the damaging consequences on the child and the fact that it is against the child’s right. Illiteracy is evidently a major contributing push factor to the incidence of child trafficking as remarked by a participant that:

“... lack of education is also part of the problem. The parents are mostly illiterates so they don’t understand what is normally at stake ...” – KIII

This is reiterated by KII3 who attributed the lack of education and ignorance on the part of parents of victims to the menace of child trafficking. The responses from the focus group discussion also confirm ignorance of parents of victims as a major factor as a female respondent also had this to say;

“... because I didn’t know how things will happen, I gave away three children at once, one male and two females, and later one had complained that they are been maltreated, they pour dirty water on them, whip them with any kind of wood ...”

Other social factors like large number of children, broken homes or single parenting, and polygynous marriages have been shown to have grave implications for child trafficking (Ortum, 2013). This factor impacts on the standard of living as it increases the extent of dependency for large number of children and often for polygynous marriages. It also pushes the incidence of child care and survival on a single individual in the case of broken homes and single parenting which in turn increases child vulnerability to trafficking. These social factors according to study participants impacts on the economic hardship of individuals (children), parents, or guardians who in turn become highly prone to such human right infringing behaviors like child trafficking.

Comments by respondents that indicate large number of children as a social cause of child trafficking is presented in the following quotes;

“... Most of the cases of child trafficking that we work on are usually with large number households. We usually identify these details when we investigate into the matter...” –

KII2

“... I know of two families who have children sent off to work with some rich people for income or financial favors. I have a friend who sent two of her six children to serve as servants to a stranger in Saudi Arabia. All she usually says is that they are many and she couldn't do it all alone as a single mother ...” – FGD3

In relation to broken homes and how it leads to or influences child trafficking, a key informant contended that,

“Broken homes also contribute to this menace. When the home is broken and there is no control, the children are eager to leave thinking there is a better life somewhere else and become easy prey for traffickers” – KII3

Another participant in the focus group discussion also remarked that,

“... I have also given birth to many children and unfortunately, I lost my husband, so the only thing to do to look after the others is to exchange one of the children for some cash...” – FGD2

KII2's response on the issues indicated that polygynous marriage is one of the supply-side factors of child trafficking. According to KII2,

“Polygamy especially in the rural areas lead to the birth of many children who when the going gets tough and their parents are finding it difficult to feed and cater for them, they are willing to give them up and be trafficked when given some little money”

Cultural factors

Under the cultural-related factors of child trafficking, study result produced basic themes like traditional fosterage system, *Trokosi* system, and traditional marriage system of dowry. Findings point to the fact that many cases of child trafficking have some traditional or cultural connotations (Afenyadu, 2005;) Some traffickers use fosterage as a cover-up to child trafficking. Some guardians also do not understand the concept and mistake child trafficking for fosterage and willingly give their children out for work. In some traditional settings, children are enslaved to atone for their parents' misconducts which predispose the children to traffickers. In other settings also, the eagerness to acquire some asserts in marriage preparation by, women are forced to expose themselves to trafficking as a means of making ends meet. Some are also betrothed to serve their arranged husbands in the quest to prepare them for marriage.

In some parts of Africa where tradition is regarded as one of the major institutions (Afenyadu, 2008a), there are practices that contravene the essence of some constitutional rules or provisions, particularly on human rights. This is evidently in line with study findings on the influence of traditional systems or practices on child trafficking in Ghana. Clear examples of traditional systems that emerged under the major traditional-related causes of child trafficking are fosterage systems, *Trokosi* system and the traditional marriage system of dowry.

Evidence of participants remarks that portrayed that various cultural factors and influences decisions of parents and expose children to child traffickers are shown in their various

quotes. These are shown in direct quotes under the basic themes emerging under cultural factors of child trafficking.

Traditional fosterage system:

“... They don’t understand the whole concept of trafficking they only see it as fosterage a cultural practice. In many cases as most of the perpetrators are either family or friends of family...” – KII3

“...Sometimes your own siblings promise to take your child away to help him or her with their education, but the truth is that they don’t send those children to school, they just leave them to suffer...” – FGD4

Trokosi system:

“...traditional practice like Trokosi continues to facilitate child trafficking in the country...” – KIII

“... some cases of child trafficking relate to the children been used as object of punishment atonement for their parents’ or guardian’s actions or inaction that infringes probably on customary law in the community...” KII4

Traditional marriage system of dowry:

“... for example, up North, the practice of the community is for young girls to look for money to buy all utensils and marriage materials so they can be married off and this compels them to agree to follow persons to go and work in places and lead them to easy trafficking as they are deceived with juicy promises only to find out they have to do various hazardous jobs including sex slavery in some cases...” – KII3

The tradition-related causes of child trafficking as revealed by this study align with findings of (Afenyadu, 2008b; Harrison, 2010). Findings by Akresh (2005) emphasized the use of fosterage as a means to child trafficking. The findings on trokosi system as a traditional influencing factor to child trafficking confirm findings by Akresh (2005) and Casely-Hayford (2006).

The general implication on the causes of child trafficking is that it is mostly a supply side issue in Ghana than a demand or pull factor as parents, guardians, and relatives are forced to trade children for various economic and socio-cultural reasons; and these are done without fear of victimization because of relatively weak institutional factors.

4.3.2 Current Interventions, Policies and Strategies Tackling Child Trafficking

Findings from the study point to various interventions, practices, and strategies that are currently adopted to prevent or curb child trafficking in Ghana. The responses have been categorized under various theme, major of which include economic empowerment of girls and/or vulnerable people in society, sensitization and awareness creation, training and capacity building, and instituting a local country child trafficking task force.

