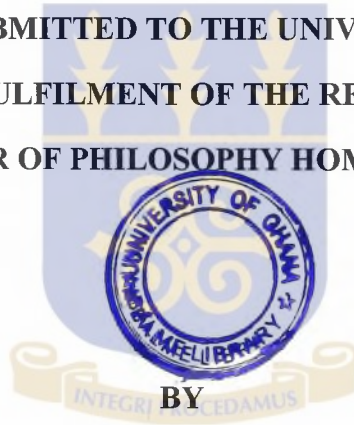


INFLUENCE OF RESCUE PROGRAMMES ON FAMILIES AND TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE NORTH TONGU DISTRICT

**THIS THESIS IS SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA,
LEGON IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE
AWARD OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY HOME SCIENCE DEGREE**



BY

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JUNE, 2010

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that, with the exception of references and quotations from other peoples' work which have been duly acknowledged, this thesis "Influence of Rescue Programmes on Families and Trafficked Children in the North Tongu District, Volta Region" is, the result of my own research and that no portion of this thesis has been presented in this University or elsewhere for the award of any degree. I therefore accept responsibility for any shortcoming that may occur.



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ABSTRACT

The study sought to investigate factors that influenced child trafficking, and also to ascertain the influence of rescue programmes on the families and the well-being of the trafficked children in the North Tongu District of the Volta Region. The hypotheses for the study were, a) There is a positive relationship between the economic status of families and child trafficking, b) There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of rescued children (guardians), c) There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the well-being of the trafficked children. The target population comprised all guardians and rescued children living in the seven communities in the North Tongu District of the Volta Region visited. A child and a guardian from each of the one hundred and sixteen (116) households visited were interviewed. Data were collected using structured interview schedules and analyzed by Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software programme. Pearson's Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to test the three hypotheses. The study revealed that, only 30% of the rescued children lived with their biological parents. Majority of the guardians about 65% were grandmothers while 5% were other extended family members. The main source of income for the guardians was from the subsistence farming undertaken by these weak old people, and thus income levels were very low accounting for guardians giving away their wards with the hope that they would be better off wherever they went. The guardians regarded the practice of sending their wards away as a socialization process that prepared the children for adulthood. The children were abused by not been sent to

school while serving their masters, this affected their social and educational development. Although the rescue programmes could not completely solve economic problems of families, it helped temporarily keep these children in school thus promoted their social and educational well-being. The result of the first hypothesis tested revealed a significant moderate positive correlation between economic status of guardians and child trafficking thus accepting the first hypotheses. The second hypotheses tested revealed a significant strong negative correlation between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children (guardians) thus rejecting the second hypotheses. The third hypotheses tested revealed a significant weak positive correlation between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children thus accepting the third hypotheses. It was recommended that the rescue programmes be revised to meet the needs of the rescued children and guardians. It was again recommended that parents should be educated to know their responsibilities towards their children. Poverty reduction programmes for families by government, should provide support for parents to take care of their children. Again as much as possible these programmes should be sustained to ensure that positive change is seen in the lives of these trafficked children and their parents.

DEDICATION

To GOD be the Glory great things He has done in my life, for seeing me through this academic pursuit successfully. With love and appreciation to my lovely children Kofi, Kwabena, Akos, Sabby, Sabba, Adwoa and all my family members home and abroad. To my Spiritual Father and friend Very Rev. Fr. Dr. Alfons Amanor SVD, God Bless you. Finally with deep love and appreciation, I dedicate this work to all the rescued children in the North Tongu District in the Volta Region and Bortianor in the Greater Accra Region.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

APPLE.....	Association of People for Practical Life Education
CATW.....	Coalition Against Trafficking in Women
CEDAW.....	The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.
CERD.....	The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination
CRC.....	The Convention on the Rights of the Child
DANIDA.....	Danish International Development Agency
GCLS.....	Ghana Child Labour Survey
GOG.....	Government of Ghana
IOM.....	International Organization for Migration
ILO.....	International Labour Organization
ILO-IPEC.....	International labour Organization-International Programme for the Elimination on Child labour
ILM.....	International Labour Migration for Persons
SPSS.....	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UN.....	United Nations
UNICEF.....	United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA.....	United Nations Population Fund
U.N.D.P.....	United Nations Development Programme
UNODC.....	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
W.H.O.....	World Health Organization

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Human trafficking is the movement of people from one place to another by other people for the purpose of exploiting them without their consent. The act of kidnapping, recruitment and transport of women and children for sexual exploitation and other forms of slavery have been a social problem that had been in existence as far back as a thousand years ago. It flourished in the ancient empires of Egypt, Babylon, Greece and Rome (Ransford, 1971). It was not until the turn of the 20th century that, these activities were recognized as trafficking, a term that had many debated definitions (Loconto, 2002). Often referred to as modern day slavery, human trafficking has all the characteristics of slavery. Slavery is a condition of forcing people to work for another person (International Labour Migration and Trafficking, 2007). However, this involved a much larger figure than the Transatlantic Slave Trade, which was condemned and abolished in 1815 AD, by the Declaration Relative to the Universal Abolition of the Slave Trade (UNODC, 2006).

Thousands of Women, young girls and children are being exploited and are sometimes killed as a result of inhumane treatment metered out to them by their masters and traffickers. The devastating nature of human trafficking had led to an increase in global social mobilization to find solutions to the phenomenon. At various international and regional conferences to meetings, World Leaders through declarations have demanded greater co-operation to fight the menace. Some of these events such as the Second

World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held in Yokohama in 2001, played very significant role in bringing the issue to the limelight as cited in Kwankye *et al*, (2000). He further stated that, the recent commitment to end child trafficking was reflected in the meeting of African Union Heads of States in 2004 and the World Summit of World Leaders in 2005 respectively where all the leaders resolved to find a lasting solution to the problem (Kwankye *et al*, 2000).

There are no precise statistics or sufficient systematic analysis of the causes of human trafficking and its influence on families including rescued children. This is due to the underground nature of the phenomenon. Again, not much data have been collected by way of research in the area. However, according to the (United States Department of State report on Trafficking in Persons, 2005), up to 800,000 people were trafficked around the world every year for the purpose of prostitution, forced labour, and other forms of exploitation. In other researches by International Labour Migration and Human Trafficking, it is estimated that 17,000 victims are trafficked into the United States of America every year, with between 200,000 and 250,000 women and children trafficked in Asia (International Labour Migration and Human Trafficking, 2007). In West and Central Africa, it was estimated that about 200,000 children were trafficked annually (Dottridge, 2002). In all there are about 27 million slaves in the world today with half the number being children globally (Castles and Miller, 2003; Martin, 2006). The ILO also estimated that, on the average about one million children were affected annually (ILO, 2002). Child Trafficking is thus said to be one of the fastest growing crimes in the world. The industry generates an estimated profit of about US\$7 to \$12

billion annually, although real numbers are difficult to come by (ILO, 2002). These numbers however reflect profits only from the initial sale of persons. The International Labour Organization (ILO) again estimated that, once victims were in the destination country, traffickers net an additional US\$ 32 billion a year. Half of the amount was generated in industrialized countries and almost one third in Asian countries (UNICEF, 2003; Martin, 2006; UNFPA, 2006). Again child trafficking has also been identified as the third largest crime in the world, exceeded by trade in guns and drugs (Nwogu, 2006; UNICEF, 2003). The opening up of the national borders and International markets had led not only to increased International flows of capital, goods and labour, but also to the globalization of this organized crime. Many reasons have been cited as explanations to the causes of human trafficking globally. These included widespread poverty due to increase in population growth. Others are the lack of opportunities for people to live decent and modest lives or explore their potentials. Wars, famine, political, social and economic changes, gender discriminations, violence and demand for services, rapidly eroding moral values, unemployment and rapid urbanization and dysfunctional families, are also contributory factors to this social problem (IOM, 2007; Obi and Ebbe, 2007).

Ghana is known to be a source, transit and destination country for children and women, trafficked for the purposes of forced labour and commercial sexual exploitation. Trafficking of persons within the country is more prevalent than transnational trafficking and majority of victims are children (Tengey, 2002; UNICEF, 2003). Externally, there is trafficking of both women and children from Ghana to Cote

d'Ivoire, Libya, Nigeria, and the United States of America as well as to the European Countries among others. Internally, women and children were trafficked from some parts of the country to fishing villages on the Volta Lake (UNICEF, 2003). Others were also trafficked from rural communities to the urban areas. It is estimated that more than a 1000 children are trafficked and working as labourers in fishing boats and on farms across the country, especially along the fishing communities of the Volta Lake (ILO-IPEC, 2004). Transnationally, children are trafficked to and from other West African countries, i.e. Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, Nigeria and The Gambia through Ghana to Western Europe and from Burkina Faso through Ghana to Cote d'Ivoire (U.S. State Department Trafficking in persons Report, 2008). The children were usually told that they were going to live with their relatives who would send them to school or attend to a health need, however these never happened and the children ended up working for long hours on fishing boats.

Globally ILO estimated that, there were 215 million children in child labour (ILO, 2008). Ghana Child Labour Survey Report (GCLS, 2003) also estimated that, about 2.47 million Ghanaian children aged between 5–17 years (app.40% of the age group) were economically active and were working to earn a living, with about 1.27 million of them engaged in activities classified as child labour. The activities that the children are engaged in are regarded as worst forms of child labour as stated in the National Plan of Action on the elimination of Child Labour in Ghana (CLU, 2009), by the Child Labour Unit of the Labour Department, of the Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare. Examples of these are children in fishing, mining, head potorage, street hawking and

begging, commercial sex and working for long hours among others. The report indicated that Volta Region recorded the highest incidence of child labour with 519,001 cases representing 33% of total child labour cases in Ghana. Out of this number, 64.3% were working in the agricultural sector including fishing, forestry among others (GCLS, 2003). These activities have been identified as disintegrating families living in communities along the Volta Lake. The boys were asked to dive into the river to disentangle fishing nets, mend nets and they spent several hours in the scorching sun drawing the nets ashore. Some were not paid by their masters, and some were sometimes physically abused as a means of correcting them for making mistakes (Tengey, 2002). The situation is alarming as children going out to live with other family members to learn a trade, ended up working for adults, in the fishing industry without going to school. This practice is considered a socialization process where the child had to work or learn a trade to acquire skills of parents from the extended family member. The girls on the other hand, carried the fish in big bowls from the shore to their homes where they had to smoke and sent them to market centers for sale. These activities put the boys at risk of drowning and the girls were exposed to sexual exploitation especially when they sold goods at night without being monitored (Tengey, 2002). The children worked in hazardous and exploitative conditions and according to a research by Burra entitled 'Born to work', it was stated that "The children became so exhausted that by age of forty they were old and likely to be dead by fifty" (Burra, 1995). The villages in the North Tongu District of the Volta Region have been identified as an endemic area for the trafficking of children to other fishing towns across the country, including Kete-Krachie, Buipe and Yeji among others (Dawson,

2004). Efforts have been made by Government Agencies and Inter-Government Organizations in partnership with some local Organizations to eliminate trafficking of children through various activities under special Rescue Programmes. As at May 2004, the African Centre for Human Development in Ghana a local organization, had over an 18 months period assisted in the return of eight hundred and sixty-four (864) child labourers from various districts in Ghana. Children were rescued from Kpando Torkor in the Volta Region, Senya Bereku in Central Region, Ada, Ningo and the Accra Metropolitan area (Tengey, 2002). Another organization known as the Association of People for Practical Life Education (APPLE), had also rescued about 300 children from fishing. They were rescued from the communities along the upstream of the Volta Lake. These rescue programmes had packages for awareness creation, withdrawal, rehabilitation and reintegrating the victims back into the society. On withdrawal and reintegration of the children from the fishing industry, the guardians of the children were given financial assistance to take care of them (IOM, 2007). The children were also put into schools and supplied with free educational materials including free school uniforms to enable them acquire formal education. The recipients of the trafficked children known as 'Slave masters' who engaged them in fishing activities, were also given some amount of money as compensation for setting the children free (Dawson, 2005). The rescue programme under APPLE had been in existence for close to three years now. This study sought to find out why these children were trafficked and whether the rescue programmes had brought any change in the economic status of the families concerned or had benefited the children in any way to eliminate child trafficking in the study area.

1.1 Statement of the problem

Global estimates by ILO indicated that there were 215 million children in child labour including child trafficking. In Sub-Sahara Africa, it is estimated that 1.2 million children are trafficked annually. It is again reported that about 22,000 of these children died from work related accidents in fishing annually. A number of rescue programmes had been undertaken to withdraw the children from working in the fishing communities. Some villages in the North Tongu Districts have been identified as 'sending' communities for trafficked children. These children, rescued from fishing activities under various rescue programmes, live in these communities with their guardians. Despite the effort being made by the Government of Ghana (GOG) in partnership with some development partners and local organizations to withdraw the children from the fishing activities, unofficial observations indicated that some of the rescued children had gone back to the fishing communities to continue with the work in fishing. It is in view of this that this study was undertaken to investigate the factors that influenced child trafficking' in the area. The study again sought to investigate the influence of the rescue programme under the Association of People for Practical Life Education (APPLE), on the welfare of the families and the rescued children.

1.2 Aim of the study

The aim of the study was to investigate the factors that influenced child trafficking and assess the influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the rescued children and their families in the North Tongu District.

1.3 Specific objectives of the study

The specific objectives of the study were to;

1. Find out the demographic characteristics of the rescued children and their guardians
2. Assess the factors that encouraged child trafficking in the study area.
3. Assess the conditions of work for the trafficked children.
4. Assess the influence of child trafficking on the rescued children.
5. Investigate the influence of the rescue programmes on the well-being of the rescued children.
6. Ascertain the influence of the rescue programmes on the well-being of the families of the rescued children.

1.4 Research Hypotheses

H₁: There is a positive relationship between the economic status of the families of rescued children and child trafficking,

H₂: There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children.

H₃: There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children.



1.5 Significance of the study

The results of the study would help to;

1. Identify factors that contribute to child trafficking in the study area and provide information to policy makers to modify the activities of the rescue programmes to make them more beneficial to the families and the rescued children.
2. Identify the reasons why the rescued children went back to the fishing communities to continue with the dangerous activities despite the interventions that were put in place by Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies to withdraw them from the fishing industry,
3. Add to the existing information on data base for human trafficking industry in the region.

1.6 Operational Definition of Terms

The following terms have been defined in the study as:

- 1) **Rescued Child:** A person under 18 years who has been rescued from trafficking and sent back to her/his parents or guardian.
- 2) **Rescue Programme:** The exercise undertaken by the Government and other agencies to withdraw, rehabilitate and reintegrate 'trafficked children' into the society. This included money paid to the guardians to take care of the rescued children, money received by the masters as compensation for setting the children free and enrolling the children into formal schools with the accompanied supply of free school materials.
- 3) **Master:** Adult who engaged the trafficked children into the fishing business.

- 4) **Guardian:** The person who received the remittance fees from the organization and living with the rescued child.
- 5) **Household:** People who live in one housing unit and share catering arrangements with the rescued children.
- 6) **Slavery:** Condition of a person owned by another and working hard for him.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Organization of the Literature Review

This section presents literature on the definition of child trafficking, overview of child trafficking in Ghana, factors that encourage child trafficking, effects of child trafficking on families, children and the society. The section again reviews literature on combating trafficking, the strategies and challenges confronting authorities in an attempt to eliminate human trafficking in communities among others.

2.1 Definition of child trafficking

Child trafficking is the movements of children from one place to another by other persons for the purpose of exploiting them without their consent. Human trafficking is defined by United Nations and other International bodies as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, trading or receipt of persons within and across national borders by,

- i) the use of threats, force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception,
- ii) the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or
- iii) giving or receiving of payments and benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation,
- iv) exploitation shall include the minimum, induced prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to

slavery, domestic servitude, soldering or the removal of organs (GOG, 2006; UN, 2000).

These definitions and interpretations even though widely accepted by the International community, pose a great challenge to policy makers, as the language is inconsistent across countries in relation to their laws and practices in addressing this criminal act. For an example, the definition of trafficking in persons is open to broad interpretation. It covers the explicit use of force and coercion and recognizes other forms of deception and human abuses (IOM, 2002). The issue about internal trafficking is often misunderstood and ignored by many governments. In the case of trafficking for sex related work, which in most regions is the major purpose of trafficking, the policy to address it becomes complicated by national laws. For instance, in countries that differ on legislation on prostitution or sexual exploitation, the approach to solving the problem then becomes varied. While the Coalition against Trafficking in Women (CATW) sees prostitution as violation of women's rights. The Coalition against Trafficking in Women (CATW) would therefore want to address it from women's rights perspective. The Human Rights Caucus sees prostitution as a legitimate labour and would therefore also want to address it from labour perspective. It therefore means that, where only forced prostitution is considered illegal under national laws, it becomes difficult to establish sexual exploitation in court. Notwithstanding all these controversies about the definition, a large number of international instruments are available to guide governments to address aspects of trafficking in various countries. Some of these are, The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979 (CEDAW), the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of

Racial Discrimination, 1965 (CERD), the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 (CRC) and the Slavery Convention of (1926), among others.

2.2 OVERVIEW OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

2.2.1 Types of Child Trafficking

According to the Transatlantic Slavery against Human Dignity (1994), child trafficking as a form of slavery, comes in various forms and degrees. It is broadly conceived to cover any compulsory trafficking, exploitation and forced labour by children below 18years. It also covers the trafficked children who are denied of their legal rights. The major types of Human- trafficking that have been identified include external and internal trafficking.