The results show evidence of existence of relevant interventions or implementation of economic, social, institutional policies and cultural arrangements to curb the incidence of child trafficking in the country. The basic theme emerging under the various major policy dimensions and the supporting quotes from participants' remarks are illustrated below under economic, social, institutional and cultural interventions.

Economic interventions

Under economic intervention, one major theme that emerged is the empowerment of girls or vulnerable people in society. In this regard, one key respondent had this to say,

“... there are various indirect policies that are geared towards empowering the vulnerable in society, usually girls and women. A typical example is the school feeding program, and currently the one-district-one-factory initiative which is expected to support the parent in their child’s education and also economically empower the financially and occupationally deprived....” – KII3

The implication is that, once the individual is economically empowered, there will be less tendency to engage in child trafficking on the supply side. Following from the economic disparity theory by Juarez (2003), policies that bridge the income or economic gap between the rich and the poor is likely to reduce the incidence of child trafficking.

Social interventions

The basic themes that emerged under the social interventions or policies include sensitization and awareness creation, training and capacity building, and institution of task force in local communities.

Responses from the following participants suggest that there are some social measures in place that aim at sensitizing and creating public awareness on the antecedents and consequences of child trafficking.

“... We normally do community sensitization and engage all Major Stakeholders in these communities. We also do radio programs to educate and sensitize ...” – KIII

“...We also often join them in community sensitization programs by way of cultural performance, role plays etc. and the result has been very encouraging. We have sensitized the GPRTU and community leaders to identify perpetrators and how to deal with them with the help of the police and also done Sensitization in collaboration with RAVI and Population Council ...” – KII3

Respondents also showed knowledge of some training and capacity building exercises in an attempt to arrest the social gaps associated with child trafficking. For instance, Key informant 3 (KII3) said this;

“... We also train MMDCS on the Law Policies concerning child Trafficking...” – KII3

This was further highlighted by the remarks by a focus group discussant. She had this to say in relation to the social policies or interventions towards curbing child trafficking,

“... During the activities of the International NGOs, they taught us about the dangers of child trafficking and have encouraged us to be vigilant and live like CIDs and so any act like that should be reported, so when we saw something like that, we reported and one of us who has motorbike followed up and the child was brought back ...” – FGD4

Some respondents also made some remarks which indicated the use of Local Community Child Trafficking Task Force as a social intervention to child trafficking. They commented that;

“... Practices developed by the communities to help us in the fight against the Tokor Model where the community organized and seizes boats that are suspected of engaging in Child Trafficking...” – KIII

“... the Tactics that is working for us here is the Watchdog Scheme, so I believe if others can do that, we can all help stop child trafficking...” – FGD2

Institutional interventions

The basic themes that emerged from the analysis of responses by study participants under the institutional arrangements that are made to tackle child trafficking in the country are arrest and prosecution of perpetrators, decentralization of institutional operations to the community levels, policy guidelines, coordination and monitoring of other child trafficking institutions, and stakeholder collaborations/networks.

Response from respondents that suggested the arrest and prosecution of perpetrations included the following;

“... We send out investigators, gather evidence and arrest when we can. We then arraign the perpetrators before court and prosecute them. We chase the hard-criminal angle...”

– KIII

“... the perpetrators are normally handed over to the police...” – KII3

Examples of remarks that suggested the decentralization of institutional operations to community levels as an institutional approach to fight against child trafficking are those made by KII2 and KII3 that,

*“... Yes, we do go into the communities, we have worked in communities along the Volta Lake all the way to Yeji, and we have worked along the coast of Ada, Ningo etc. We have also worked in the cocoa growing areas where child labour is rife and also in the three northern regions. Normally, when we get information that trafficking of children is taking place, we assemble a team from various agencies and go into those communities we sometimes move in to rescue and arrest the perpetrators to the Law enforcers and we take care of the victims, put them in shelters, counsel them and re-integrate them, put them in schools or trade...” – **KII2***

*“... Yes, our work is mainly in the communities we have worked in Ningo Prampram, Ada, Bortianor together with UNICEF, Department of Social Welfare...” – **KII3***

Some respondent also mentioned that policy guidelines are used and that there is coordination and monitoring efforts at the various Child Trafficking institutions. This is evident in the remarks by some participants as indicated in the sample quote below.

*“... We monitor the activities of stakeholders who undertake activities in respect of child trafficking and we also provide policy guidelines...” – **KII2***

The following comments by some participant also suggested the use of stakeholder collaborations and networks as an institutional attempt to arrest the cases of child trafficking in the country.

“... Yes, as I said, most of our actions are based on complaints or intelligence received from NGOs, Community Leaders and in some cases sister Security Agencies like the

Immigration Services and in some cases Interpol. Together with these other stakeholders we are able to collaborate and provide both police services and social services so that while we chase the hard-criminal angle, these others assist with rehabilitation, education and re integration we network and this goes a long way to make our work better...” –

KIII

“We work with other NGOs either directly or sometimes provides support for them to carry out their activities. We have collaborated with many Organizations, RAVI, GPRTU, the Police, and Star Ghana among many others. National Population Council, Social Welfare Department, UNICEF. We partner these organizations in the rescue, or support services like counseling, rehabilitation and re-integration we help provide shelter sometimes when necessary ...” – KII3

Cultural Interventions

The basic themes that fall under cultural interventions include the use of festival and customary practices, and the use of prayers and sacrifices and curses invocation. In the response of some respondents, there were clear indications of the use of festivals and customary practices in the fight against child trafficking. For instance, key informant 1 (KII1) said this;

“... festivals and customary occasions are used by chiefs to also educate and sensitize against the practice. And in some cases, curses are invoked through libation to put fear in perpetrators on these occasions...”

This was affirmed by the remarks of a focus group discussant that;

“For me what I have identified is our festivals, because this festival brings all the citizens together, those from afar and even near together, bringing all chiefs together, and during this time, emphases is laid on the fact that child trafficking is not anything good to be practiced so day in day out the awareness is created to others concerning this...” –

FGD2

According to some respondents also, the traditional leader invokes curses and, in most cases, use prayers and pour libations to seek divine interventions from the lesser gods. For instance, a discussant in FGD had this to say;

“... Yes, especially during this festive season, the chief priest prays to the gods against all forms of child trafficking while we also pray to God almighty that any of our children afar should come back home...”

These policies and various strategic interventions show the great concerns of institutions, communities, government agencies, international humanitarian organization and other major stakeholders in the fight against child trafficking in Ghana. Again, the current interventions, policies and programs, particularly the economic, social and institutional measures currently in operation or implemented in the fight against child trafficking is in consonance with the UN convention against Organized crimes or the Palermo Protocol, and other international legal frameworks like the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

4.3.3 Recommended Interventions, Policies and Strategies in the Fight against Child Trafficking

Similar to the existing policy interventions and strategic approaches that are currently adopted or implemented in the fight against child trafficking, the suggested policies interventions required to supplement the efforts by representative of the State, international donors, humanitarian organizations, legal and social institutions, the communities, parents, and the general public are categorized under the broad categories of economic, social, institutional and cultural interventions. This is also discussed in each section.

Economic Interventions

The suggestions provided by respondents that fall under economic intervention are the creation of jobs and poverty eradication. This is indicative in the response of FGD 2 and KIII respectively for job creation and poverty eradication presented below.

“... What I also think is that, if some jobs can be created in the society for the children to do after school, it can prevent them from falling into abusive hands...” – FGD 2

“If the government can find ways to reduce poverty, especially in the rural areas, I surely believe that the menace will extensively drop. This will also reduce the pressure on the institutions...” – KIII

This reiterates the effect of unemployment and income poverty on child trafficking as revealed under the cause of child trafficking and as postulated by Juarez (2003) in the economic disparity theory.

Social Interventions

Under the broader theme of social intervention, response of some respondents suggested that the educational awareness is not enough and that there is also the need to build capacity by intensifying training needs of community stakeholders. This is indicated in the suggestions made by KII1 and KII2 as presented in the quotes below.

“... We need to intensify community education and provide more capacity building for community leaders to understand the problem better and assist in the fight against Child Trafficking as the trends keep changing and perpetrators keep changing their strategies...” – KII1

“... Education and sensitization of the laws vis a vis the tradition and culture of the people can go a long way to help. Once the people understand that certain practices amount to an abuse of the child’s rights they will be willing to protect the children...” – KII2

Institutional Interventions

The basic themes that emerged under institutional interventions that are necessary to promote effective fight against child trafficking included empowerment of state machinery -both financial and physical, improving human resource capacity at state agencies, strengthening statutory laws, fine-tuning the relationship between statutory and customary laws, promoting effective collaboration between institutions and communities.

Increase financial and physical resources to State institution

Respondents contended that there is the need for financial and physical resourcing of state agencies to help in the combat against child trafficking. An example is the remark by a key informant who had this to say;

“... most important is funding. Even where funds are released, they are released late so we mostly have to rely on foreign donors to be able to carry out activities. We need adequate logistics. Shelters to house victims after rescue, they need counselling, medicine, feeding and we need to ensure they are re-integrated back to the communities...” KII2

Improve human resource availability at State Agencies

Similarly, respondents also proposed the increase in human resource as an important element that require attention if child trafficking is to be reduced to the minimum. The suggestions by key informants who are in state institutions and can infer the adequacy of the human resource capacity of state institutions, especially for law enforcing and human right protection agencies made the following remarks;

“... We need counselors and paramedics for care for victims” – KIII

“... the secretariat is needs adequate staff. We are understaffed...” – KII2

This remark indicate that these institutions perhaps lack enough skilled personnel in dealing with specific cases of human right abuses, especially when it has to do with issues of psychological underpinnings which require effective moral suasion and proactive sensitization of culprits, victim, and perpetrators.

Strengthening Statutory Laws

There is also the need to strengthen the statutory laws to ensure strict adherence. This is possible when perpetrators are penalized to serve as deterrent to possible traffickers to shy away from the act. The need for making effective the statutory laws is clearly illustrative in the following responses by the respective participants.

“... Bye laws can be developed with the assistance of experts to highlight and project the Human Rights aspects of harmful customs...” – KII3

“... Bye laws by traditional councils can go a long way to support statutory law work better...” – KII2

Fine-tuning the relationship between statutory and customary laws

The remarks by KII3 suggests that a fine-tune between statutory and customary laws can help intensify the fight against child trafficking. He had this to say,

“... there is the need to find a common ground to utilize local customs as a basis to operationalize the statute law...” – KII3

This suggests that authorities could harness some of the customary arrangements to make effective the fight against Child trafficking since these incidences are most common in the rural areas where the people easily relate to customs and traditional arrangements.

Effective collaboration between institutions and communities

To ensure effective collaboration between institutions and communities, respondents made the following remarks that suggested that a collaborative effort between state and other formal institutions and communities will be strategic approach to promoting community engagement and collaboration in the efforts to tackle child trafficking. Examples of such suggestions include the positions of KII1 and KII2 in their response to the question on the possible policy interventions or strategies that are needed to supplement the current efforts.

“... We have serious problems with getting convictions because people are not willing to testify in court and this makes the work difficult...” – KII1

“... the issue of prosecution, there are delays in processing the perpetrators and this makes the fight difficult as deterrence is not involved, many a times the perpetrators are left off due to sloppy prosecution and go off to continue their illegal trade and sometimes politicians intervene to help release the perpetrators...” – KII2

Cultural Interventions

One cultural intervention suggested is that of bye-laws enactment and enforcement. That is there should be some customary provisions that is directed towards eradication of child abuse and other human right infringing acts and practices. This is evident in the response on the suggested policy interventions to fight against child trafficking.