External trafficking takes the form of trafficking of persons across national borders to other countries to provide services or to work, e.g. the trafficking of young women from Eastern European countries to the Western Countries, which is not only a vehicle for sexual exploitation but also a means of providing cheap, readily exploited sources of labour. They are found mostly in sweatshops, factories and in domestic servitude among others (Simons, 1994). The United States Department of State estimated that more than 100,000 persons were trafficked from Soviet Union and 75,000 from Eastern Europe each year while Africa accounted for an additional 50,000 persons (UNFPA, 2006). UNICEF also estimated that in West and Central Africa up to 200,000 children were trafficked annually (Dottridge, 2002). In Ghana external child trafficking involves children being moved from various parts of Ghana to Cote d'Ivoire, Benin, Togo and

Nigeria for the purpose of using them as cheap source of labour on commercial farms, domestic servitude and prostitution (Dottridge, 2002). The concentration of male migrant workers on the commercial farms in these areas generated the demand for commercial sex workers. Male clients preferred young and virgin girls because of the fear of contracting HIV/AIDS from older women, hence the influx of trafficked children especially young girls to these places specifically for sexual exploitation and other domestic services. Internal trafficking involves movement of persons for forced labour, domestic servitude, bondage or any other purpose within the country's borders. It originates mainly from one place to another especially the rural areas that are characterized by poverty, high illiteracy rates, unemployment, and high birth rates among others. Countries in South Asia are homes to the largest number of internally trafficked persons, with an estimated number of about 225,000 and 150,000 persons respectively (UNFPA, 2006). Internal trafficking of children in Ghana was mostly from parts of the Northern region, to commercial and urban centers of the country such as Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi, Takoradi and Sunyani among others. The children were used as domestic servants, hawkers, commercial sex workers, porters, drug and truck pushers, among others. Some of the children were brought from coastal communities such as Ningo, Ada, Keta, Elmina, Cape Coast, Accra, parts of the Volta region, where the fishing activities have been on decline due to the construction of the Akosombo dam (ILO/IPEC-GHANA, 2002). Generally the flow of trafficking was from less developed countries to industrialized nations at the International level, and from deprived rural areas to urban areas within the country borders.

2.2.2 Pattern and Nature of trafficking in Ghana.

The nature of child trafficking in Ghana is complex and difficult to determine. The perception and the culture of the people towards the socialization of young people to take after their parents' trade and values have contributed to this practice (Tengey, 2002). The strong bonding between members of the extended family and the nuclear family mandated endowed members of the family living in the cities or urban areas to assist the less endowed ones. This was done by taking some of their children with them, to be in apprenticeship, to learn a family trade or pursue their education. This practice was also used as a means of promoting peace and unifying members of the family in the traditional setting. The children in turn as an integral part of the socialization process assisted in the household and domestic chores. The girl child helped in cooking and minding of babies among other household chores, while the boys went on errands and did other household chores considered as masculine in the Ghanaian context (Nukunya, 2000). This traditional practice was however sometimes abused and children were exploited countrywide. The situation now was such that children had become commodities or merchandise (Dottridge, 2004). They were illegally transported by close relations, friends, and unsuspected people who sometimes sold or give away these children to potential buyers for financial gains, domestic servitude, repayment of debt or enslaved into prostitution among others. Furthermore certain kinship and sociological terminologies made it difficult to identify a child being sent into labour and one going to live with a true relative.

In Ghana the use of terms such as ‘auntie,’ ‘uncle’ ‘brother’ ‘sister’ or ‘father’ refer to any older woman or man whether related by consanguinity or not (Nukunya, 2000). This made it difficult to determine the authenticity, legality or otherwise of any exchanges or transactions that may be identified in transporting the children to another place. It was difficult for one to have the right to question a supposed ‘auntie’, ‘father’ or ‘brother’ or ‘sister’ who was taking away a supposed niece or nephew to the city. Indeed the traditionally accepted form of child placement in Ghana made it difficult to identify trafficked children. The security agencies thus took it for granted that the sale of children into bondage really existed as a result of this practice. These concerns among others made the issue of child trafficking difficult to be determined. However the pattern and nature of transactions had been identified as that, majority of children trafficked internally came from parts of Ghana which have records of high incidence of poverty. It is worthy to note that girls between the ages of 7-16 years form the larger proportion of children trafficked who had either dropped out of primary school or had never attended school (Tengey, 2000). These girls, largely from rural areas were frequently used as house helps and some were forced by pimps, and in some circumstances engaged in child prostitution in Accra and major cities. Young boys between the ages of 10-17 years were lured into diamond winning areas to engage in illegal diamond mining popularly called “Galamsey” The children were engaged in other menial, low paying and hazardous work.

2.2.3 The recruitment process in child trafficking

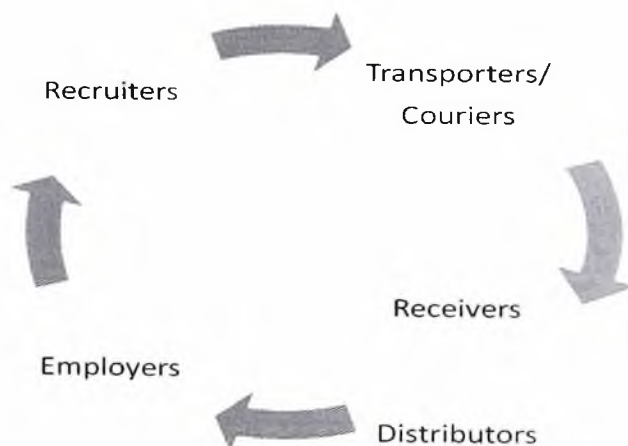
It was evidenced that female contractors or agents known to the family or the community were usually the major recruiters who approached parents for the release of their children. They used deceit, tricks and false promises of vocational training and well paid jobs in the cities to be able to secure children from parents and guardians from their point of origin (ILO/IPEC-GHANA, 2000a). In some cases those who recruited and transported women and children were the employers, the owners of the factories or the brothels. More often, trafficking involved intermediaries and many former sex workers were sent to their home villages to lure other women and children into the sex trade (Bond and Hayter, 1998). It is again documented that some poor parents out of genuine deprivation, dispatched their children to other relations in urban areas for the purpose of work (Tengey, 2002). These children were expected to remit part of their earnings back home for the upkeep of other siblings. Single parent mothers out of desperation also gave out their children to both strangers and relations to work in urban areas for money. Some also gave the girls out for prostitution in extreme cases. The adolescent girls were lured by friends and relatives who promised them work and other flourishing opportunities. These girls were given to market women who traded between the cities and rural areas to work for them.

2.2.4 Recruitment chain of children for the Trafficking industry

The chain of network for the recruitment of children into trafficking follows a pattern that involves *recruiters, transporters, receivers/distributors and employers*. The trafficking networks were often informal and secretive in nature, which made the

identification of network and traffickers very difficult especially in Africa (ILO/IPEC-GHANA, 2000a). This is because gathering and interpreting data on victims had been difficult, again the countries have open borders that promoted free trade and this made it difficult in distinguishing between illegal and criminal activities from legitimate families, across border migration. The recruiters usually identified vulnerable victims who were children usually found in difficult situations. They were easily convinced by the traffickers, who promised them better living conditions in the cities. Some of these children notably were truants, neglected, school dropouts or children from deprived homes. Some were also children who had ran away from home for fear of being punished for committing an offence at home (ILO/IPEC-GHANA, 2000a).

Figure 2.1 Recruitment chain of children for the trafficking industry



Source: culled from report on child labour in Ghana by Child labour Unit of The labour Department, Ghana (2004).

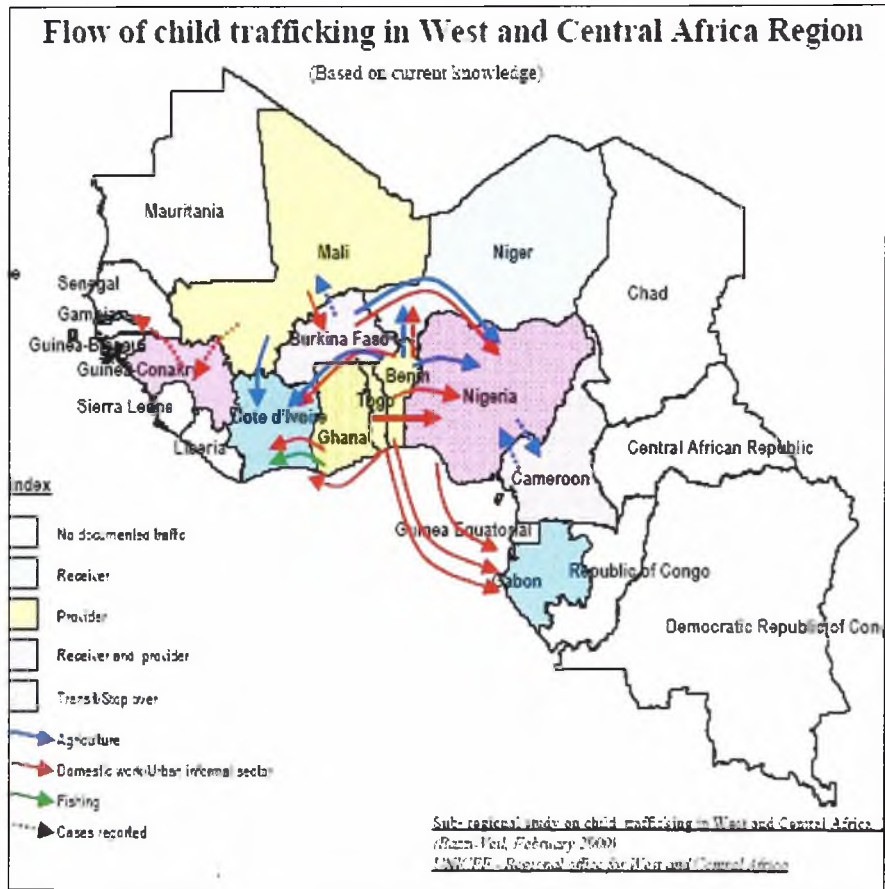
These recruiters were known to be close relations of victims, visa vie family friends, family members, peer friends, strangers, drug barons and other social criminals who pose as friends to the victim. There were instances where children were trafficked by their own mothers and some of the children also went on delinquent adventure. The child victims were transported by various means to their destination (Tengey, 2000). These vary from trucks, cars, trains and buses especially in cross border trafficking. The transporters usually have a cunning way of hiding the victims so that they are not found out. For instance it is known that the girls, who were trafficked from the Northern Region, were hidden in cargo trucks with loads to avoid being arrested by the security agencies at the various check points. On reaching the destination, the victims are handed over to other intermediaries at distribution points. They received and offered the children temporary accommodation before being dispatched to their 'madams' or 'masters.' The girls were given to shopkeepers, as head potters (kayayee). Some were given to chop bar operators to serve as pantry kids while some engaged in street vending of foods including iced water. Their male counterparts went into illegal mining, truck pushing, driver's mates, street hawking, guides to beggars and fishing.

2.2.5 The routes of Human Trafficking in West and Central Africa

Report by UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa in 2001 indicated that although it was difficult to quantify human trafficking, studies by ILO/IPEC had traced trafficking routes and identified some countries as mainly suppliers of trafficked children. Some of the countries were receiving countries, while others were transit countries, and some were both providing and receiving trafficked children (Salah,

2001). Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Togo were suppliers. Cote d'Ivoire and Gabon tend to be mainly receivers with Benin and Nigeria as both providers and receivers of trafficked children.

Figure 2.2: The flow of child trafficking in the West and Central Africa Region.



Source: UNICEF report on West and Central Africa Regional Office- 2000

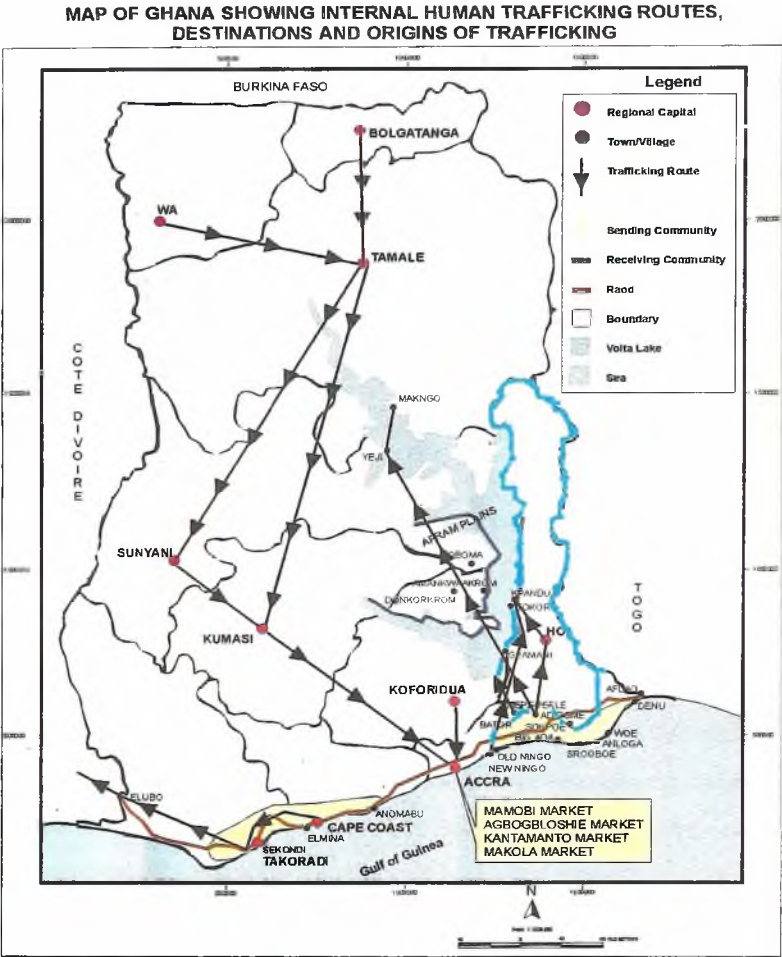
In a similar study by Kwankye *et al* (2000), entitled “Child Prostitution and child trafficking in Ghana;” it was mentioned that, Ghana had been identified to be more or less a transit point for the trafficking of women and children from other African countries on their way to Europe. There have been reports again that in Nigeria, boatloads of children from Benin have been halted by authorities along the countries’ coastline on their way to Central Africa. Some of these children ended up in Nigerian households as unpaid house helps while others ended up in prostitution (ILO/IPEC, 2000).

2.2.6 Human Trafficking Routes within Ghana

Ghana is noted for the internal trafficking of persons with some cross border or international cases that do not take one particular direction. The route goes in all directions from Ghana to Togo, Cote d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Benin and some European countries (ILO/IPEC, 2000).

The route for the internal trafficking were usually from the rural areas to the urban or city centers such as; from Bolgatanga to Tamale to Kumasi and from Kumasi to Accra or from Sunyani, Kumasi, Wa and Tamale. Figure 2.3 shows the internal human trafficking routes, destinations and origins in Ghana.

Figure 2.3



Source; African Centre for Gender Development, 2002

2.2.7 The Nature of Work for the trafficked children

Women and children were generally trafficked for sexual exploitation and other forms of exploitative labour such as the production of pornography and domestic service. A large number of boys were used as cleaners, errand boys and sales boys in small shops,

factories, farm hands on plantations and as sex workers. Others including the disabled were brought in to join begging gangs. According to ILO/IPEC, Thailand had identified about 16,000 foreign prostitutes of whom one third were persons less than 18 years old of whom a significant number have being trafficked (ILO/IPEC, 1998). In Ghana the situation was similar, most of the victims worked in the informal sector, the girls were lured into domestic servitude, head portage and prostitution among others, while the boys were into truck pushing, fishing and few into the sex trade. It was evidenced that these children worked under stressful, risky and very dehumanizing conditions. They worked for long hours, as the day started for the girl house helps as early as 4: 00 am in the morning till 10:00 pm in the night with little or no break (Tengey 2000). They were sometimes sexually harassed or raped by their mistresses' husbands and other irresponsible adults in the neighbourhood. The trafficked children worked without protective clothing in hazardous environment without proper medical care. When they were ill, they were given pain killers bought over the counter and received less remuneration or nothing at all for work done.

2.3. Factors that encourage child trafficking

2.3.1 Economic conditions of families

The few statistics on child trafficking indicate that, high levels of poverty among impoverished communities due to the poor economic status of countries and the desire of people for better living are some of the root causes of child trafficking in countries. According to the Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS, 2003), about 31.4% of the population live below the poverty line of approximately US\$2.00.00 a day. This makes

families find it difficult to provide for the basic needs of their children including providing quality education to the children. Most of these people live in the rural communities. They have no means of earning livelihood, apart from the subsistence farming engaged in which has become the only source of earning income to provide food for the welfare of the family.

The area of study is no exemption of this fact. Poor farming practices coupled with infertile soil make farming difficult to produce food to feed the family and some for sale. It is therefore difficult for parents to provide their children with their basic needs in life including food, clothing and descent shelter. Children tend to suffer most, as they are the ones most affected in such situations due to their dependency on adults for the provision of their basic needs. Giving them away to potential traffickers who came with vain promises to take care of the child became an obvious choice. The fact was that, such severe conditions led not only to child trafficking, but also to the parents themselves migrating to other places in search of greener pastures.