“... To me I would like our traditional heads to institute traditional bye-laws not only against child trafficking...” – FGD3

The need for cultural transformation/changes/modification is also suggested in the responses of some participants which falls under the broad category of culture interventions or strategies. KII1 and KII2 made the following remarks, and this suggested that there is the need for those unhealthy and human right abuse customary arrangement should be altered or in worse-case, aborted if possible.

“... Yes, very much so, they can play complementary role through education, these could be negotiation for certain practices to be modified and understood better by both sides...” – KII1

“... traditional authorities can be lobbied and educated to see the need to relook at some of the traditional practices to bring them in tune with the law...” – KII2

The implications of the various policy direction suggestions indicate that the current arrangements are not adequate and/or effective enough combat the rising incidence of child trafficking in the country. This calls for intensive public awareness through community durbars, institutional workshops, and formal education and training of law enforcing agencies and other linking government, and private institutions.

3.4 Conclusion

This chapter presented study results from data analysis and provided a critical discussion of the findings using relevant empirical and theoretical literature as the basis of discussion. The next

chapter concludes the study and makes bankable recommendation based on the findings presented in this chapter.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter concludes the study and makes constructive policy and strategic recommendations following the study results. The chapter is sectioned in four – summary of findings, conclusion and implication, recommendations, and study limitations and areas for further studies.

5.1 Summary of Findings

The study sought to address the specific research questions as posited in section 1.3 and outlined below;

1. What are the causes of child trafficking in Ghana?
2. What interventions, polices and strategies are currently used to tackle child trafficking in Ghana?
3. What amendment to policies, interventions and strategies would enhance impact in the fight against child trafficking?

In an attempt to address the questions outlined above, the study made interesting findings. The findings of the study are summarized in line with the research questions below.

The study found child trafficking in the country to be influenced by multi-faceted factors, mainly the supply side factors. Economic, Social, and traditional factors were the broad category of factors that influence child trafficking in the country. Poverty and unemployment emerged under the economic-related causes of child trafficking. Illiteracy/ignorance/lack of education, large number of children, broken homes/single parenting, and polygynous marriage also emerged as

the social factors, while the traditional fosterage system, trokosi (ritual servitude) system, and traditional marriage system of dowry emerged under the traditional-related factors to child trafficking.

The results also show evidence of economic, social and institutional, as well as cultural interventions, policies and strategies that are currently adopted or in use in curbing the menace of child trafficking and in other ways punish culprits. Items that emerged within the broader categories included;

- Economic employment of girls and vulnerable in society through job provision and other vacations emerged as the economic interventions.
- Social interventions included mass education in awareness creation and public sensitization, training and capacity building of key stakeholders, and the institution of local task force in communities.
- Institutionally there are arrangements that arrest and prosecute perpetrators. Other institutional strategies include decentralization of institutional operations to the community level, effective and strategic coordination and monitoring of authorized institutions, and stakeholder collaborations.
- Customarily and culturally, community leaders seize ceremonial occasions like festivals to sensitize the community on the incidence of child trafficking and need for community awareness and vigilance, and the necessary penal measures that culprits could face. Some leaders also use other customary practices like sacred prayers and sacrifices to seek divine interventions on the subject matter.

Concerning the interventions and strategies to enhance impact in the fight against child trafficking, the study revealed the following themes under economic, social, institutional and cultural policies, interventions and/or strategies;

- Creation of jobs and other poverty alleviation under economic interventions
- Intensification of education and capacity building training for community stakeholders under social intervention
- Enactment and enforcement of bye-laws and cultural transformation
- Empowering of state agencies (both financial and physical), improving human resource capabilities, strengthening statutory laws, fine-tuning the relationship between statutory and customary law, and ensuring effective collaboration between institutions and communities under institutional interventions.

5.2 Conclusion and Implication

Child trafficking has been one of the major human right issues in many low to middle income countries, especially in the African continent. Despite the existence and active implementation of new policies, and programs by government agencies and mostly, developing partners like the international humanitarian and non-governmental organizations, the issue of child trafficking continues to exist in the current modern dispensation. Economic, social, to institutional and cultural factors inhibit the outcomes of implemented policies targeted at reducing child trafficking in Ghana.

However, study also reveal evidence of existence of human right institutions, policies, and other strategic arrangements that seek to arrest all forms of child trafficking in the country, whether

demand-sided or supply instigated. The prevalence of the menace in spite the various multi-level policies in place give an indication of a somewhat ineffective, non-operational or in worse case, weak and poor institutional arrangements. The implication from a social and economic perspective is that of low sensitization, ignorance and the stiff economic hardship which continue to trigger the supply-side factors, rendering most institutional arrangements ineffective. The issue of child trafficking associated with social, institutional and cultural factor among others reduces to the challenges posed by economic hardship. The implication is that from a critical analysis of responses from participants, economic hardship seems to be the main or most driving factor to child trafficking.

This situation is likely to worsen and knock-on to other vices which will heighten the economic and social implications to victims if not given the needed priority. Child trafficking is associated with and could lead to other vices like child abuse, prostitutions, enslavement, and organized crimes such as armed robbery. This poses negative implication to the social, economic, and mental development of the child. This has leading implications on the economic sustainability, and social and legal standards the practicing communities and the country in general.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study and the suggestions by study participants, the following constructed recommendations are advanced;

- Based on the finding that local/traditional practices hinder the positive outcome of national and international conventions, this study recommends that policies directed at

combating child trafficking should be a product of thorough community engagements that focus on economic, social and cultural conditions of beneficiary communities.