2.3.2 The Vulnerability and dependence of children

According to Klain and Kloer (2008), the large number of children trafficked world wide was due to the fact of their vulnerability. Children were specifically vulnerable to trafficking due to their physical, emotional and financial dependence on adults. Physically, adults held positions of authority and control over children's daily lives. They also needed affection and attention from parents and other people. These dependency characteristics of children, made them vulnerable to be exploited by

traffickers. When children and teens were denied love and emotional support from family members, they sought this affirmation from outside. Pimps may present themselves as an adoring boyfriend to win a child's trust and then coerce the child into prostitution. Traffickers may also exploit a child's desire to earn money to support his or her family in an attempt to deceive that child into a situation of labour or sex trafficking. The victim may feel an allegiance to parents or family who were dependent on her for the money she provided. Children with learning disability may be more vulnerable to manipulation because they lacked the emotional or communication skills to understand and resist exploitation (Klain and Kloer, 2008).

2.3.3 Socio-cultural practices

Research conducted by ILO/IPEC in 2000 indicated that, there existed negative traditions that allowed children to be typically recruited by traffickers from poor, rural, male-dominated and patriarchal communities. These parents usually had low levels of education. Children from such communities were expected to contribute to the family income, but had little say in decisions that concerned them. It was also evidenced that communities with traditions of migration for labour and that of placement of children in the care of urban based relatives were prone to child trafficking. Some of these practices could be found in all the three Northern Regions of Ghana, where children as young as six years, migrated to the city and other urban areas to work as head porters (kayayee).

2.3.4 Break down of traditional family system

The family is considered to have extraordinary potential to develop productive human resource. It also plays the traditional role of bringing up children and caring for the aged (Nukunya, 2000). Family members also interacted and communicated through their individual roles to protect traditional culture or develop their own potentials, maintain and protect life. The family again has the responsibility for distributing economic resources from family members earning income, to family members who are not yet earning income for their upkeep (Ross and Sawhill, 1975; Nukunya, 2000). These distinguished roles prepared the child for a better adult life devoid of negative behavior and absolute poverty.

Research indicates that, the family system in Ghana is now facing challenges as a result of changing roles, as well as other factors including urbanization and introduction of money market coupled with high cost of living (Nukunya, 2000). Many mothers now do not have time to care for their own children because they need to go out to work to earn an income. Some migrate to faraway places to work at the expense of their children's upkeep. Studies on the family predicted that, economic protection, recreation, education and religious activities of the traditional family have moved to institutions outside the family. These have brought about changes in the family system, thus gradually weakening the family ties that gave support to the less endowed members. Thus the family unit has changed from production to consumption unit. These changes coupled with other factors leave children vulnerable to trafficking especially when parents do not have the means to provide for their own basic needs and



that of their children. Again the gradual breakdown of the extended family system where the development of the child was the responsibility of every member of the family is a contributory factor to trafficking of children. Thus when parents were not able to take care of the children due to any circumstances such as sickness or death of the parents, and there was no extended family member to take over the care of that child, such children became vulnerable because they needed to survive.

2.3.5 Peer pressure

It was known that in many regions sometimes children on their own could cross borders without the authorization of parents or guardians on juvenile adventure, they then fell prey to pimps and other recruiters on the street. Children from hostile family environment who run away for shelter on the street were also vulnerable to trafficking.

2.3.6 Policies and Legislation

The absence of legislation on child trafficking together with inadequate capacity and lack of commitments on the part of the security agencies and the judiciary to prosecute offenders or enforce child labour laws and National policy on Gender and children, allowed intermediaries and employers to operate with impunity. Traffickers involved in this lucrative business, were often well connected and influential enough to avoid arrest and subsequent prosecution.

2.3.7 Economic benefits of child trafficking

There have been reported cases of 10-12 year old boys working for fishermen in exchange for yearly payment to their families. This practice was found to be rampant in 156 fishing communities or villages along the Afram Plains and in the settlements along the Volta Lake (U.S. Embassy, 2000). The money earned by the victims of trafficking was used to remit the poor parents, guardians or the older members of the family and their other siblings. This may explain why many researchers cited poverty as the major cause for parents to send their children to be trafficked globally. It was evidenced that child trafficking was always a result of unequal distribution of wealth in the family and wider society. Child trafficking for economic purpose is considered a harmful practice. It is closely linked with some of the worst forms of Child Labour under ILO Convention 182, to which the United States of America and other countries including Ghana are signatories (Salah, 2001).

2.4. Effects of Child Trafficking

2.4.1 Effects of Child Trafficking on the Child

According to Berger (1986), in the text entitled ‘The Developing Person through Childhood and Adolescence’, it was said that Childhood is the most crucial development period in an individual’s life. It is also the period that an individual’s main physical, mental, emotional and social development takes place. Considering the text, inability of the child to develop these potentials at this stage as a result of being separated from the parents through trafficking, could lead the child to suffer serious lifelong consequences later in life. Trafficked children, could get injured by working in hazardous environment and be deformed for life or be killed. This is particularly true

for the children who dive into deep waters to disentangle nets under the river bed or those who mend nets with sharp instruments. Apart from the trauma of isolation from their families, trafficked children often found themselves as illegal immigrants in places unknown to them and of which they sometimes did not understand the language of the new environment. In these circumstances they could rarely access child protection institutions or services in times of need even where they existed. Any attempt by the children to refuse demands, disobey, protest or escape from their slave masters may result in being punished or beaten (ILO/IPEC, 2000).

Trafficked children were not able to attend school and therefore were not able to attain sound education. The situation made them not able to acquire employable skills for descent work to earn a descent living. Such children would be poor and were likely to pass poverty onto their children thus perpetuating the cycle of poverty. (Harper *et al*, 1999), in his work stated that, poverty reduction interventions should begin with children. It is important to note that children who were trafficked often initially presented as victims of related crimes and may be victims of multiple crimes. Figure 2.4 illustrates the inter-related crimes of child trafficking. These interrelated crimes could cause a child to be particularly vulnerable to Child Trafficking. Some crimes that are commonly concurrent with child trafficking or may initially appear to be included are, Child Abuse and Neglect, Child Sexual Abuse, Child Pornography, Domestic Violence, and Child labour.



Figure 2.4

The interrelated crimes of child trafficking



Source: culled from U.S. Department of State report, (2005)

The trafficked children because they were induced to perform commercial sexual act, by virtue of their minority, suffered from sexual abuse which made them traumatized, which are affected them physically, psychologically, spiritually and socially. The resulting trauma experienced by the trafficked children may stay with them for the rest of their lives. It may affect the children's relationship with adults' later in life and they may have no trust for them. There is evidence that some of the small children got drowned and lost their lives when they were made to dive down the river beds to collect oysters and also to disentangle fishing nets (ILO/IPEC, 2000). The practices exposed the children to health hazards and danger. The boys with bare chests, who dived into cold waters, had the tendency of contracting pneumonia and other respiratory diseases. The girls could contract HIV/AIDS as a result of the sexual exploitation by unsuspected

adults who took advantage of their vulnerability and had sex with them. Because the children were not well fed, most of them looked skinny and malnourished.

2.4.2 Effects of Child Trafficking on the Family

Trafficking in persons redirects the benefits of migration from the migrant, his family, community, government or legitimate employers, to the traffickers and their illicit partners. The profit of about US\$ 7-10 billion, which goes to the traffickers according to US Government, could help deplete a developing country of its human capital, reduce the returns to the home country through remittances and in many cases lead to the break down of the family, through neglect of children and the aged (Clert, 2005; U.S. Department of State, 2005). It could reduce the availability of the family members to care for the elderly and force children to work, denying them education and reinforcing the illiteracy and poverty cycle, that hinder development efforts for the child, the family and the society. The family is responsible for the early childhood socialization also known as primary socialization process that is most critical for later development (Radcliffe-Brown 1940; Bell & Vogel, 1945; Nukunya, 2000). The child acquires values and norms of the family and society from the family, any move that attempts to separate the child from the primary parents, distorts the development of the child in this direction. Children could also suffer depression for being isolated from their parents. The burden of agricultural work especially for families that depended on agriculture for their livelihood became too heavy for the old people left behind to shoulder in situations where the young migrated from the communities. This could causes low economic development of the families.

2.4.3 Effects of Child Trafficking on the Nation

In all societies children were considered to be the future generation that would replace the older generation. The children again were expected to learn and embrace the norms and values of the society in their childhood from their parents. These expectations meant that, the children needed to be protected to grow in a healthy family environment so they could take after their parents, and play this continuity role as expected (Nukunya, 2000; Hammer & Turner, 1985). Societies that supplied children for trafficking suffered long term consequences, as traditions could no longer be transmitted to the new generations.

Nations that depended on agriculture for economic development slowed down in economic growth rate since the heavy task of farming was left for weak old people left behind to shoulder. This could cause slow development especially in Ghana where there is an increase in the migration of the active youth from the rural areas to the urban centers. Again since more girls than boys are trafficked, the male–female ratio is distorted in the rural areas especially (ILO/IPEC, 2000). This could adversely affect the development of the nation that depended on skilled human resource such as the youth to make progress. The concerns therefore about child trafficking specifically had increased due to the fact that it distorted the progress and development of the entire nation.

2.5. Rescuing Children from Trafficking

According to research conducted by Tullao *et al*, (2007) in Human Trafficking Project report by International Labour Migration and Human Trafficking (2007), indicated that current efforts to combat child trafficking are primarily reactive. For instance, Governments conducted rescues after victims had been enslaved, or NGOs counseled victims and provided temporary shelter for them when they had been trafficked. These reactive services are critical because they actually supported those who had been victimized by offering withdrawal, rehabilitation and re-integrative services. The researcher further stated that combating trafficking must involve a holistic approach that must include active efforts to address trafficking before the problem started.

Preventive programmes that provided information on the dangers of trafficking to at risk population are no doubt helpful. However it is difficult to dissuade some one from migrating in the face of economic desperation. Even if these women and men knew the risk involved, this did not change their financial and economic reality and needed to provide for their families. Thus it was evidenced that creating awareness alone could not change their desire to live a better life, and therefore there is the need to have more holistic approaches to solving the problem than just providing preventive information. The UN Secretary-General's report on Trafficking in Women and Girls (2004) indicated that various countries were taking measures to support victims, for example Belgium and United States of America and others were providing financial assistance, telephone hotlines, legal services and social programmes including psychological and medical care for victims. Shelter and crisis centers were also being provided to care for

victims of trafficking in some countries. In developing strategies to combat the phenomenon, some considerations should be applied as some strategies may be of low or moderate cost but could have immediate impact. These included awareness creation campaigns that allowed high risk individuals to make informed decisions. According to Family Health International (1999), Asia used the awareness campaign strategy that focused on the source of demand for trafficked services such as the clients of underage sex workers. These awareness programmes continued till laws were passed that imposed greater penalties on customers than on sellers of women and children for commercial sex work. Other strategies that were also very effective and deterrent were serious enforcement of laws to combat trafficking, which is rather very expensive.

Most countries especially developing ones cannot adopt this strategy because the costs involved in enforcing these laws were very expensive. It has been found out that trafficked persons were always working illegally, either because they were undocumented immigrants, or were working in unauthorized establishments, such as brothels or sweatshops and the informal sectors especially in the agriculture sector. According to UNICEF, if there should be any legislation on illegal immigration, working conditions, child labour or illegal adoption, that were adequately enforced, then most trafficking in women and children would automatically be eliminated.

2.5.1 Challenges in combating child trafficking

Most countries were stepping up efforts to crack down trafficking, nonetheless, there were challenges and these included inadequate data on victims, inadequate resources to

implement outlined strategies and many more. UNICEF again encouraged countries to register children at birth to keep proper records of the population for proper planning and development. According to a research by Tullao *et al*, (2007), it was evidenced that the economy of some countries was heavily dependent on the export of human capital or migrant labour, example is the Philippines. The resulting income or remittances had various macro and micro economic benefits, and provided much needed cash to families of migrants who generally spent it on education, health and housing. However the wealth was not evenly distributed as it did not trickle down to the poorest in the communities. Economic development programs that were well planned with strategies that utilized existing resource to improve the local economy were pursued to alleviate poverty, which was the major cause of trafficking.

In summary the following measures could be adopted by countries to eliminate human trafficking; these include,

- Increasing public awareness through education of the how's and why's of trafficking to help prevent vulnerable people becoming victims and to help in identifying possible victims and traffickers.
- Giving full protection to the victims by providing shelter to rescued victims.
- Initiating programmes that promote community involvement
- Initiating poverty reduction programmes to keep people away from leaving their villages.
- Creating livelihood opportunities and develop more equitable income distribution structure. Emergency loans, vocational training.

- Initiating legal reforms that allow equal rights to own and control property, land especially in the rural areas.
- Passing laws so that punishments for human trafficking reflect the extremely serious nature of the crime.
- Signing, ratify and enforce the United Nations Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, (2000) and the UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers (1990) and other legal instruments including the Children's Act 560 among others to protect women and children.
- Training professionals to look for the signs that a person is a victim of trafficking.
- Supporting victims of trafficking with counseling, legal, medical, financial and practical assistance appropriate to their special needs including severe trauma, humiliation and constant threat of death.
- Providing support regardless of whether the victims co-operate with prosecutions. A trafficked person is not an illegal immigrant or a criminal and their full human rights must be ensured.
- Providing support from the moment they are recognized until the time they are happily repatriated or given citizenship.
- Ensuring that all anti-trafficking efforts are non-discriminatory and do not adversely affect other vulnerable groups like refugees or migrants.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter provides information on the study design employed, selection of the study area, population, sample and sampling procedure, research instrument, data collection and data analysis.

3.1 Research Design

A cross-sectional design was employed in the study. This is because this study design was suitable for the study because it helped to identify relationships between variables and allowed the study of a sample drawn from a predetermined population within a short period of time. This made conducting of the research less expensive in terms of time and money.

The main research method used in the study was the survey. It was used because it is a useful tool used in collecting information about people's attitudes and behaviours.

3.2 Selection of Study Area

The study was carried out in seven communities in the North Tongu District. The District was created from the former Tongu District Council in 1998 by legislative Instrument LI 15. The District, at the time of its establishment in 1989, was known as Adidome District. The name was changed to the current one in response to agitation for a more unifying name. The APPLE, a local civil society organization has an ongoing rescue programme in various communities in the District. The 300 children rescued by

the organization lived in these seven communities with their guardians. The communities were once vibrant fishing communities before the construction of the Akosombo Dam in the 1960s. The major occupation of the people was therefore fishing and crop farming. The construction of the Akosombo and Kpong dams had adversely affected the ecology of the district in several ways Figure 3.1 shows the current state of the once flooded river beds now covered with weeds.

Figure 3.1: Picture of a pond crack that used to contain lots of fish



These included lack of deposition of silt on the flood plains to improve soil fertility due to the cessation of the annual flooding of the Volta Lake, and the presence of river weeds that have caused the extinction of oysters and destruction of the fishing industry. The source of livelihood for the people thus lost, the people then resorted to moving to Kete-Krachi, Yeji, Akosombo, Buipe and other areas upstream to search for greener

pastures. The adults went with their kids who were then given to other relatives and masters to work for them. This area has since become a sending area for child trafficking activities.

3.3 Study Location

The North Tongu District is located in the Volta Region and lies within latitudes 5047° degrees North to 60° degrees North and longitude 005° degrees East to 0045° degrees East. The District shares boundaries with Sogakope, Akatsi and Ho Districts of the Volta Region; Asuogyaman District of the Eastern Region; Dangme-West and Eastern Districts of the Greater Accra Region.

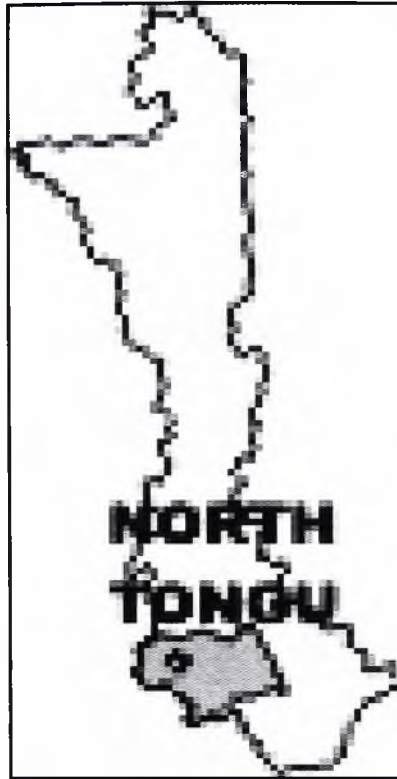
The total land area of the North Tongu District is approximately 1,460 square kilometers. It covers about 7.1% of the total land area of the Volta Region. The District lies within the Tropical Savannah Grassland zone with the Volta River running through from the north to the south of the district, roughly dividing it into two equal parts with each half lying on the bank of the river. The District is mainly accessible by road and by boat and launch on the River Volta. The two means of accessibility allowed the smooth transport of goods and people to and from the District. The Figure 3.3 shows the map of the Volta Region with the North Tongu District.

Figure: 3.2 Map of Ghana showing the Regions including Volta Region.