- The government should strengthen the resource capacities of the state agencies like gender and social protection, the Ghana police service, and the immigration service and other supporting public institutions by providing adequate training and materials necessary for effective operation.
- The respective authorities are advised to take active measures in instituting penal measures that will serve as deterrent to existing and potential traffickers.
- Other private institutions like the international and local humanitarian organization and religious organization like the Christian Council of Ghana to effectively collaborate with the state institutions in the fight against child trafficking by engaging children and parents in some voluntary community activity that will keep them close to be watches over each other.
- There is also the need for mass education through online and offline channels like the social media, community gathering and durbars to magnify the coverage and depth of public sensitization of the antecedence and consequences of child trafficking.
- Communities are also advised to join the campaign by setting up a voluntary task force to tackle the issue at the community level.
- Government is also advised to devise strategic means to empower deprived parent by training them in some handiworks or handicrafts or vocations that could provide them with some form of income and also ensure that existing and proposed policies and programs meant for the economically and socially deprived achieve its intended

purposes. This will be possible through effective monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs.

- Community leader are also advised to be considerate and amend or possibly abolish some customs that infringe on basic human rights, particularly the right of children and women.

5.4 Study Limitation and Areas for Further Studies

The current study was limited by scope and time. A study that is more representative and presents the regional dimensions of the issue would have been more desirable in prioritizing regional attentions to the problem as cases of child trafficking are often cited or experienced in the rural areas. Thus, it's more of a rural phenomenon. However, the current scope doesn't not invalidate the findings from this study. Further studies shall focus on a mixed approach to examining the issue from a broader context.

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APPENDIX

Interview guide

University of Ghana, Centre for Social Policy Studies (CSPS)

This researcher is engaged in the study of

The researcher is a student at the University of Ghana and this thesis is in partial fulfillment for the Master of Research and Public Policy (M.RPP).

Questionnaire

In-depth Interview Guide

Introduction

Non- state institutions)

‘

1. (a) How does the mandate of this institution include child trafficking in Ghana?

(b) Which parts of the country have you worked in relation to CT.?
2. Under which Laws do you operate in relation to the issues of child trafficking in Ghana?
3. (a) What is the nature of your operations?

(b) Can you give me specific activities you undertake in respect of child trafficking?

4. (a) Do you work with other agencies in carrying out your mandate as regards child trafficking?

(b) What is the nature of this collaboration?

5. (a) Do you face challenges in the operationalization of your mandate?

(b) Can you tell me some of these challenges, (Physical, Moral, Social etc.)?

6. On the average, how many cases or virtues do you have to deal with every months?

7. (a) How do you treat these cases/victims?

(b) What about the perpetrator?

8. On the whole what is your impression of capacity of the institutions like yours is eliminating the menace of child trafficking in Ghana?

9. Are the laws and policies in existence enough to achieve the desire to deal with the menace of child trafficking?

(b) If not why?

For State Institutions

1. What role does your ministry or agency play in relation to child trafficking in Ghana?
(Legislative) monitoring oversight, rehabilitation.
2. Under which laws do you derive your mandate? (Constitution, Acts of Parliament, Conventions, Legislative instrument or policy documents.)
3. How do you carry out your mandate?
4. Do you collaborate with other bodies or Agencies in fulfilling your mandate?
5. Do you face any challenges in the course of your work?

(b) What are they? (Give examples)

© are there parts of the country where this problem of child trafficking is rampant? (Give examples)
6. How successful had the fight against child trafficking been so far?

7. Are you satisfied with the laws available now for fighting the menace of child trafficking?

(Give reasons)

8. How many cases do you deal with on the average in a year?

(b) Is it on the increase or decrease?

Mapping scheme

Name of Organization	Location	Nature of Work	Public/NGO Private	Source of Funding	Major Challenges Remarks

University of Ghana Centre for Social Policy Studies

The researcher is studying

Interview Guide

Focus Group Discussion Adult group, Opinion Larders, etc.

1. Self-introduction of respondents and interviewer.

2. Know your respondents educational background, family background, town of origin occupation and how long he /she had lived in the locality.
3. Have you heard of child trafficking?
4. How did you hear of it?
5. What do you understand by child trafficking?
6. Do you agree with the explanation of child trafficking?
(b) What in your opinion is the causes of child trafficking?
7. Are you aware that child trafficking is a crime, what is your reaction, do you agree?
8. Do you know anybody who has been arrested for child trafficking?
9. Do you agree that the practice must be stopped?
10. How many of you have children that have been trafficked in your areas known some or have ever used this services of same?
11. Where are those children now?

12. What in your opinion is preventing child trafficking from being eliminated?

(Local customers, Poverty, lack of education etc.).

INTERVIEW GUIDE (VICTIMS/CHILDREN)

1 (a) Self introduction

(b) Probe into background (victim family background, native, educational level, town of origin, occupation etc., length of stay at present location.

(C) How many wives do your father have?

(d) Is your mother still married to your father?

2. How long have you been here?

3. Do you like this place?

4. Are you in school? If not what do you do?

5. Do you live with your parent? In fact, (under what circumstances were you brought here).

6. What kind of work do you do?
7. Are you able to work or the work is difficult?
8. Are you happy?
9. What challenges to you face here?
10. What is your carrier ambition?
11. (a) Why do you think your parents allowed for you to be brought here?

(b) How many other siblings do you have?
12. Do you know the person who brought you here?
13. Are you related to that person?

(b) How are you related?

© What did your parent/guardian tell you before taking you always/
14. How many of you did the person bring or take from you palace?
15. Do you want to go back to your parents?