Source: Ghana Districts. A repository of all districts in the Republic of Ghana.htm.
District Assembly Archives.

Figure: 3.3 Map of the Volta Region showing North Tongu District



Source: Ghana Districts. A repository of all districts in the Republic of Ghana.htm.

District Assembly Archives

3.4 Target Population

The target population was all guardians and rescued children in seven communities where the APPLE rescue programme was ongoing. These guardians and rescued children had received money and other forms of assistance as part of the package for the rescue programme, to withdraw their wards from the fishing industry. These beneficiaries were schooling and living in these seven communities with their guardians.

3.5 Sample and Sampling Procedure

3.5.1 Sample Size

A total of 232 respondents, made up of 116 guardians and 116 rescued children out of the 300 children rescued by APPLE in the seven communities, who were available, at the time of the study were used. A guardian and a rescued child from each household were interviewed with the interview schedule. These guardians and children had received some form of assistance from Association of People for Practical Life Education (APPLE) or International Organization for Migration (IOM), towards withdrawing the children from the fishing industry.

3.5.2 Sampling Procedure

A list of the 300 households from the seven communities was collected from APPLE Project. The researcher used the purposive sampling method to reach out to the respondents in the seven communities where APPLE is operating. The snowball method was then used to get to the rest of the respondents who were available in the communities till the number was exhausted. Table 3.1 shows the number of respondents who were available in the seven communities.

Table 3.1: The distribution of the sample population available

Location of Households	New-Bakpa	Mafi-Dove	Mafi-Atitekpo	Mafi-Devime	Mafi-Dorkpo	Mafi-Aklamador	Mepe	Grand Total
<i>Guardians</i>	25	15	16	15	15	15	15	116
<i>Children</i>	25	15	16	15	15	15	15	116
Total sample	50	30	32	30	30	30	30	232

Source; APPLE PROJECTS- 2004

3.6 Instrument for Data Collection

Two structured interview schedules were developed by the researcher for guardians and children separately. These were used to interview respondents because they could not read or write and this enabled the researcher to obtain first hand information from the respondents (Refer to Appendices 1 and 2). Interview schedules used were developed according to the following subsections based on the objectives as follows;

1. Find out the demographic characteristics of the rescued children and their guardians
2. Assess the factors that encouraged child trafficking in the study area.
3. Assess the conditions of work for the trafficked children.
4. Assess the influence of child trafficking on the rescued children.
5. Investigate the influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the rescued children.
6. Ascertain the influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the families of the rescued children.

3.6.1 Pre-testing

The instrument for data collection was pre-tested on five parents and five children rescued under ILO rescue programme in Botianor, a fishing community in Greater Accra Region. This was done to test for clarity of questions, the relevance to the objectives and some problems to be encountered during the exercise.

3.7 Data collection

Data were collected by researcher with the assistance of two research assistants from APPLE rescue programme by self administering the interview schedules. The research assistants were trained on how to administer the interview schedule. This method was used because even though the study area was a predominantly Ewe speaking area, most of the respondents could speak and understand Twi, but they could not read or write. The researcher therefore communicated with respondents in Twi. In few cases where respondents did not understand Twi, the research assistants who were bilingual, communicated in the local language with respondents. The researcher in the process had to agree with the respondents on a convenient time to grant the interviews since most of them were farmers and had to go to the farm everyday. Permission was also sort from the guardians to enable researcher interview the children which they readily agreed. A total period of 21 days was used to collect data from the respondents

3.8 Data Analysis

The responses from the interview schedules were hand coded. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software was used to analyze the data. Data analyzed were presented in descriptive form including tables and figures. The research hypotheses were tested by Pearson's Coefficient Correlation to measure the strength of relationship between the economic status of the guardians and the welfare of the children, and also for the relationship between the rescue programme and the welfare of the families and the rescued children. The variables used to determine the rescue programmes were the amount of money given to the guardians, their perceptions about the programme and other benefits received as package for the rescue programme. The responses to these

questions were scored based on a five point dimension scale from (5) Strongly agree, (4) Agree, (3) Uncertain, (2) Moderately Agree, (1) Do not Agree. Marks were awarded to the scale such that the high score was (5) and the least scored (1). Scoring of the scale was based on the sum of scores, Cork, Hepworth, Wall, and Warr (1981) , who suggested that one of the three ways of calculating the scores of a test is summing or averaging across to obtain an overall score, a procedure widely accepted in scientific studies in humanities such as in Sociology, Social Work among others.

3.9 Limitations of the Study

Some of the guardians were reluctant to spend time to respond to the interview schedule, because other rescue programmes had disappointed them. Promises of recommendations made by these rescue programmes to for instance increase their capital for trading were not honoured. The researcher therefore, had to part with some money to persuade them to respond to the interview. She again convinced them that it was in their own interest that the research was being done to know their problems and share it with some opinion leaders for possible solution. Another limitation was the language barrier. The researcher therefore had to rely on the research assistants from APPLE to interpret interviews where necessary. This prolonged the duration of the personal face to face interview.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.0 Introduction

The findings of the study are presented under the following headings;

- Demographic data on guardians and rescued children
- Factors that encouraged child trafficking in the study area.
- Influence of child trafficking on the rescued children.
- Influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the rescued children.
- Influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the families of the rescued children.

4.1 The demographic characteristics of the Guardians

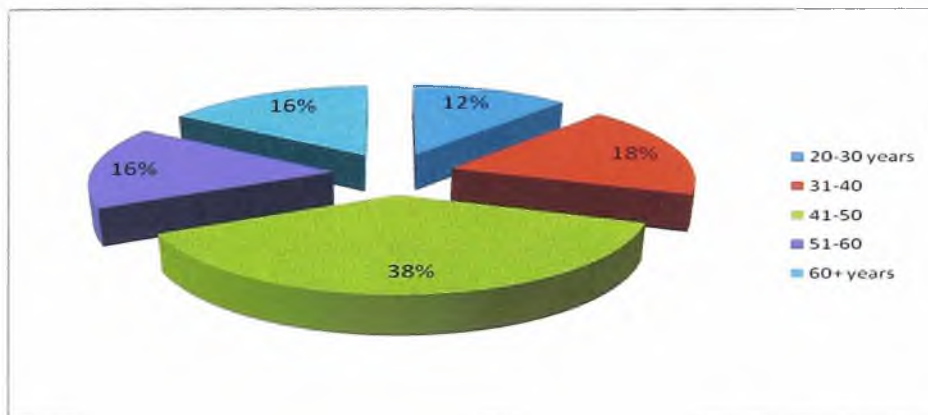
The demographic characteristics of the respondents, who were the guardians of the rescued children and the children, covered the age, gender, the marital status of the guardians including the educational levels and the relationship of guardians to children.

4.1.1 Age of guardians

With reference to Figure 4.1, that shows the ages of the guardians in details. The ages of the guardians ranged between 20-60 years and above. Those between the ages of 20 years and 40 years formed 30% of the respondents. These were the biological parents of the children. This incidentally tallied with the number of children who said they were staying with their own biological parents in the communities. Those whose ages were 41 years and above formed the majority age group with a high percentage of 70%.

This old age group was the grandparents and other extended family members' of the rescued children.

Figure 4.1: Percentage Distribution of Age range of Guardians



The ages of the guardians however, indicated a much older generation taking care of the children in the absence of the biological parents who had migrated to seek for greener pastures, thus putting pressure on the aged to care for the rescued children. Considering what goes into caring for children, this was rather a difficult experience for the fragile grandmothers.

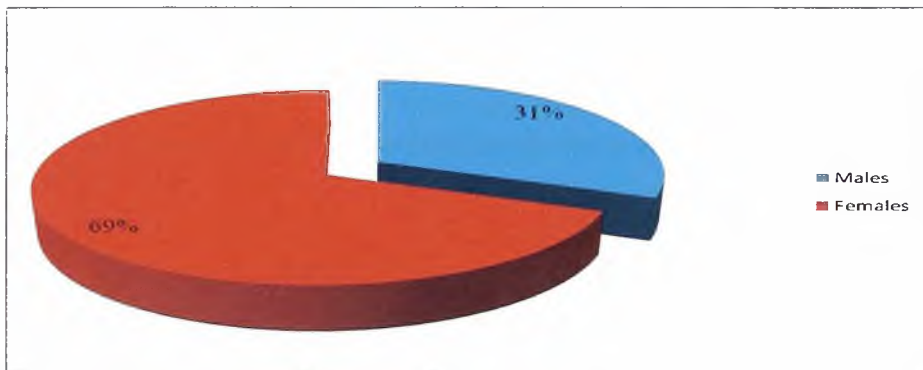
4.1.2 Gender of guardians

The study revealed that 69% of the guardians were females; while 31% of them were males (refer to Figure 4.2). It was again revealed that these guardians doubled up as the heads of household. The large number of female household heads found in the study therefore lends support to earlier research by the United Nations in 1996, which stated that, there was an increase in female heads of households worldwide involving older



women in their late life cycle and widowed (UN, 1996). It was again found out that, families with female heads of household faced the danger of being poor as they were not in any gainful employment to earn enough income to provide for the basic needs of the family.

Figure 4.2: Percentage distribution of Gender of Guardians



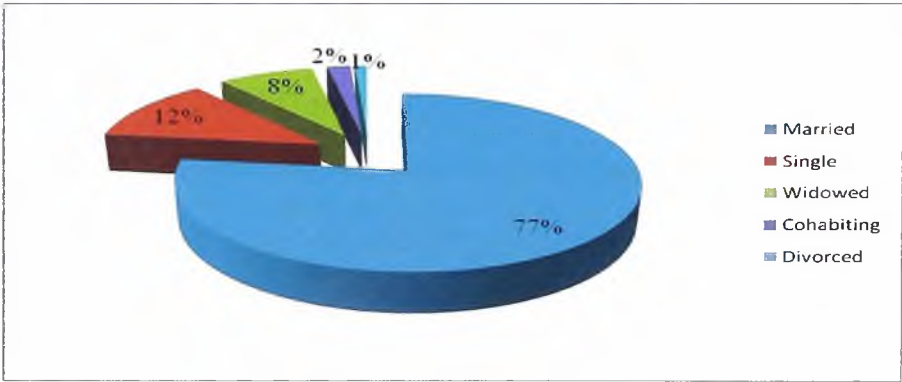
This situation might have influenced negatively on the welfare of the children as they would become wayward due to inability of parents to control them, they would therefore become vulnerable to trafficking.

4.1.3 Marital Status of guardians

The study revealed that 77% of the guardians were married with 12% of them being single, while 8% were widowed, with a few cohabiting and divorced (see Figure 4.3). Out of the number married, only 30% of those married were staying with their spouses, 70% of those married were not staying with their spouses; their spouses had migrated to find greener pastures away from home. The migration of the spouses made them single parent households at that particular time. This revelation lends support to a study by

Manu (1998) as quoted in Essamuah (2006), that Ghanaian women value marriage and therefore majority of them got married at one stage of their lives. This also translates that, single parent families who generally tend to be female heads of household, were more likely to be poorer than those in married-couple homes (Brooks-Gunn and Duncan, 1977). Some of the migrant single parents sent their children along with them, which could also contribute to child trafficking in the area (see Figure 4.3 for detailed marital status of guardians).

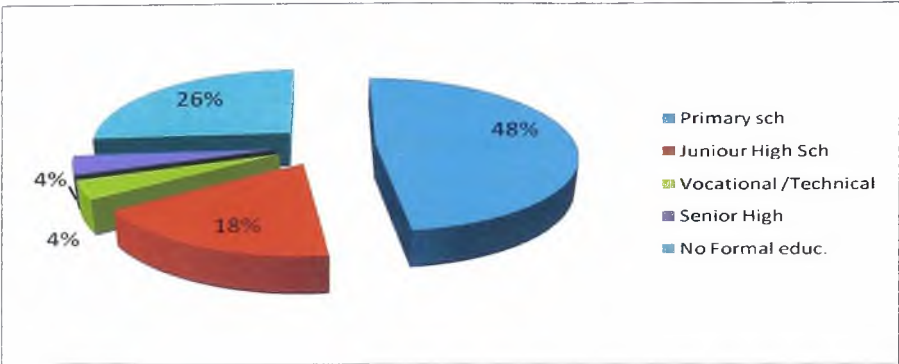
Figure 4.3: Percentage Distribution of Marital Status of Guardians



4.1.4 Educational Level of Guardians

The results of the study as shown in Figure 4.4 revealed that, the educational level of the guardians was generally low, below junior high school level. This lends support to work done by Forastieri (1999), which stated that, the basic characteristic of women in the rural areas and women in the informal sector is the low educational level of these women. About 48% of the guardians, attained primary level education while 26% never attended school. Only about 18% of the guardians had education to the junior high school level, while 8% had above Junior high school.

Figure 4.4: Distribution of Education Level of Guardians



These results again lend support to some earlier studies that revealed that female household heads generally have low education, many a time as low as elementary school level or none (CBS, 1981). The low educational level of these heads of households who were also the guardians again determined the level of family capabilities in seeking for paid jobs and the capacity to make important decisions about education for other members of the family. Due to the low educational level of the guardians, there was the tendency for them to have low income to be able to provide for higher education for the children as revealed in research by (Suardiman, 2001). That explained why the children instead of being in school at that tender age of seven accompanied their parents to the fishing areas to do fishing instead of going to school.

4.1.5 Relationship of guardians to children

From the Figure 4.5, the results of the study revealed that only 28 % of the guardians were the children’s own biological parents, while 65% were grandparents. The remaining 7% were other extended family members and family friends. The large

number of grandparents as guardians and heads of households directly involved in taking care of the children was an indication that the extended family system was firmly rooted in the study area and contributed immensely to the socialization process of the children. It was again revealed that some of the parents of the children had migrated to other areas in search of greener pastures in cities and other fishing communities for better living conditions.

Other members of the family especially the grandmothers were therefore taking care of the children. (Refer to picture of a grandmother with grand children in Figure 4.6). It was again revealed that some of the children, who had been rescued, migrated with their own biological parents.

Figure 4.5: Percentage distribution of relationship of guardians to children

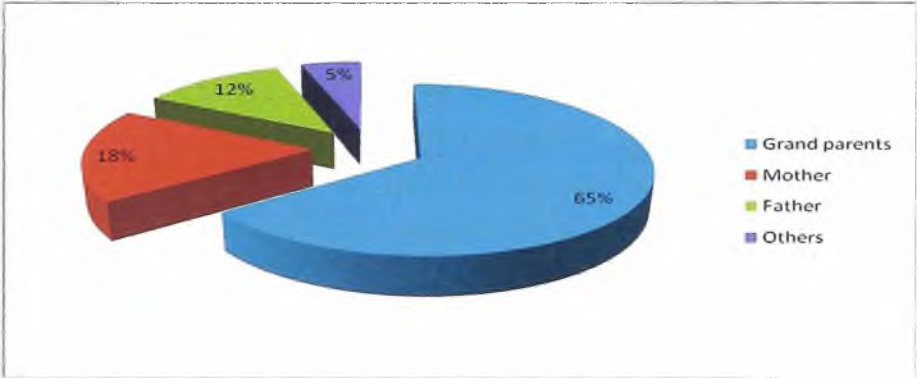


Figure 4. 6: Picture of Grandmother with rescued grand children



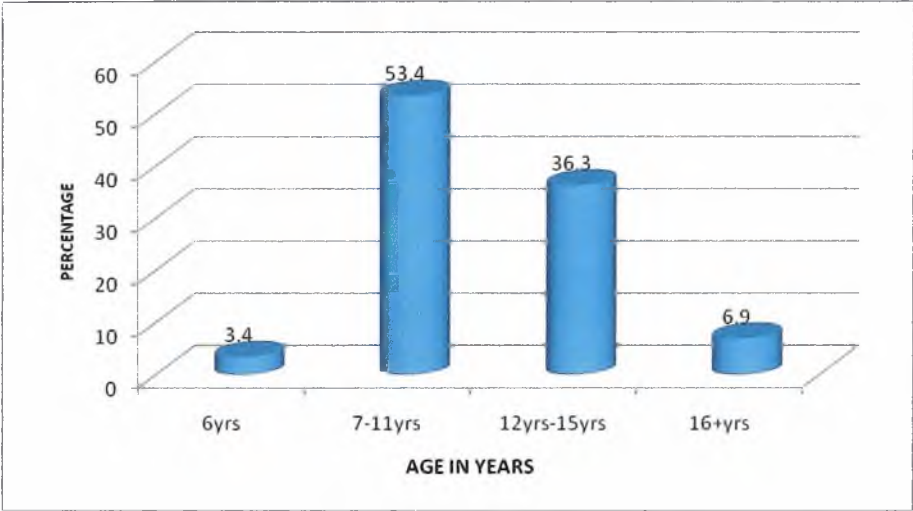
4.2 The demographic characteristics of the rescued children.

4.2.1 Age distribution of children

The Figure 4.7 shows the age distribution of the children. The ages of the children ranged between six years and eighteen years. Those between the ages of seven years and eleven years made up a high percentage of 53.4%. This category of children was docile, incapable of complaining to anybody about any ill-treatment metered out to them by their masters. They could also not refuse to take instructions from the adults, in effect they could be easily manipulated to work for long hours without complaining, this condition made them vulnerable to exploitation.

These children were very young and small in size such that, they could easily dive into the river to disentangle the nets down there and also to paddle the canoe. Again the major concern was that the children were still in their formative years that they should be in schools rather than in fishing and farming as it were.