Thematic framework

Global theme	Organizing theme	Basic theme	Description	Frequency	Quotes
Causes of child trafficking	Economic-related factors	Income poverty	Income poverty compels parents or guardians to give their children out to work in other countries	12	<p>Name: Income poverty</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>I will say predominantly poverty</p> <p>Trust me, parents out of poverty are willing to give up their children for a pittance out of poverty, they do this because they are promised that the children will be well catered for</p>

					<p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Poverty, perpetrators don't use their children, they feed on poor people who they deceive with lofty promises, then they take their children and traffic them.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>The causes are varied, however, poverty is key</p>
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					<p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Female respondent: I have given birth but doesn't have the means to look after my child and for that matter I trade the child for money and the child is taken away.</p>
Causes of child trafficking	Economic related factors	Unemployment	Unemployment forces parents to push their children into jobs, increasing the chance of	1	<p>Name: Unemployment</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: I have a child that has dropout of school because I don't have the means to support his education and say a fisherman also</p>

			being trafficked		comes looking for someone to help him with a promise of paying GHC500 in return, since I have a lot of kids and doesn't have any work doing, I will trade my child for the money to help me cater for the rest of my children, but unfortunately, when this kids are taken away, they are exposed to several cruelty and slavery
Causes of child trafficking	Social-related factors	Lack of education and/or ignorance	The decision to give children out for work is as a result of lack of education or ignorance about the consequences	3	<p>Name: Lack of education and/or ignorance</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>They are ignorant of the hardships and harm their children are subjected to by those who traffic them</p> <p>Lack of Education is also part of the problems.</p>

			and harmful effects it as on the children		<p>The parents are mostly illiterates so they don't understand what is normally at stake</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>Lack of education and ignorance by the parents of the victims also contribute to this menace.</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Female respondent: when some family members came with the idea that they needed some of my children to support, because I didn't know how things will happen, I gave away three children at once, one male and two females, and later one had</p>
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					complains that they are been maltreated, they pour dirty water n them, whip them with any kind of wood
Causes of child trafficking	Social-related factors	Large number of children	Large number of children increases the parents' vulnerability to child trafficking because they are more likely to be poor, and some of the children will be unemployed	4	<p>Name: Large number of children</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent say I have a lot of children</p>

			as well		
Causes of child trafficking	Social-related factors	Broken homes/ Single parenting	Broken homes or single parenting usually affects quality of parenting, control over children, and income of parents. Therefore, children can leave for greener pastures with		<p>Name: Broken homes or single parenting</p> <p>KII1/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>Broken homes also contribute to this menace. When the home is broken and there is no control, the children are eager to leave thinking this is a better life somewhere else and become easy prey for traffickers</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p>

			or without the approval of parents.		<p>Broken homes are also a big part of this, the single parents are happy to give up their children so they can be free to pick up their lives.</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: I have also given birth to many children and unfortunately, I lost my husband, so the only thing to do to look after the others is to exchange one of the children for some cash</p>
Causes of child trafficking in Ghana	Social-related factors	Polygamous marriage	Polygamous marriage contributes to large family	1	<p>Name: Polygamous marriage</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state</p>

			size, poverty, and therefore increases the vulnerability of children being trafficked for petty income		/Coordinating, monitoring and oversight Polygamy especially in the rural areas lead to the birth of many children who when the going gets tough and their parents are finding it difficult to feed and cater for them, they are willing to give them up and be trafficked when given some little money
Causes of child trafficking	Cultural-related factors	Traditional fosterage system	Traditional fosterage system exposes children to child trafficking	4	Name: Traditional fosterage system KII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order Traditional practices like Fosterage increases the practice

					<p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>The culture of fosterage enable people to convince Parents of the victims to give up their children who are then trafficked.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>They don't understand the whole concept of</p>
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					<p>trafficking they only see it as fosterage a cultural practice</p> <p>In many cases as most of the perpetrators are either family or friends of family</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Female respondent: Sometimes your own siblings promise to take your child away to help him her with their education, but the truth is that they don't send those children to school, they just leave them to suffer</p>
Causes of child trafficking	Cultural-related factors	Trokosi system	The enslavement of female	1	<p>Name: Trokosi system</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain</p>

			children by priests for atonement of their parents' sins predisposes the children to traffickers		internal law and order Traditional practice like Trokosi continues to facilitate child trafficking in the country
Causes of child trafficking	Cultural-related factors	Traditional marriage system of dowry	Women or young girls who intend to get married must purchase some assets and therefore, most of them	1	Name: Traditional marriage system of dowry KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims Cultural practices in some parts of the country.

			expose themselves to the risks of being trafficked by unscrupulous people.		For example up North, the practice of the community is for young girls to look for money to buy all utensils and marriage materials so they can be married off and this compels them to agree to follow persons to go and work in places and lead them to easy trafficking as they are deceived with juicy promises only to find out they have to do various hazardous jobs including sex slavery in some cases
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in	Economic-related interventions and strategies	Economic empowerment of girls or vulnerable people	Economically empowering girls and other vulnerable groups will reduce poverty and their	1	Name: Economic empowerment of girls or vulnerable groups of society KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims

Ghana			exposure to trafficking		Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana	Social-related interventions and strategies	Sensitization and awareness creation	Community awareness creation and sensitizing community people, parents, children, and other stakeholders have the higher tendency of reducing the menace of	4	<p>Name: Sensitization and awareness creation of people</p> <p>KI11/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We normally do community sensitization and engage all Major Stakeholders in these communities.</p> <p>We also do radio programs to educate and sensitize.</p>

			child trafficking		<p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>We do sensitization with the support of other collaborators</p> <p>We also sensitize the community leaders, chiefs, opinion leaders, queen mothers, farmer groups etc.) and the community at large.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>We also form join them in community</p>
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					<p>sensitization programmes by way of cultural performance, role plays etc. and the result has been very encouraging</p> <p>We have sensitized the GPRTU and community leaders to identify perpetrators and how to deal with them with the help of the police</p> <p>and also done Sensitization in collaboration with RAVI and Population Council</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: in case, before the kids come, we gather the parents, brief them and create awareness, of the importance of the keeping their children and educate them</p>
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<p>Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana</p>	<p>Social-related interventions and strategies</p>	<p>Training and capacity building of community leaders, parents, and stakeholders,</p>	<p>Enhancing the knowledge and skills of stakeholders on detection, prevention, rescue, and rehabilitation can contribute to reduce and manage the incidence of child trafficking</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Name: Training and capacity-building of stakeholders</p> <p>KI11/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We provide more capacity building for community leaders to understand the problem better and assist in the fight against Child Trafficking as the trends keep changing and perpetrators keep changing their strategies.</p> <p>We encourage them to develop their own model for preventing and fighting Child Trafficking and one such model is the Tokor Model in the Kpando area.</p>
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					<p>The Torkor Model involves a system that makes it easy to locate and rescue victims and arrest perpetrators using local people.</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>we provide training and capacity building for groups especially journalist to enable them report issues of trafficking effectively</p> <p>We mostly build the capacity of opinion leaders to be on the lookout to prevent perpetrators from</p>
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					<p>trafficking the children.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>We also train MMDCS on the Law Policies concerning child Trafficking</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: During the activities of the International NGOs, they taught us about the dangers of child trafficking and have encouraged us to be vigilant and live like CIDs and so any act like that should be reported, so when we saw something like that, we reported and one of us who</p>
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					has motorbike followed up and the child was brought back
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana	Social-related interventions and strategies	Local community child trafficking task force	In some communities, task forces have been developed to track, prevent, and rescue children from being trafficked	2	<p>Name: Local community child trafficking task force</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>Practices developed by the communities to help us in the fight against the Tokor Model where the community organized and seizes boats that are suspected of engaging in Child Trafficking</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: the Tactics that is working here for us here is the Watchdog Scheme, so I believe if</p>

					others can do that, we can all help stop child trafficking
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana	Institutional-related interventions and strategies	Arrest and prosecutions of perpetrators	Law enforcement agencies will increase surveillance, detection, prevention, arrest and prosecution of perpetrators	2	<p>Name: Arrest and prosecution of perpetrators</p> <p>KII1/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We send out investigators, gather evidence and arrest when we can.</p> <p>We then arraign the perpetrators before court and prosecute them.</p> <p>we chase the hard criminal angle</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana</p>

					<p>/CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>The perpetrators are normally handed over to the police</p>
<p>Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana</p>	<p>Institutional-related interventions and strategies</p>	<p>Decentralization of institutional operations or activities to community levels</p>	<p>Decentralizing operations of institutions to helps the institutions to acquire adequate information about the various local-level causes of</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Name: Decentralization of institutional operations or activities to community level by institutions</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state</p> <p>/Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Yes we do go into the communities, we have worked in communities along the Volta Lake all the way to Yeji, and we have worked along the</p>

			<p>the menace and based on that they find informed strategies to deal with them</p>	<p>coast Ada, Ningo etc. We have also worked in the cocoa growing areas where child labour is rife and also in the three northern regions.</p> <p>Normally, when we get information that trafficking of children is taking place, we assemble a team from various agencies and go into those communities we sometimes move in to rescue and arrest the perpetrators to the Law enforcers and we take care of the victims, put them in shelters, counsel them and re-integrate them, put them in schools or trade.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and</p>
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					<p>reintegration of victims</p> <p>Yes our work is mainly in the communities we have worked in Ningo Prampram, Ada, Bortianor together with UNICEF, Department of Social Welfare</p>
<p>Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana</p>	<p>Institutional-related strategies and interventions</p>	<p>Policy guidelines, coordination, and monitoring of other child trafficking institutions</p>	<p>Policy guidelines, coordination, and monitoring of institutions to avoid duplication of activities and ensure effectiveness,</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Name: Policy, coordination, and monitoring of institutions</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>We monitor the activities of stakeholders who undertake activities in respect of child trafficking and we also provide policy guidelines.</p>

			improvements, and efficient utilization of resources in the fight against child trafficking		
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana	Institutional-related strategies and interventions	Stakeholder collaborations or networks	Effective collaboration between institutions in charge of fighting against child trafficking is expected to	3	<p>Name: Stakeholder collaborations</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>Yes, as I said, most of our actions are based on complaints or intelligence received from NGOs, Community Leaders and in some cases sister Security Agencies like the Immigration Services</p>

			<p>improve synergy and make the fight more effective and efficient</p>		<p>and in some cases Interpol</p> <p>Together with these other stakeholders we are able to collaborate and provide both police services and social services so that while we chase the hard criminal angle, these others assist with rehabilitation, education and re integration we network and this goes a long way to make our work better.</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Yes as a coordinating ministry, we do a lot of</p>
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					<p>collaborations with all agencies who work in the area of Human Trafficking and so far the result have been positive.</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>We work with other NGOs either directly or sometimes provides support for them to carry out their activities.</p> <p>We have collaborated with many Organizations, RAVI, GPRTU, the Police, and Star Ghana among many others. National Population Council, Social Welfare Department, UNICEF</p>
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					We partner these organizations in the rescue, or support services like counseling, rehabilitation and re-integration we help provide shelter sometimes when necessary
Current interventions, policies and strategies used to fight child trafficking in Ghana	Cultural-related interventions and strategies	Festivals and other customary practices	Festivals are used by chiefs as means of educating community people against child trafficking	4	<p>Name: Festivals</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>festivals and customary occasions are used by chiefs to also educate and sensitize against the practice</p> <p>and in some cases curses are involved through libation to put fear in perpetrators on these</p>