Figure 4.7: Percentage Distribution of age range of children



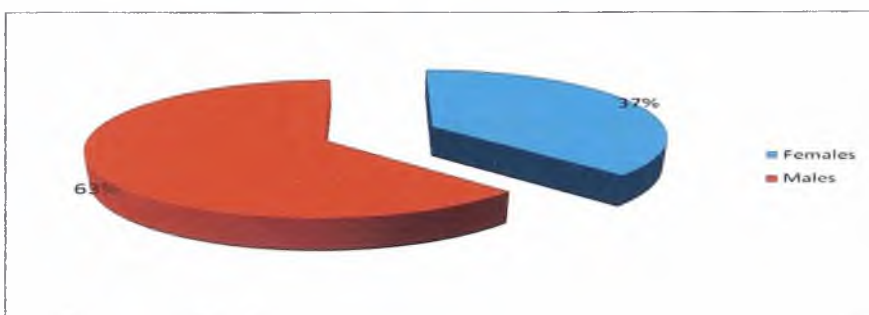
About 36.2% of the children were between the ages of 12years to 16 years. These children obviously fell within the more preferred age group, who were on high demand for cheap labour and other exploitative activities; because they were full of energy and vitality and could work for long hours without complaining.

4.2.2 Gender of rescued children

Unlike the guardians, the children who were rescued from trafficking were mostly boys whose ages ranged between the ages of 6-18 years as shown on Figure 4.8. Seventy-three of the respondents representing 62.9% were boys while only 43 representing

37.1% of the respondents were girls. The girls were much older than the boys were, with age ranges between 12 years and 18 years. The large number of boys involved was an indication that boys were mostly used for various activities in the fishing industry more than the girls were used. The boys did the most hazardous and dangerous and strenuous activities as weeding on the farms and going to fishing whilst the girls worked at home as domestic workers including minding of babies.

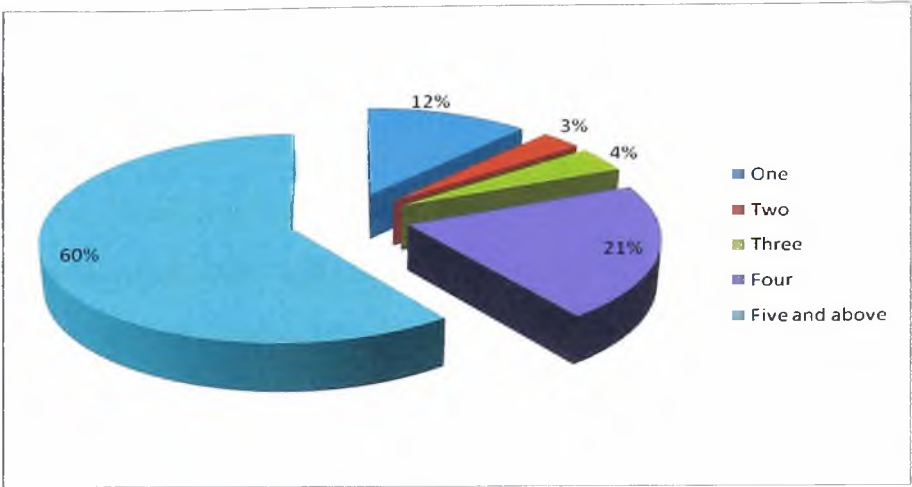
Figure 4.8: Percentage distribution of gender of children



4.2.3 Number of siblings and Family Size

Findings of the study as shown in Figure 4.9 revealed that, family sizes corresponded with the number of siblings the children had. The children with large number of siblings obviously came from families with large numbers. About 59.5% of the guardians had large family size above five and only 15.5% of the guardians had a small family size of less than three children. Large family size with their associated problems had always been cited in many researches as one of the major causes of child trafficking (Tengey 2000).

Figure 4.9: Percentage distribution of number of siblings of children



This was observed in the study area. It was evidenced that inability of parents to take care of the large families, led them to send some of their children away to work for money for various purposes. It was found out that, the children who had few siblings, were those who stayed with their own biological parents after been withdrawn from fishing.

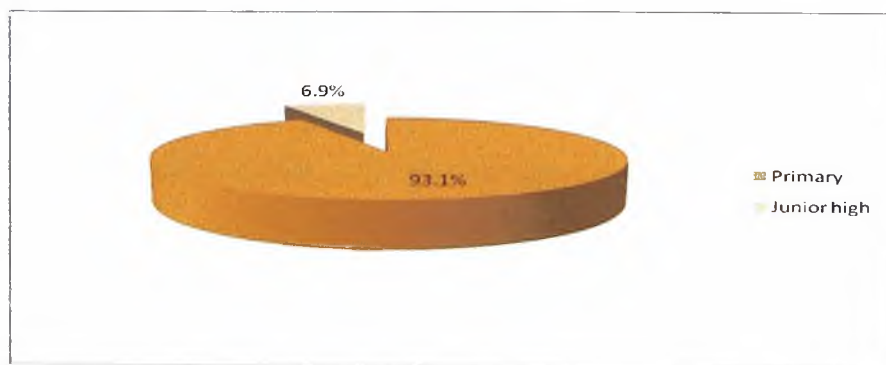
4.2.4 Educational level of children

Education is known to be a key factor in eliminating or reducing poverty, if these children would break the cycle of poverty hovering around them, they would need extra care and support to be well educated and acquire employable skills to earn a descent living. Until this is done, they would be repeating the cycle of low education resulting in low economic status of their parents. Since formal education of the children was a component of the rescue package, all the children were in school as could be found on

Figure 4.10. The study revealed that 93.1% of the children were in the primary school, with just about 6.9% in the junior high school. The large number of the children being in school was an indication that the rescue programme had promoted education among them.

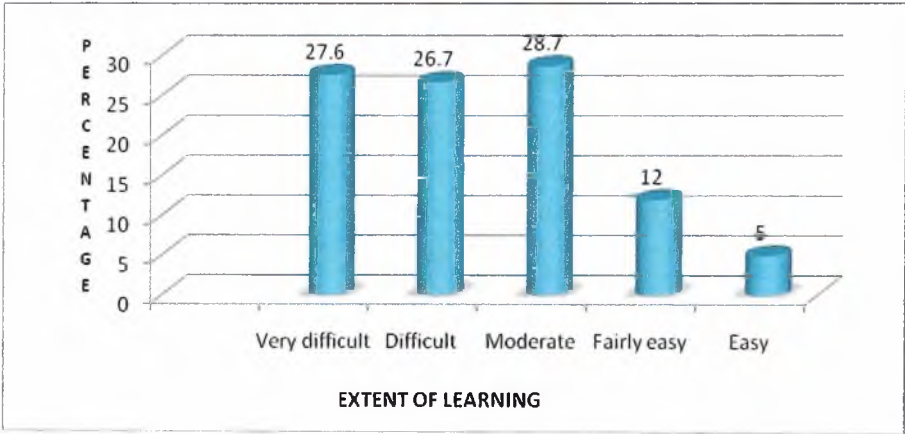
A brief assessment of the school performance record of some of the children in school revealed that even though it was good that the children were back to school, they lagged behind in some basic characteristics of formal school children. They could not speak or understand basic English language which was a medium of instruction for all Ghanaian school children. They also could not identify the alphabets or numerals at their present grade in school as compared with children of the same grade or lower. Their performance suggested that, they would need extra tuition, support and other vital resources to bring them up to the level of their colleagues who had not been trafficked in terms of performance in class. Most of the children could have been in the junior or senior high schools, if they had had proper parental care devoid of the trafficking issue as compared with other children in the same age range of 12 years and 18 years.

Figure 4.10: Percentage Distribution of Educational Level of Children



When the children were asked questions on how they found learning in school, about 27.6% of them said learning was very difficult, 26.7% said it was difficult, 28.7% found learning moderate and 12% found learning fairly easy while only 5% found learning easy. The difficulty in learning could be attributed to the fact that these unfortunate children sat in the same classroom with much younger children who were privileged to be taken good care of by their parents. (Refer to Figure 4.11).

Figure 4.11: Distribution of learning in school



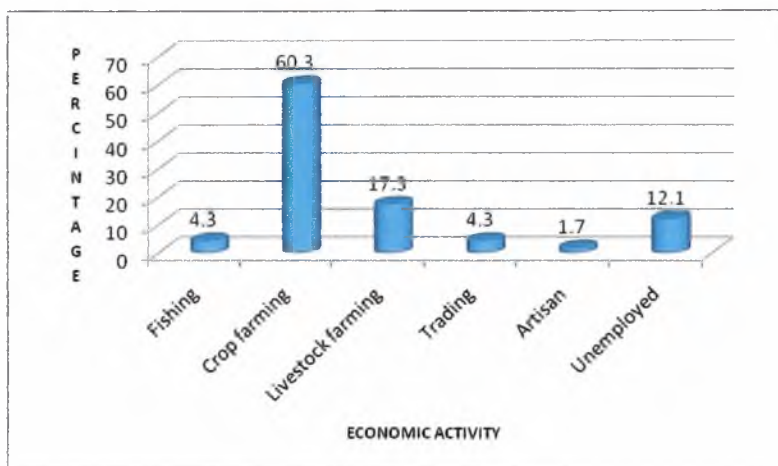
Those who found learning to be easy were also an indication of how some of the children were anxious to go to school. But the question is, looking at their present conditions could they be successful academically, if not, could the programme provide a better option for better alternative livelihood to guarantee their successful independent lives in future? The rescue programme does not make such facilities available to them and organizers should take note of that issue.

4.3 Factors influencing Child Trafficking

4.3.1 Major economic activities of guardians

Though the Agriculture is the leading economic activity in the District, it is characterized by low productivity. The low productivity is resulting from the continuous usage of indigenous farm implements and the adoption of indigenous farming practices. This put them in subsistence farming category. The Figure 4.12 illustrates the major economic activities undertaken by the guardians.

Figure 4.12: Percentage distribution of major economic activities of guardians



The study revealed that, almost all the guardians were working in the informal sector, specifically into subsistence farming, or in areas not recognized as work at all, especially the homemakers among them. Subsistence crop farming was the main source of livelihood for the people in these communities. About 60.3% of them were into subsistence crop farming. Mostly cassava, maize and vegetables were grown for domestic consumption with very little produce for sale. River fishing mostly in the Volta River had declined considerably due to the construction of the Volta Lake. Most

of the streams and ponds, cracks which used to contain lots of fish had been completely depleted due to the absence of the annual flooding from the Volta River that stocked them with fish, therefore only 4.3 % of them were into small scale inland fishing as compared with the 30% as quoted by the District Assembly archives. The inland fishing activities took them some distance away from home. About 17.3% of the guardians were into livestock farming with the most widely reared animals being goats, cattle, sheep and domestic poultry. More than 30% of the livestock reared were ruminants. This was revealed by the study and almost every household kept some livestock, at least on subsistence level.

The North Tongu District is one of the largest cattle producing areas in the country. Apart from the three major cattle ranches at Aveyime, Amelorkope and Adidokpavu, individual farmers keep Kraals all over the District. It was observed that most of the cattle kraals found in the communities had persons below the age of 18 years as cowboys. These boys spent most of their time with the cattle, they went out with the cattle at 5.00 am and came back home late in the afternoon at 5.00 pm (see Figure 4.13).



Figure 4.13: Picture of a boy shepherding family cattle



Upon interrogation, it was revealed that they spent the whole time with the cattle on the fields at the expense of their education, which might have contributed to high incidence of child labour in the region. In one of the kraals it was observed that a particular boy was so much used to the cattle to the extent that no other person could enter the kraal otherwise the cattle will stamp the person to death. Apart from the farming activities, about 4.3% of the guardians were into petty trading and items sold included foodstuffs, such as kenkey with fried fish, ‘aboloo’, one man thousand’ fingerlings and old news papers. Others also sold beverages and secondhand clothing. The remaining 12.1% of them were either unemployed or homemakers. The figure 4.12 shows the details of major economic activities of guardians. About 1.7% of the men were artisans whose activities ranged from bicycle repairs to construction masonry, and carpentry. These revelations by the respondents lend support to earlier research by Hevi-Yiboe, Aglobitse in *Women, Men and Housework in Ghana*, that indicated that, most rural

women engaged in economic activities that were not recognized as work and thus do not earn income enough to bring about improvement in their livelihood (Hevi-Yiboe, Aglobitse, 2004). It was therefore not surprising to find female heads of households in the study area, with similar characteristics. Again there was lack of vibrant economic activities in the study area. Some of these parents took some of their children along with them to look for greener pastures in other fishing communities.

4.3.2 Farming implements used by guardians

The study revealed that about 54% of the guardians used simple tools as cutlasses for farming while 45.1% used hoes and 0.9% used tractor. This was an indication that, the guardians were peasant farmers. This simple method of farming definitely could not have enabled them weed large farms and especially when it was expensive to engage hired labour. Proceeds from the small farms could not earn them much income to be able to take care of their children. This might have contributed to their poverty level. Table 4.1 shows the details of implements used by the guardians.

Table 4.1: Distribution of farming implements used by the guardians

<i>Implements used</i>	<i>No of guardians</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Cutlasses	63	54.0
Hoes	52	45.1
Tractor	1	0.9
Total	116	100

4.3.3 Resources available to families

From the study it was revealed that 81% of the guardians had farms as the only family assets available to them, these were farms meant to feed the family (Refer to table 4.2). The land tenure system was such that very few people owned the land on which they farmed in the communities as the lands were owned by clans and members of the clans could only farm on it at a time. A large clan with a small piece of land would then find it difficult to get sufficient piece of land to farm to feed the whole family. The study revealed that there was no proper documentation on these assets, it was therefore difficult to lease land to others for commercial farming activities. For this reason, vast arable lands lied fallow and could not be cultivated for fear of produce being confiscated after harvesting by the owners of the land who only waited and showed up when you were ready to harvest your produce.

Table 4.2: Distribution of resources available to the families

Type of resource	No	Percentage
Land	5	4
Farms	94	81
Capital-building	6	5
Others	11	10
Total	116	100

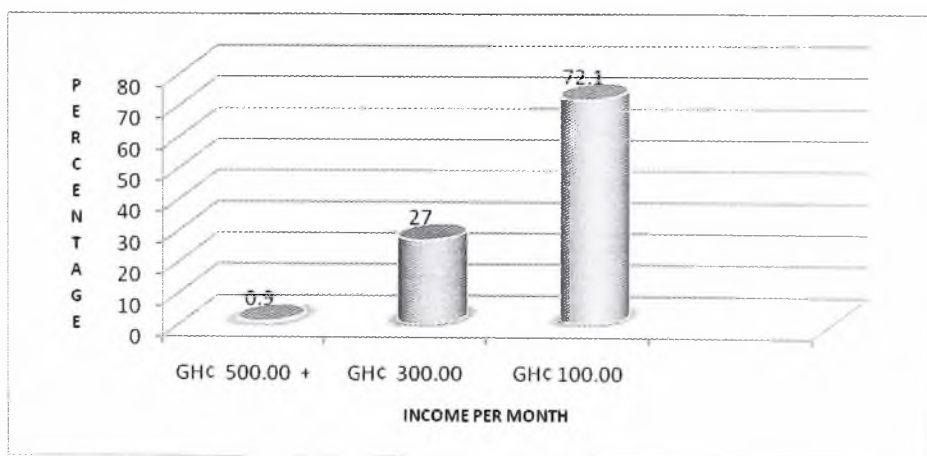
The land tenure system could therefore pose a great danger to farming activities and these collectively could contribute to the poor economic status of the people living in

the area. The type of building that they had as assets could not earn them extra income but only to give accommodation to the family members.

4.3.4 Monthly Income level of guardians

Income levels of the guardians were assessed by the total amount of money and other resources that were available to the family daily and computed to get the monthly value. The income available mainly came from remittances they received from migrant relatives, gifts from friends and well wishers. The sale of livestock also was a source of income for some respondents. The results of the study as shown in Figure 4.14 revealed that respondents earned just about GH¢100.00 and below which is equivalent to the minimum wage earned by unskilled workers in the cities.

Figure 4.14: Distribution of Monthly income for Guardians in Ghana cedis

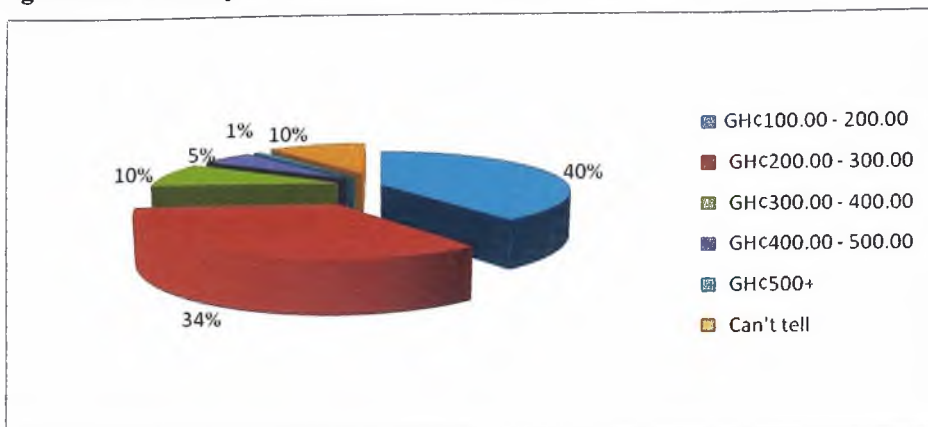


About 27% of the respondents were in the income category of GH¢300.00, an equivalent of the basic salary for a University graduate working in the government

sector. They were the respondents who received remittances from their migrant relatives as well as those that were into livestock farming. The only respondent whose income was GH¢500.00 was a retired government worker who was living in one of the communities but had three of his grand children who had migrated on their own to Yeji to work without his knowledge. One of the three grandsons was rescued while the two were still at Yeji. The conditions of the families indicated that the families were within the poverty line of US\$2.00 a day set by the Government of Ghana. Income poverty is the condition of not having enough income to meet basic needs of providing food, clothing, and shelter to the family. Because children were dependent on others, they entered into poverty by virtue of their families' low economic circumstances and therefore were likely to be trafficked because they were not able to take care of them.