					<p>occasions</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>the traditional leaders and other have been helpful, they have used their customary days for sensitization which was helpful, even now festival periods are used</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p>
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					<p>Days set aside for rituals and libation pouring also enabled us easily get access to the traditional authorities and opinion leaders. Festivals also provide a good platform for education. Community entry was normally easy</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Female respondent: For me what I have identified is our festivals, because this festival brings all the citizenstogether, those from afar and even near together, bringing all chiefs together, and during this time, emphases is laid on the fact that child trafficking is not anything good to be practiced so day in day out the awareness is created to others concerning this</p>
	Cultural-	Prayer against	Praying against	1	Name: Prayer against child trafficking

	related interventions	child trafficking	child trafficking puts fear into the perpetrators, and therefore reduces the menace		FGD1/Mixed Male respondent: Yes, especially during this festive season, the chief priest prays to the gods against all forms of child trafficking while we also pray to God almighty that any of our children afar should come back home
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Institutional-related interventions and strategies	Increase financial and physical resources to state agencies (police, social welfare, ministry)	When state agencies fighting child trafficking are well financially resourced, their work and	3	Name: Increase financial and physical resources to state agencies KII1/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order We need funds for training and capacity building

			<p>success rate</p> <p>will both</p> <p>improve</p>	<p>but we mostly have to depend on donors for these things.</p> <p>We also need shelters of our own and have to depend mostly on the few ones by private persons or NGOs.</p> <p>There should be resources to help the Social Welfare Department to do community re-integration.</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state</p> <p>/Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p>
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					<p>most important is funding</p> <p>even where funds are released, they are released late so we mostly have to rely on foreign donors to be able to carry out activities</p> <p>we need adequate logistics</p> <p>shelters to house victims after rescue, they need counselling, medicine, feeding and we need to ensure they are re-integrated back to the communities,</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana /CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and</p>
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					<p>reintegration of victims</p> <p>Funding has been a problem, mainly receives grants from donors</p>
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Institutional-related	Improve human resource availability at state agencies	Institutions in-charge of fighting the menace need adequate and quality human resources to do better work.	2	<p>Name: Improve human resource at stage agencies</p> <p>KI11/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We need counselors and paramedics for care for victims</p>

					<p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>the secretariat is needs adequate staff. We are understaffed</p>
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Institutional-related	Strengthening statutory laws	These laws can punish and deter people from engaging in child trafficking	2	<p>Name: Strengthening statutory laws</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Bye laws by traditional councils can go a long way to support statutory law work better</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana</p>

					<p>/CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>Byelaws can be developed with the assistance of experts to highlight and project the Human Rights aspects of harmful customs</p>
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Institutional-related	Fine-tuning the relationship between statutory and customary laws	Developing a complementary relationship between statutory and customary laws will increase the use of local laws to fight the menace	1	<p>Name: Developing a complementary relationship between statutory and customary laws</p> <p>KII3/Christian Council of Ghana</p> <p>/CSO/Collaborating agency for rescue and reintegration of victims</p> <p>there is the need to find a common ground to utilize local customs as a basis to operationalize the statute law</p>

<p>Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking</p>	<p>Institutional-related</p>	<p>Effective collaboration between institutions and communities</p>	<p>Collaboration between institutions and the community is key to winning the battle against child trafficking.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Name: Effective collaboration between institutions and communities</p> <p>KII1/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We have serious problems with getting convictions because people are not willing to testify in court and this makes the work difficult</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>the issue of prosecution, there are delays in processing the perpetrators and this makes the</p>
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					fight difficult as deterrence is not involved, many a times the perpetrators are left off due to sloppy prosecution and go off to continue their illegal trade and sometimes politicians intervenes to help release the perpetrators
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Social-related	Intensification of education and capacity building training for community stakeholders	Intensifying awareness creation, education, and training for community people are important for detection and prevention of child	2	<p>Name: Intensification of education, awareness creation and capacity building training for community stakeholders</p> <p>KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order</p> <p>We need to intensify community education and provide more capacity building for community leaders to understand the problem better and assist</p>

			trafficking		<p>in the fight against Child Trafficking as the trends keep changing and perpetrators keep changing their strategies.</p> <p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state /Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Education and sensitization of the laws vis a vis the tradition and culture of the people can go a long way to help. Once the people understand that certain practices amount to an abuse of the child's rights they will be willing to protect the children</p>
Interventions, policies, and strategies to	Cultural-related	Enactment and enforcement of bye-laws	Instituting traditional bye-laws	1	<p>Name: Enactment and enforcement of bye-laws</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p>

improve the fight against child trafficking					Male respondent: To me I would like our traditional heads to institute traditional bye-laws not only against child trafficking
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Cultural-related	Cultural transformation or changes or modification	If certain cultures that facilitate child trafficking are modified or transformed, the menace will reduce	2	Name: Cultural transformation or modifications KIII/Ghana Police Service/state agency/maintain internal law and order Yes Very much so, they can play complementary role through education, these could be negotiation for certain practices to be modified and understood better by both sides.

					<p>KII2/Gender and Social protection ministry/state</p> <p>/Coordinating, monitoring and oversight</p> <p>Traditional Authorities can be lobbied and educated to see the need to relook at some of the traditional practices to bring them in tune with the law.</p>
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking	Economic related	Creation of jobs	Creation of jobs will improve the economic situation of parents and children, thereby reducing the	1	<p>Name: Creation of jobs</p> <p>FGD1/Mixed</p> <p>Male respondent: What I also think is that, if some jobs can be created in the society for the children to do after school, it can prevent them from falling into abusive hands.</p>

			vulnerability to child trafficking		
Interventions, policies, and strategies to improve the fight against child trafficking		Poverty eradication			