4.3.5 Monthly expenditure of guardians

It was observed that the higher one earned the higher the expenditure, and from the interview, it was observed that the expenditures of the guardians exceeded their total monthly income. From the Figure 4.15, it was revealed that 39.7% of the respondents, spent between GH¢100.00 monthly while another 34.5% spent between GH¢200.00 and GH¢300.00 respectively. Those who spent between GH¢300.00 and GH¢400.00 were 11% while just about 1% spent above GH¢500.00. From the study it was again revealed that, the respondents spent more money on food, social gatherings, clothing, childcare, education, accommodation among others. Social events covered funerals, church programmes and others.

Figure 4.15: Monthly expenditure of families in Ghana cedis

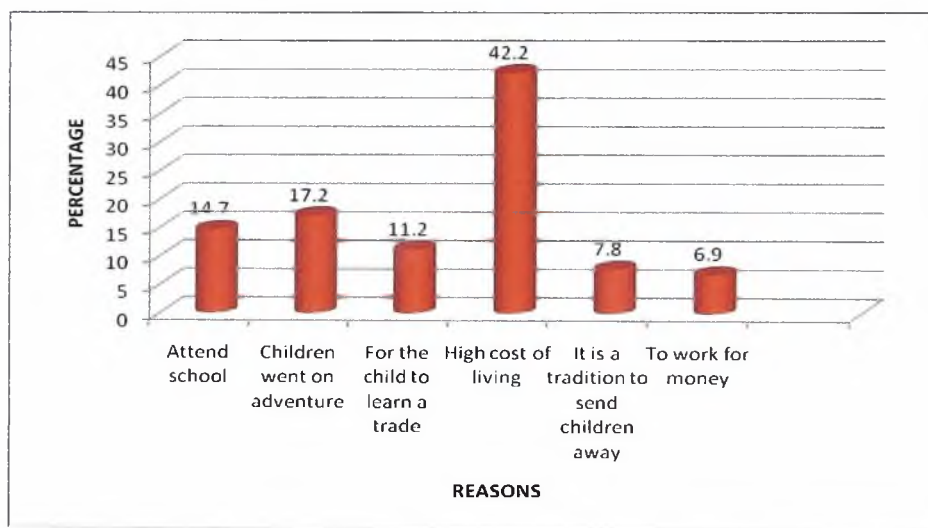
To explain how they were able to meet their expenditure as against their income, some of them said they received remittances from their migrant relatives and from the sale of livestock they reared.

4.3.6 Reasons for trafficking the children

Apart from the poor economic status of the households that compelled them to send the children away, other reasons for sending the children away were as shown in the Figure 4.16. Among the reasons were that, about 42.2% of the parents said they could not cope with the high cost of living in the area. This was because they were not in any gainful employment so could not afford to send the children to school. Another 7.8% said that, it was a tradition to send children away and did not see anything wrong with sending their wards to go out to work for money to prepare them for the future. This was obviously seen as a norm for them, everybody was migrating and so they followed suit.

Again the study revealed that, some of the guardians considered the practice as a socialization process for the children to be prepared for their adulthood. They thought it was an opportunity for the child to learn a trade as explained by 11.2% of the respondents, while 14.7% of the respondents wanted the children to attend school because they could not afford to see them through their education if they had stayed with them in the village. About 17.2% of the children said the parents were not able to provide them with their basic needs let alone put them in school, because they heard them complaining each time that they did not have money.

Figure 4.16: Distribution of reasons for children to be trafficked

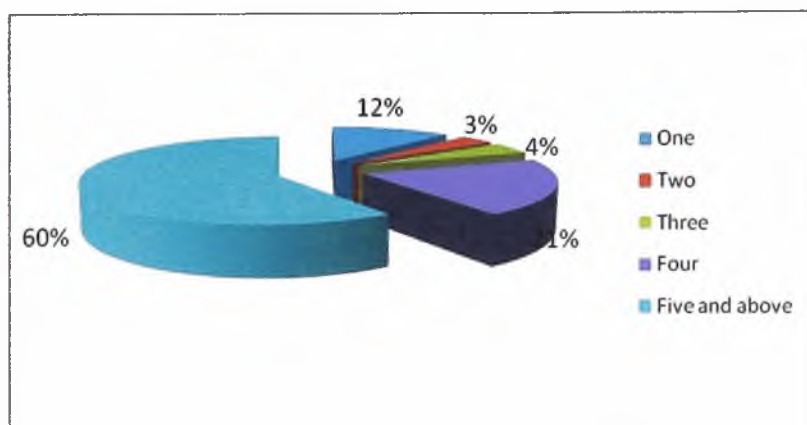


Again some of the children themselves thought it was fun to go out and work to get money so they initially were happy about been sent to Yeji. All these reasons given above made it so obvious that poverty played a significant role in the trafficking of the children.

4.3.7 The number of Children kept by one master

The results obtained from the study as shown in Figure 4.17, revealed that, most of the masters were keeping above five and more children as workers, about 40.5% of the masters were keeping these numbers and this tells us that many more of the children were there on the lake fishing.

Figure 4.17: The number of Children Kept by One master

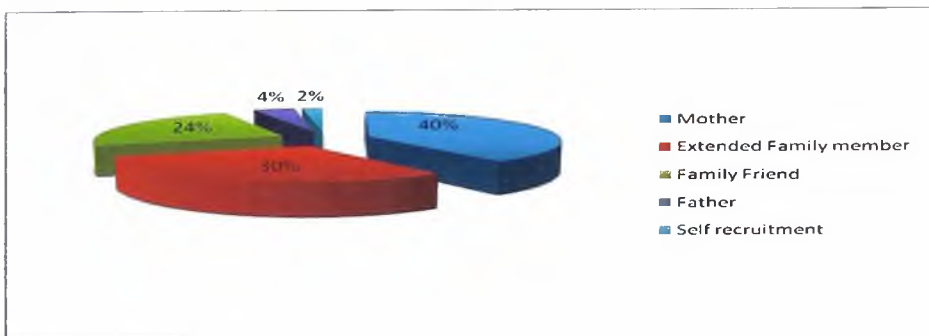


4.3.8 Those that sent the children away

Results from the study indicated that 40.5% of the children were sent away mostly by their biological mothers who were themselves migrants going to seek for greener pastures because life was difficult living in the village. Other family members that constituted 31.0% of those who sent the children away were mainly uncles and other close relations. Family friends formed 24.1% and surprisingly, fathers constituted only 4.3% of the total respondents (See Figure 4.18) for details. It was found out that, mothers had problems with providing for the needs of their children, with the reason

that, their husbands were not available to give them the needed support in taking care of the large number of children. These were those in the majority that sent their children away. These revelations again lent support to earlier research that indicated that those who trafficked children were close relations (Tengey, 2000).

Figure 4.18: Recruiters of the Children



4.3.9 Destinations of the children

Basically the incidence of child trafficking is an ongoing issue. The children were trafficked from Atteikpo and its environs in the North Tongu District to destinations as; Yeji, Gbeshawve, Kokope, Kpanblesu, Vugorme, Amedzroni, as shown on the Figure 4.20. These were all fishing communities along the Volta Lake up north. From the Figure 4.20, Yeji topped the list with about 65% of the children been sent there. This could be explained that Yeji as a busy and well known fishing and economic activity centre has a greater demand for more cheap labour to work in the fishing industry than the rest of the other fishing communities. Again with the availability of more social infrastructure as roads and entertainment resort, the place got attracted to the people more than the other fishing centers along the Volta Lake. It was revealed that most of the children's consents were not sought before they were sent to their destinations.

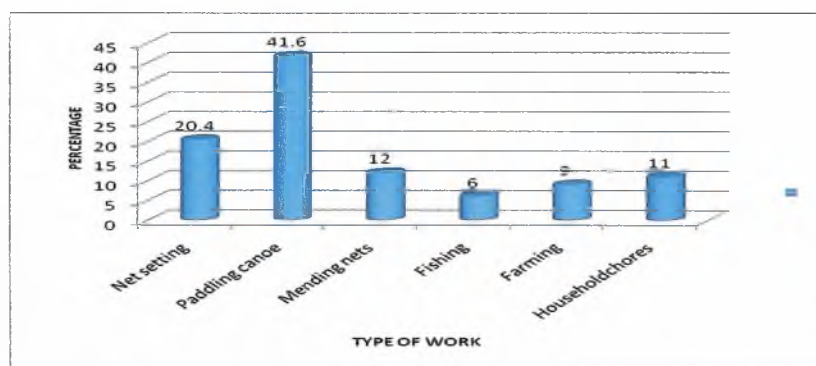
Asked whether they had an idea about where they were been sent to and what they were going to do? About 64.7% as against 35.3% said they did not have any knowledge about where they were being sent.

4.4. Conditions of work for the trafficked children

4.4.1 Types of work done by the children while away

Most of the children about 42.8% of them said they were engaged in paddling the canoe and 28% for net setting. Another 12% of the children said they were engaged in mending nets, 6% in fishing with the remaining 11.2% made up of mostly girls engaged in household chores (Refer to Figure 4.19).

Figure 4.19: Work done by trafficked children



A 12 year old boy named Moses Azagli who narrated his story, said he was sent to Yeji by his own biological mother together with his two other younger siblings. Whilst Moses was in Yeji, he was taught how to paddle a canoe by the mother who was into fishing. Both mother and the son worked for the master.

Figure 4.20: Researcher and some of the rescued children including Moses on extreme left



Life was so difficult, he never attended school, and on hearing of the arrival of the rescue team with the accompanied package, he readily accepted to go back home where he is now staying with the grandmother.

4.4.2 Payment for working for the masters.

About 12.1% of the children said they were paid in cash and another 4.3% of them said they were paid in cash and in kind which took the form of their upkeep and that of their parents back at home. Most of the children, about 83.6% of them could not tell whether they were paid or not. (Refer to Table 4.3). Out of the number who knew they were paid, 20% said the money was kept by their masters and 80% said they were kept by their parents with nothing going to the children. Despite the long hours of work, toil

and pain, only 16.4% as against 83.6% of the children were paid for their work. Those that were paid could not tell how much they were paid.

Table 4.3: Payment of work done by the children

<i>Kind of payment</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Paid in cash	14	12.1
Paid in kind	5	4.3
Could not tell	97	83.6
Total	116	100.0

4.5. Influence of Trafficking on the children

4.5.1 Treatment of the children by their Masters

On Table 4.4, the study revealed that about 50% of the children were treated harshly by their masters. The harsh treatment involved not been given food to eat as when they were hungry and needed food to eat, because they were asked to complete tasks assigned to them before food was given to them to eat which is usually late in the afternoon. According to some of the children, they sometimes had to steal some of the fish and sold them cheaply to raise money to buy food to eat. Again some of them with scares on their head explain that they were beaten with metal ropes for not finishing their work schedule on time especially when mending the nets.

Table 4.4: Treatment of the children by their ‘masters’

Treatment of the children	Number	Percentage
Treated harshly	58	50.1
Moderate treatment	35	29.9
Treated well	17	15.0
Cannot tell	6	5.0
Total	116	100.0

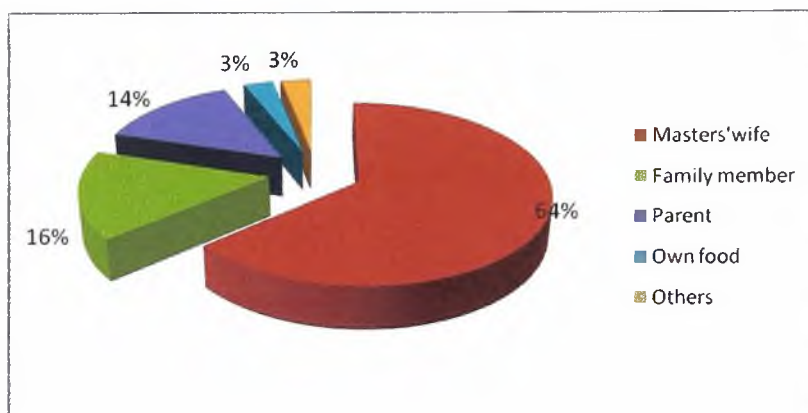
Another 30% received moderate treatment from their masters and this involved children not being given the same opportunity as given to other children of the master to play with friends, and have fun when they felt like doing, they had to hide and play otherwise they would be called to do some work. The remaining 15% were treated well because they were staying with a close relation such as uncles, aunties or grand parents, they enjoyed childhood because they did not have to work for long hours or assigned difficult tasks as mending nets and going to fishing at dawn.

4. 5.2 Feeding the children

On feeding the children, about 63.2% of them said they were fed by the masters through their wives. Again about 16% of them said they were fed by the extended family members, 14.7% said they were fed by family friends and others while 3% said they fed themselves. This is because after they had returned from fishing in the

afternoon, they were made to clean the boat to get it ready for the following day without eating. The wives of the masters cooked food for them only in the evenings. The Figure 4.21 below shows the number of children who were fed by the various people while working with the masters.

Figure 4.21: Feeding the children



The portion of food giving to them was always small which did not satisfy them they said. Even though they were fishing they were restrained from eating a big chunk of fish. A boy said one medium size of tilapia was selling at GH¢2.00 and the master could not afford to give it to them to eat that is how come they ate without fish.

They had little time to sleep and rest as they were the first to wake up at dawn or midnight to go out to fish, they were also the last to go to bed, and in fact they did not have any regular pattern for sleep. About 35.5% received moderate treatment while 17.2% received good treatments, which were translated to be given food and not being beaten regularly when they went wrong.

4.5.3 The hours of work for the children

The children could not really tell in concrete terms the duration of times of work each day, simply because they did not follow any pattern. It was clear that, the children went to fishing with their masters at dawn at 1: 00 am and worked throughout the night till 1: 00 pm daily. The Table 4.5 below shows the hours of work of the children.

Table 4.5: Hours of Work by the Children per Day

<i>Hours of work</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
4hrs	27	23.3
7hrs	43	37.1
11hrs	31	26.7
12 ⁺ hrs	10	8.6
Can't tell	5	4.3
Total	116	100

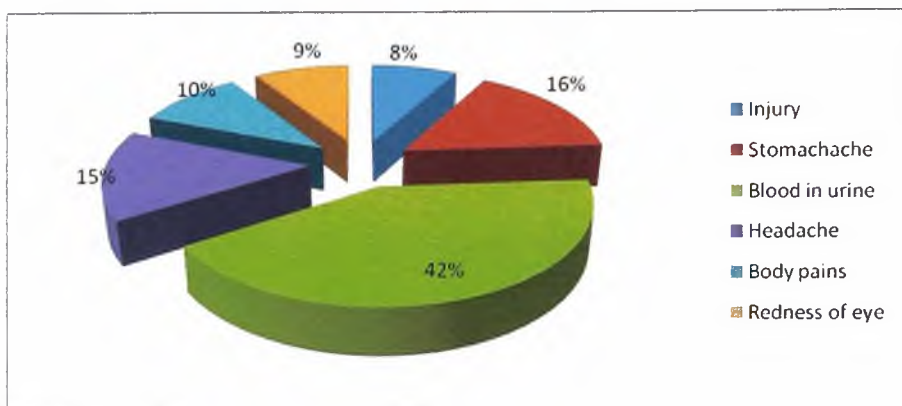
They only went home when they had accomplished their task for the day or when the master wanted to go home. In all the longest of hours of work for the children was between 15-17 hours a day, followed by 11-14 hours a day.

4.5.4 Diseases reported by the children

As a result of the kind of environment, kind of work done by the children and the poor care given to them, the children reported that they suffered diseases such as stomach ache, blood in urine, boils, redness of the eyes, and headache and waist pains among others. Of all these complaints, blood in urine with fluid dripping from the penis of the

boys as a result of bilharzias infection that topped the list with 42%. This was followed by 16% of stomachache, 15% of headache, 10% of body pains, 8% of injuries, 9% of redness of the eyes respectively. The Figure 4.22 below shows the diseases that attacked the children mostly.

Figure 4.22: Diseases reported by the children



By observation, they looked skinny and older than their age. This lent support to earlier research by (Wolff and Money, 1980), that stated that, abnormal sleep patterns in children inhibits growth hormones that is only released during deep sleep and thus resulting in growth problems.

4.5.5 How the children viewed the type of work assigned to them.

On the question on how the children viewed the type of work assigned to them, about 28.4% of the children said the work given them to do was very difficult work at times. The difficulty of the work was determined by what they did according to their age and strength. For an example some of the difficult work that they mentioned was paddling



the canoe, mending the torn nets after bumper catch of fish and diving into the river bed to disentangle nets. Another 39.7% of them said the work was difficult, 19.0% of them said their work was less difficult while 8.6% of them said their work was not difficult (Refer to table 4.6 for details)

Table 4.6: Children’s view on the type of work

<i>Extent of work</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Very Difficult	33	28.4
Difficult	46	39.7
Less Difficult	22	19
Not Difficult	10	8.6
Can’t tell	5	4.3
Total	116	100

4.5.6 Summary on effects of trafficking on the children

On the issue of influence of trafficking on the children, considering the economic, physical, social and educational effects, the responses gathered varied. Table 4.7 summarizes the influence of trafficking on children.

Table 4.7: Effect of trafficking on children

<i>Effect of trafficking on children</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Felt physically strong	15	12.9
Learnt a trade	35	30.2
Chance of going to school	10	8.6
Enjoyed better standard of living	19	16.5
Sustained physical injuries	37	31.8
Total	116	100.0

While about 30.2% of the children said trafficking had influenced them positively, because they had learnt a trade and could earn a living by that, 8.6% of them said they had the chance of going to school, an opportunity they would not have enjoyed if they had not been rescued, the rescue programme put the children in school.. About 12.9% of the children also said they felt stronger physically due to the constant paddling of the canoe, some as them cracked jokes and called themselves ‘slim matcho’ with literal meaning slim but strong. About 16.5% of them said they now enjoyed better standard of living because they had a taste of town life because when they went for fishing they sometimes stole some of the fish pocketed the money and sold them to buy food for themselves. On the negative side, 31.8% of the children said they had sustained physical injuries, which caused them pain frequently. Children’s play is very important for their social and physical development. Although child play is something done

simply for fun, developmentalist view children's play as work, a major means through which physical and social skills are strengthened (Berger, 1980). The extent to which the exodus had deprived them of this activity is enormous, just about 4.3% of the children said they had the opportunity to play with their mates while 95.7% of them said they did not have opportunities to play regularly with mates because they were always busy working.

Figure 4.23: Rescued children weaving basket.



Back at home some the children in an attempt to fend for themselves, engaged in basket weaving which were sold on market days and the proceeds used to buy food and secondhand clothing for themselves, (Refer to Figure 4.23)

4.6. Influence of Trafficking on the Families.

The respondents contented however that, the absence of the children had affected the families both positively and negatively. For an example 42.0% of guardians said that they felt good about trafficking because they received remittances from relatives in the fishing communities, which they used to provide for their basic needs. About 24% of the guardians were also not happy about the whole situation of child trafficking because of the dangers the children were exposed to (Refer to Table 4.8) Probably because of the awareness created by the project implementers, this had made them realize the dangers involved for children to be working in the fishing industry at the expense of their education. They were also not happy because the energetic youth had all left the communities. The burden of agricultural work especially for families that depended on agriculture for livelihood became too heavy for the old people left behind to shoulder. This could be a contributory factor to their low economic status, which is also contributing to the trafficking of children. This made child trafficking a cause and effect phenomenon in the area.

Table 4.8: Influence of trafficking on families.

<i>How they felt</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Good	49	42
Not happy	28	24
Can't tell	39	34
Total	116	100

Again probably the awareness created on dangers of child trafficking in the area could have prompted them not to be happy about the trafficking incident. Some of the children acquired certain bad behavior as stealing which the adults frowned on. About 34% of them did not experience any change at all, they thought it was a normal practice to experience life the hard way to succeed later.

4.6.1 The amount received

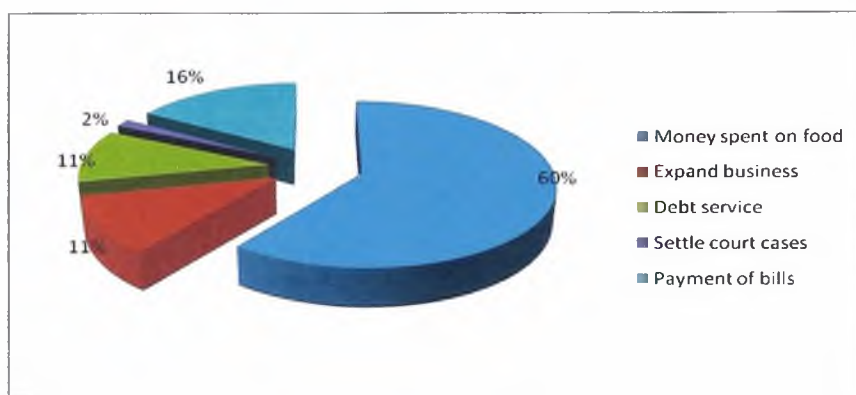
The rescue programme was packaged in such a way that an amount of money ranging between GH¢50.00 and GH¢100.00 were given to the guardians as remittance for withdrawing the children from the fishing industry. About 60% of the guardians received GH¢100.00. These were the respondents who had more than one child rescued, and the remaining 40% received GH¢50.00. The money was also meant to serve as an incentive for withdrawing their wards from the fishing industry and for the upkeep of the children. The children automatically enjoyed the free capitation grant offered by the government and in addition to that the children were given free school uniforms, exercise books and school bags. The masters were also given same amount ranging between GH¢50.00 and GH¢100.00 depending on the number of children he released, as compensation for freeing them.

4.6.2 How the money received was spent

From the Figure 4.24, the study found out that the respondents spent greater part of the money on food as indicated by 60% of the respondents. While 12% of the respondents said they used the money to expand their businesses. Furthermore about 16% was spent

on payment of bills including medical and electricity. Another 16% was spent on debt service furthermore, 2% of them spent the money settling court cases. According to the respondents, the amount of money they received from the rescue team had being of a great relief to them as they were saved from being sent to court for not been able to pay back their loans, secured for farming and other cases on land litigations among others.

Figure 4.24: How money received from the rescue team was spent



4.7. Assessment of the rescue programme on the welfare of the families of the rescued children.

The extent to which the rescue programme had influence on the households of the rescued children, did not suggest that the guardians as well as the children were fully satisfied with the contribution that the programme had made on their lives so far. For instance, the responses obtained on whether they were happy with the amount of money given them, about 59.5% of the guardians said yes but the extent of happiness was rather not strong (Refer to Table 4.9). On the contrary the questions that inquired

whether there should be an improvement and continuity of the rescue programme were very strongly appreciated. This was due to the immense contribution of the programme to the well-being of the household. About 87.9% as against 12.1% wanted a continuation of the programme but then wanted an improvement of the programme in terms of increase in the amount of money paid to them to take care of the children. From the study it was revealed that other rescue programmes by IOM had operated in the communities basically providing similar services, but the programme did not stay for long in these communities and was taken over by APPLE project. Only about 9.9% had received a package from IOM and 90.1% had benefited from APPLE project so much information could not be gathered on IOM project, invariable the packages were similar, they all had a component of free education for the kids and IOM went further to provide extra clothing for the kids.

Table 4.9: Expectation about the programme

<i>Views of guardians</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>Fairly agree</i>	<i>Do not agree</i>	<i>Total</i>
Happy with the money given out	3.4	12.1	38.8	5.2	40.5	100.0%
That the programme should continue	24.1	15.5	0.1	24.1	36.2	100.0%
I had great relieve	12.9	18.1	4.3	39.7	25.0	100.0%

To continue with the programme, 87.9% of the respondents wanted a continuation as against 23.1% of them who said no to the question posed. For the programme to be continued a number of reasons were that about 50.9%, said they wanted a continuation

of the programme so that the poor and vulnerable could be helped. Another 21.6% of them wanted to bring back the entire trafficked children. About 12.1% of them wanted to see the needs of other children being met by the programme. For the kind of improvements, 68.1% of the respondents suggested an increase in the amount of money paid to them. Another 31.9% of the respondents wanted other forms of assistance from the rescue programme.

4.7.1 Assessment of the rescue programme on the welfare (well-being) of the rescued children.

The main purpose for the rescue programme was to set the children free from bondage and promote the welfare of the children through education, social and other skills development for their future independent lives. The first agenda was therefore to withdraw the children from the fishing activity and set them free from their bondage as the conditions under which they worked in the fishing activities were considered not good for their welfare. This target was achieved by the rescue team negotiating with the masters and withdrawing the children from the fishing activities. The children indicated that they were happy. For instance, 92.2% of them as against just 3.4% said they were happy to have been withdrawn and sent back home.

To ascertain whether the drive to send the children away was financially motivated the respondents were asked to state their aspirations in life and indicate whether they intended to achieve that through what they would receive from child trafficking. Those who intended to be rich by sending their children away were 23.3%, while those who

wanted to expand their businesses through money received from trafficking were 56.9%. Another 19.8% said they wanted a better standard of living that was translated to mean that the child would grow up to be successful fishermen as their ancestors were. That was why they sent the children away. To meet these aspirations, 87.9% of the guardians said they invested the money given them in their businesses.

4.8 Testing of Hypothesis on influence of the rescue programme on families and the welfare (well-being) of the rescued children

The Pearson, Moment Correlation Co-efficient, was used to determine the strength and relationship between the dependent and independent variables and to test the hypotheses as stated in Section 1.4. In the discussions, a correlation matrix explaining the web of relationships among these related variables were used to infer the outcomes. The extent to which some of these factors influenced other factors positively or negatively were also considered. Pearson Moment Correlation Co-efficient that measures the relationships between two or more variables is represented as r , where the ranges of coefficient between -1 and +1 were considered to be as follows:

<u>Range of r</u>	<u>Descriptive label for r</u>
(-0.2) - (0)	Negatively very low correlation
(-0.21) - (-0.4)	Negatively low or weak correlation
(-0.41) - (-0.7)	Negatively moderate correlation
(-0.71) - (-0.91)	Negatively high correlation
< (+ 0.20)	Very low or very weak correlation
(+0.21)- (+0.40)	Low or weak correlation

(+0.41)- (+ 0.70)	Moderate correlation
(+0.71)- (+0.91)	High or strong correlation
> (+0.91)	Very high or very strong correlation
(Adapted from Sarantos, 1994)	

Where* means correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed). And ** means correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). Where $r = 0$, it means there is no correlation.

The measurement for child trafficking was attained by summing up all the responses of indicators under the variable. The indicators for child trafficking included the number of children sent away, the number of children the families had, generated from the number of siblings the children had. The economic status of the families of rescued children (guardians) was measured by summing up the responses under the economic indicators such as the incomes, educational levels, and resources available to the family.

4.8.1 Testing of Hypothesis One

Hypothesis One states that: 'There is a positive relationship between the economic status of the families of rescued children (guardians) and child trafficking.' Under this hypothesis, the indicators used to determine the economic status of guardians, were the educational level, resources available to the family including monthly income and expenditure of guardians. This was done to find out if guardians were economically sound to be able to take care of the children. Child trafficking was determined by the number of children trafficked and the number of children kept by the masters as well as

the number of siblings for the rescued children. Table 4.10 illustrates the outcome of the correlation between the economic status of guardians and child trafficking).

Table 4.10: Relationship between economic status of guardians and child trafficking

Independent variable	Dependent variable		
	Child trafficking		
	rho (r)	df	p value
Economic status (Poverty)	0.591	114	0.000 (S)

The correlation ($r = 0.591$) suggests there is a statistically significant, with moderate positive relationship between economic status of guardians (poverty) and child trafficking. This means that if all other extraneous variables are held constant, there is the tendency for high poverty levels to increase child trafficking within the study area and vice versa. It suggests also that if measures are put in place to reduce or improve poverty levels, there is the likelihood that the incidence of child trafficking in the study area would reduce. This is what the rescue programme is supposed to address by supporting these fisher folks and other respondents in the study area financially and with income generating activities. Based on this finding, hypothesis one that states that “There is a positive correlation between economic status of families of rescued children and child trafficking” is accepted.

4.8.2 Testing of Hypothesis Two

The second hypothesis states that, ‘There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children. Considering the benefits of the programme, the indicators that were aggregated were the money paid to the guardians, and the package for the children to be in school. From the Table 4.11, the correlation ($r = -.760$, $p<.000$) suggests there is a significantly strong negative relationship between the rescue programme introduced and the economic status of families of the rescued children.

Table 4.11: Relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of families

Independent variable	Dependent variable		
	Rescue programme		
	rho (r)	df	p value
Economic status	-0.760	101	0.000 (S)

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

This means that if all other extraneous variables were held constant, these rescue programmes although were meant to affect the economic status of respondents positively, rather affected the economic status of families negatively without improving them as was expected. Based on these findings, if measures like the rescue programmes are put in place, it is unlikely to improve respondents’ economic status. This rather unfortunate situation could be explained that, the rescue programme gave short economic relief to the guardians as per responses provided, some of the guardians said they spent the money on paying off debts and other bills instead of improving their

economic status. It was therefore not surprising that the guardians’ income could not promote child well-being. After their schooling these children had to help guardians earn an income to sustain the family, thus some of them found themselves back into ‘slavery.’ They advised that the issue of child trafficking could be reduced tremendously if at least these children were supported till they started working or earning incomes to sustain their own livelihoods and are self sufficient. Thus in their opinion, the sustainability of the programmes are essential. Based on this finding, hypotheses two which states that, ‘There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children is rejected.

4.8.3 Testing of hypothesis three

The third hypothesis stated that, ‘There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children.’ Under this hypothesis the indicators that were aggregated to form the variables concerned were the package given to the children by the programme on return, the children being sent to school and the improvement in their welfare, including considering being able to play, interact freely and ask questions, their views and how they felt about the programme.

Table 4.12 Relationship between rescue programmes and the welfare of rescued children

Independent variable	Dependent variable		
	Well-being of Rescued Children		
	rho (r)	df	p value
Rescue Programme	0.409	105	0.000 (S)

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The correlation ($r = 0.409$) suggests there is a statistically significant weak positive relationship between rescue programmes and the welfare of rescued children. This means that if all other extraneous variables are held constant, there is the tendency for the rescue programmes to improve the welfare of children within the study area and vice versa. It suggests also that if more of these rescue programmes targeting the children are put in place, there is the likelihood that the well-being of trafficked children will improve considerably. Based on this finding, hypothesis three that states that “There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children” is accepted. However, household income and the money received from the rescue team were negatively significant in relation to the economic well-being of the guardians and well-being of the children. The low income of the families in the study area might have contributed to the low poverty status and even led to some of the households sending their children into “slavery”. It was therefore not surprising that the guardian’s income could not promote child well-being.

4.9. Children’s Future aspirations

The children when asked about their future plans, 20.7% of them said they would want to be soldiers, 15.5% of the children wanted to be traders, 19.8% of them wanted to be teachers, while 10.3% of them wanted to be nurses. Table 4.13 shows the various future aspirations of the children.

Table 4.13: Distribution of Children's future aspirations

<i>What the children said</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Be a Soldier	24	20.7
Trade	18	15.5
Want to be a teacher	23	19.8
Want to attend school	4	3.4
Nurse	12	10.3
Doctor	5	4.3
Hair Dressing	5	4.3
Do not know	25	21.6
Total	116	100

Those who wanted to be doctors were 4.3%. Others also wanted to be hairdressers, nurses and Teachers respectively. Unfortunately none wanted to be fishermen. With the current poor economic situation of the families, these aspirations may not be achieved if nothing was done to rectify their current situation. The study again sought to find out whether the respondents were aware of the human rights implications of trafficking. Even though the issue about child trafficking in Ghana had gained root in most communities, many people especially those who were involved thought it was a normal practice. It was evident that the awareness level of the illegal implication was very low. The table 4.14 below shows the awareness level of the people about laws against trafficking in the Country.

Table 4.14: Knowledge of guardians about existing laws on child rights

<i>What the adults said</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Knowledge about the law	72	62.1
I know I do not understand	40	34.5
I have a fair idea from the media	4	3.4
Total	116	100.0

In most cases, about 64.7% of the respondents as against 31.0% of the children's consents were not sought before sending them away, this shows the low participation level of children in taken decisions on issues that affect them. About 62.1% of the respondents said they knew about the laws against child trafficking through the media especially radio discussions and activities of NGOs in the area. Another 34.5% of the respondents said they were aware of the laws but did not understand the interpretations, while 3.4% of the respondents did not have information about the laws at all. Again 61.2% of the respondents as against 38.8% of them considered the trade as a bad practice after being sensitized.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 SUMMARY

The study sought to examine the factors that contributed to child trafficking in the study area and also to assess the contribution of the ongoing rescue programme under APPLE a local based civil society organization. The three hypotheses were tested by Pearson's Moment Correlation Coefficient to find out the relationship between the dependent and the independent variables.

The Specific objectives of the study were to:

- a) Find out the demographic characteristics of the children and their guardians.
- b) Assess the factors that encouraged child trafficking in the study area.
- c) Assess the conditions of work for the trafficked children.
- d) Assess the influence of child trafficking on the rescued children.
- e) Investigate the influence of the rescue programmes on the welfare of the rescued children.
- f) Ascertain the influence of the rescue programmes on the economic status of the guardians of the rescued children.

The target population comprised guardians and rescued children living in seven communities in the North Tongu District of the Volta Region visited. These villages had rescued children living with their guardians. In all, one hundred and sixteen (116) households, with a rescued child and a guardian, who were available at the time of the study, were interviewed. Instruments used for data collection included structured interview schedules. These were self-administered to the guardians and children

separately by researcher and two trained research assistants from APPLE rescue programme. The respondents were asked the questions individually and directly, verbal permission was sought from the parents before the children were interviewed. Data collected were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software programme. The results were presented in descriptive statistical form.

The results of the study revealed further that, poverty was a contributory factor to the trafficking of children in the study area. Findings of the study further revealed that the practice of sending children to work in the fishing industry was considered as socialization process where children would learn the trade of their parents. It was again revealed that while many of the children migrated to the fishing communities with their biological parents, a few were trafficked by other relations. The study again showed that the custody of the rescued children was taken by the female household heads who were also the grandparents of the children. Such children suffered various forms of abuse while working for their masters. The worst of it all was that they were not in school, which seriously affected their social and educational well-being. The study also found out that although these rescue programmes could not solve the economic problems of families in totality, it helped put these children in school thus promoted their social and educational well-being. It was again revealed that despite the deplorable conditions of the children they had high aspirations of becoming doctors, soldiers, nurses, traders and hairdressers in future.



The following hypotheses were tested;

H₁: There is a positive relationship between the economic status of the families of rescued children and child trafficking.

H₂: There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the economic status of the guardians of the rescued children.

H₃: There is a positive relationship between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children.

Pearson's Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to test the hypotheses, to determine the significance in relationships between economic status of the families of the trafficked children and child trafficking. The correlation between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families and also between the rescue programme and the wellbeing of the rescued children were tested.

The results of the first hypothesis to find out the relationship between the economic status of the families of the rescued children and child trafficking revealed that, the economic status of guardians had a moderately positive correlation with child trafficking, indicating that when the parents were poor they were likely to traffick their children thus accepting the first hypotheses.

The second hypothesis was also tested to find out the correlation between the rescue programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children (guardians). The test revealed that, there was a strong negative correlation between the rescue

programme and the economic status of the families of the rescued children (guardians). This indicated that the rescue programme was not effectively improving the economic status of families of rescued children (guardians) because the duration and amount of financial support given these children and their families was inadequate to help them stand on their own 'two feet' or support themselves to earn a livelihood. Thus the second hypothesis was rejected.

The third hypothesis was also tested to find out the correlation between the rescue programme and the well-being of the rescued children. The test revealed that, the rescue programme had a significantly weak positive correlation with child well-being thus the third hypothesis was also accepted. This indicated that the rescue programme could promote child wellbeing. This could be attributed to the fact that the rescue programme made provision for the children to be in school which promoted their educational and social development as compared with the time that there were in the fishing communities. The children had good aspirations in life but as to whether these aspirations could be realized is another issue altogether, the economic status of the families presently could not provide the environment for these aspirations to be met, it must be changed by modifying the programme to provide more continuous and sustainable relief to the guardians.

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were made.

1. The study concluded that, there was the existence of child trafficking and adult migration in the study area. Close relations including mothers migrated with their children to these fishing centers in search of greener pastures.
2. The study also revealed that these children were sent to work with the intention that they were being socialized to earn a living and take up their parents trade so they can live independent lives in future.
3. The study concluded that, some factors that contributed to the trafficking of the children included poor economic status of parents such that they could not provide for the needs of the children in the area.
4. The study again concluded that trafficking had affected the children's educational development and this was evident from their poor academic performance records and total wellbeing. The rescue programme had however to an extent help improve this situation.
5. Even though the rescue programme had not improved the economic status of the guardians, it had tremendously influenced the lives of the children, since they were now in school.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

If child trafficking should be eliminated through interventions as the ongoing rescue programmes in the country, then a more holistic approach should be adopted involving all stake holders responsible for the total development of the child. These stakeholders

could Traditional Rulers, Faith based leaders, Teachers, Parents the Children among others.

The following suggestions are therefore recommended:

1. Parents should be made aware by government and civil society groups that they are the primary socialization agents for their children and therefore should work hard to bring up their own children, support them in their childhood years so that they can develop better potentials for better living in future.
2. Parents could also be educated through community action programmes organized by District Assemblies about the dangers of giving away their children to unknown people to live with Government should intensify, realistic alternative livelihood programmes to help parents earn realistic incomes to support their children's education and provide other basic care.
3. Special educational programmes could be organized by the Ghana Education Service for the rescued children so that they can be absorbed into the normal schooling system and for them to perform better academically as those children who were not trafficked. The rescue programmes should be structured such that the real parents of the children are located and made to take custody of their children instead of grandmothers.
4. The issue about good parenting and information about the human trafficking Act should be emphasized as part of community based educational programmes organized by the District Assemblies. Further studies should be conducted to find

out more innovative ways of disentangling nets and safe way of fishing to avoid the use of children in the process.

5. Interventions that promote the welfare of women should be encouraged since most of the heads of household were women. This should include decision making processes at the community level. This awareness exercise could be undertaken by Traditional Leaders, Civil Society organizations, Faith based groups among others
6. The major message given by the respondents to the authorities, stakeholders and duty bearers of children's well-being was simply to withdraw all children who were working in the fishing communities and send them to their parents to fulfill the rights and dignity of the children as human beings as stated in our constitution of 1992 and other international documents that have been ratified by Ghana.
7. It was recommended that, policy makers and donor agencies should revise the rescue programmes, to meet the needs of the children and guardians.
8. Government should educate parents to know their responsibilities towards their children.



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APPENDIX 1

Influence of rescue programmes on families of trafficked children in the North Tongu District

Interview schedule for Guardians of rescued children in the North Tongu District in the Volta Region

Introduction

The aim of this interview schedule is to collect data to find out the influence of child trafficking on the families and impact of the rescue programmes on the families of trafficked and rescued children in the North Tongu District. Volta Region. The information is required for an M. Phil Research by the researcher, an M. Phil student of the Department of Home Science, University of Ghana, and Legon. You are assured that any information provided will be treated as confidential and will be for research purposes only.

Name of village

SECTION A: Demographic characteristics of guardian of rescued child

Name (Optional)..... Serial No []

Please tick the appropriate box where necessary:

1. Gender of respondent

a) Male [] b) Female []

2. Age ... Specify

a) Under 20 [] b) 20-30 [] c) 31-40 [] d) 41-50 []
e) 51-60 [] f) Above 60 []

3. What is your relationship to child?

Specify.....

4. What is your educational level?

- a) Primary [] b) Junior High [] c) Senior High []
 d) Vocational [] e) Abandoned school [] f) none above []

5. Are you married?

- a) Yes [] b) No []

6. How many spouses do you have if married?

- a) 1 [] b) 2 [] c) 3 [] d) Above 3 [] e) None []
 f) Widowed [] g) divorced []

7. How many children do you have?

Specify.....

8. Type of house hold.

- a) Male headed [] b) female headed []

9. How many of your children were sent away?

- a) 1 [] b) 2 [] c) 3 [] d) 4 []

10. How many of the Trafficked children have returned?

- a) 1 [] b) 2 [] c) 3 [] d) None []

11. Composition of household summary

Name	Relationship to head	Sex	Marital status	Age	Education	Occupation

SECTION B; Economic activities of respondents**12. Do you have any family business or trade?**

a) Yes [] b) No []

12b. If yes specify.....**13: Indicate whether you are fully or partially or not involved in the vocations below**

Types of work	Fully	Partially	Not at all
Crop farming			
Fishing			
Livestock farming			
Trading			
Artisan			
Unemployed			
Housewife			

14. What activities do you do in the business or trade? Eg. Weeding

Specify.....

15. What activities do children do in the family business?

Specify.....

Income of guardians**16. How much total income is available to you monthly?**

a) Below the GHC 80.00 line []

b) GHC 300.00 []

c) GHC 500.00+ []

17. Indicate other resources that are available to the family to meet their financial needs?

Resources that are available to the family	YES	NO
Human capital / skill		
Material resource		
Immovable assets/land/farm etc		
Investment; Insurance, Pension, T/bill		

17b. Specify the resource.....

Monthly Expenditure of guardians

18: How much do you spend on food, accommodation and other items monthly?

Item	Amount spent Monthly/daily
Food/water	
Health	
Accommodation/Rent	
Clothing	
Education/child care	
Transport	
Fuel	
Miscellaneous	

18b. Specify amount spent.....

a) GHC 80.00 ☐

a) GHC 300.00 ☐

b) GHC 500.00 ☐

19. How much were you spending on same items when the child was away?

Specify the amount.....

20. How do you meet all your financial needs?

Specify.....

Farming practices and land tenure system**21. How do you acquire land for farming?**

- a) Family land [] b) Partnership [] c) Own land [] d) Labourer []
e) Hire the land [] f) Any other specify.....

22. Who owns the land on which you farm?

- a) Spouse [] b) Family land [] c) Rent [] d) Own land []

23. What type of farming system do you practice?

- a) Subsistence farming [] b) Commercial farming []
c) Any other specify

23b. Types of crops grown specify.....

24. What type farm implement do you use for farming?

State which

25. What you do with the produce from the farm?

Specify.....

26. How much of your produce do you sell?

Specify the amount.....

27. What type of accommodation is available to you?

- a) Renting [] b) Own house [] c) Family house []
d) Squatting [] e) Homeless [] f) Others specify.....

28. What kind of building material is used for building the house?

- a) Land Crete with galvanized roofing sheets []
- b) Mud house with thatched roofing []
- c) Any other specify.....

29. Indicate medical facility you use when sick by ticking yes or no?

Medical Facility used when sick	Yes	No
NHIS Card		
Herbal Treatment		
Private Clinic		
Self medication		
Religious means/prayers/deliverance		
None		

SECTION C:

Influence of trafficking on child; Mode of trafficking the children / Recruitment /Nature of trafficking

30. Who sent the child away?

- a) Close relative [] b) Family friend []
c) Somebody unknown to the family [] d) Parent []
e) Others specify.....

31. Where was the child sent to?

- a) Greater Accra Region [] b) Northern Region []
c) Outside Ghana [] d) Other fishing communities specify.....

32. By what means was the child transported to the destination? (Transport)

- a) By vehicle [] b) By boat [] c) Foot path []
 d) Any other []

33. What type of work were you expecting the child to be doing?

- a) Fishing [] b) House help [] c) Drivers mate [] d) Do not know []
 e) Fish processing [] f) Selling [] g) Crop Farming []
 h) Any other. State.....

34. How long did you expect the ward/child to stay away?

- a) Till he/she finished learning the trade [] c) I do not know []
 b) Till he/she completed her education []
 d) Other specify.....

Reasons for trafficking children**35. What compelled you to send your ward away?**

Tick the appropriate reason for sending the child away?

Type of reason for sending the child away	Yes	No
Work to pay Loan		
Child to learn a trade		
Child to attend school		
Betrothal		
Parents cannot take care of themselves and the child		
Unemployed parents and adults		
It is a tradition to send children away		

35b. Any other specify.....

36. How has the absence of the child affected the life of the family?

- a) Better standard of living for the family [] b) Greater self esteem []
c) Respect for the family [] d) Any other specify.....

37. How does the trafficking of children affect the life of the children?

- a) Child learns trade from it. []
b) Child becomes academically good at school []
c) Child looks healthy [] d) Better standard of living for the child []
e) Child has greater self esteem [] f) Child has no time to play with []
g) Others specify.....

SECTION D; Influence of the rescue programmes on Families

38. Assess the influence of the rescue programme as measured as follows:

5 Agree strongly, 4 Agree, 3 Uncertain, 2 Moderately agree and 1 Do not agree.

I am happy with money I received	5	4	3	2	1
I am happy to see my child back	5	4	3	2	1
I derived a greater relief from the amount given me	5	4	3	2	1
I would want a continuation of the programe	5	4	3	2	1
I want the compensation amount increased by 100%	5	4	3	2	1
I want the programme to take the full cost of my child's upkeep and education					

39. Who received the assistance from officials of the rescue programmes?

- a) Spouse [] b) Child [] c) Extended family member []

d) Any other person specify.....

40. How much did you receive?

a) Quote the Amount.....]

b) Other benefits in kind, specify.....

41. What was the money spent on?

a) Food [] b) Service my debt []

c) Expand my business [] d) Pay my bills []

e) Any other specify.....

42. How did the amount serve as a relief for you?

a) Saved me from being sanctioned []

b) Saved my business from collapse []

c) Any other specify.....

43. How has the program benefited you?

Specify.....

44. Would you want a continuation of the programme?

Yes [] b) No []

44b. If yes state Why.....

45. What would you want to see improved?

a) Increase amount [] b) Other forms of assistance []

c) State how

46. Have you benefited from other similar programmes?

a) Yes [] b) No []

46b. If yes Specify

47. Which of the programmes did you like most and why?

Specify.....

48. What are your aspirations in life?

Specify.....

49. Do you consider trafficking of children a bad practice?

a) Yes [] b) No []

49b. If yes give reasons

50. Are you aware of the sanctions involved in selling your child?

- a) Knowledge about the law []
- b) I know I do not understand []
- c) I have fair idea from the media []

51. What measures do you want to be put in place to stop the practice in the community?

- a) Community surveillance team to apprehend culprits []
- b) Traditional authority sanctions the perpetrators []
- c) The Police to apprehend culprits []

52. Are you aware about laws against the trafficking of children to work for other people for money?

a) Yes b) No

53. If yes how did you get the information?

Specify.....



54. How is the child made to respond to issues concerning them?

- b) Encouraged to talk about issues as they arise []
- c) Discouraged from discussing issues with parents []
- d) Children must not sit among adults []
- e) Any other specify

55. What is the perception about children in the community?

- a) Children are gifts from God [] b) They are considered as assets []
- c) Can reason [] d) Can not think [] e) Troublesome beings []
- f) Any other specify.....

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME.

Appendix II

Influence of rescue programmes on families of trafficked children in the North Tongu District

Interview schedule for the rescued children

Locality...

Section A: Demographic characteristics of the Rescued child

Name of child:

1. Gender:

a) Male [] b) Female []

2. Age of child

Specify....

3. Other siblings of child

Specify.....

4. Educational Status of child

a) Primary Level [] b) Junior High [] c) Senior High []

d) Not applicable []

5. Birth order of child.

a) First [] b) Second [] c) Third [] d) Fourth –Ten []

e) Above ten []

6. Who are you staying with?

a) Mother [] b) Father [] c) Sibling []

d) Extended family member [] e) Family friend [] f) Staying alone []

g) Any other specify.....

Section B. The influence of Child Trafficking on the child

7. Who sent you away?

- a) Mother [] b) Father [] c) Sibling []
e) Extended family member [] e) Family friend []
f) Staying alone []
g) Any other specify.....

8. Where were you sent to?

Name the place

9. How did you get to your destination?

- a) By vehicle [] b) By boat [] c) Foot path []
d) Any other specify.....

10. What were you sent there to do?

Specify.....

11. What work were you engaged in? Specify.....

12. To what extent was the work given you difficult?

- a) Very difficult [5] b) Difficult [4] c) Less difficult [3]
d) Not difficult [2] e) Do not know [1]

13. How many hours were you working?

- a) -4 [] b) 5-7 [] c) 8-11 [] d) above 12 hours []

14. Were you paid for working?

- a) Yes [] b) No []

15. How much were you paid?

Specify the amount.....

16. What were the modes of payment?

a) Cash [] b) Any other specify.....

17. Who kept the money?

a) Father [] b) Mother [] c) Both [] d) Older siblings [] e) Extended family []
f) Friend [] g) None above []

18. Who gave you food?

a) Father [] b) Mother [] c) Both [] d) Older siblings []
e) Extended family [] f) Friend [] g) Philanthropist []

19. How many other children from your community or other areas were there with you?

Specify].

20. How did you feel when you were told you were going back to your home town?

a) Very happy [] b) Moderately happy [] c) Not at all []
d) Indifferent []

21. Do you attend school?

a) Yes [] b) No []

If yes specify.....

22. How do you find learning in school?

a) Very difficult[] b) Difficult[] c) Moderate [] d) Easy []
e) Very easy[]

23. Which specific activity in school is difficult doing?.

Specify.....

24. What kind of disease was affecting you most while with the master?

Specify].

25. What kind of medication were you given?

Specify

26. Do you have any regular pain in any part of the body?

Specify.....

27. Are you happy to be back with your parents?

a) Very happy [] b) Moderately happy [] c) Not at all []

d) I do not know []

28. Do you talk freely in the company of peers?

a) Very well [] b) moderately [] c) not at all []

29. Do you have time to play with friends?

a) Very well [] b) Moderately [] c) Not at all []

30. What type of games did you engage in?

Specify.....]

31. How were you treated by your master?

a) Very good [] b) Good [] c) Bad [] d) I cant tell []

32. Who takes care of you now that you are at home?

Specify.....

33. Do you have the opportunity to ask questions about things that you do not understand around you?

a) Yes [] b) No []

33b. Specify.....

34. Would you want to go back to your master?

a) Yes [] b) No []

34b. If yes give reasons.....]

35. What would you want to do now that you are back at home?

Specify.....]

36. What would you want to tell the authorities about the plight of other children who have not been rescued?

Specify

Thank you, God bless you.

APPENDIX 11I

Figure 5.1: Picture of some rescued children back at home



Figure 5.2: Picture of Field assistant administering a questionnaire to a rescued Child



Figure.5.3: Rescued children having fun in one of the communities



Figure.5.4: Researcher briefing Technical assistants.



