



**THE EFFECT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT BY UGANDA POLICE FORCE ON  
CHILD ABUSE REDUCTION IN KAMPALA METROPOLITAN POLICE NORTH**

**BY**

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## **DECLARATION**

I, Juliet Namukose do hereby declare that this dissertation is my sole effort (except in instances where scholarly literature was used) and has not been submitted to any Higher Institution of Learning for any award.

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## **APPROVAL**

This is to certify that this dissertation entitled “**The Effect of Law Enforcement by the Uganda Police Force on Child Abuse Reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North**” has been submitted for examination with our approval as Institute supervisors.

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## **DEDICATION**

This dissertation is dedicated to my family including my Children and Husband for providing and supporting me during this time of education struggle.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I would like to thank God the Almighty for the blessings, as for without You, I would not have completed this study. I would like to extend greater indebtedness to my supervisors: Mr Beinebyabo Adrian and Mr Mayanja Christopher for their continuous guidance and assistance they bestowed me during the study. Lastly, Special thanks go to the entire fraternity of Uganda Police Force and respondents who laboured to avail me with valuable information and making this study successful.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANPPCAN	African Network for Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect
CFPU	Child and Family Protection Unit
CIID	Criminal Investigations and Intelligence Directorate
CIV	Content Validity Index
CPS	Child Protective Services
CSA	Child sexual Abuse
CSO	Civil Society Organization
HIV	Human Immune Virus
ILO	International Labor Organization
KMPN	Kampala Metropolitan North
MGL&SD	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Scientists
UK	United Kingdom
UNICEF	United Nations International children's Emergency Fund
UPF	Uganda Police Force
USA	United States of America
WHO	World Health Organization

## ABSTRACT

The study examined the effect of law enforcement by the Uganda Police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North. Specific objectives included establishing the effect of detective role, examining the effect of prevention role and establishing the effect of response function on child abuse reduction. A cross sectional research design was used supplemented by both qualitative and quantitative approaches. An accessible population of 106 elements was identified from which a sample size of 98 respondents was drawn. A response rate of 64% was obtained. Key findings include: a positive relationship between detective role (.476\*\*), preventive role (.221\*\*) and response function (.296\*\*). Findings of the study revealed that detective role; preventive role and response role affect child abuse reduction. The researcher concluded that detective role; preventive role and response role had positive relationship with child abuse reduction. The study recommended that KMPN management together with Criminal Intelligence & Investigation Department and Community Liaison Unit should ensure that they engage more community members and their local leaders in the elicitation of factual and reliable information about law breakers as this will ensure that evidence on the crimes they committed is provided and based on such culprits are identified, arrested and prosecuted in the Courts of Law; KMPN management together with the local leaders should ensure that both informal and formal means of communication to community members are adhered to by Police to ensure that training on child abuse prevention is re-laid to the community; and KMPN management together with its Research and Planning directorate should review the existing budget on crime intelligence investigations. This will ensure that more funds are made available and allocated to the information fund.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Introduction**

The study examined the effect of law enforcement on fighting child abuse in Uganda Police Force (UPF) with specific reference to Kampala Metropolitan North (KMPN). In this study, law enforcement was independent variable, whilst child abuse was the dependent variable. The chapter presents the background to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives, research questions, hypotheses, conceptual framework, significance, justification, scope of the study, and operational definitions of terms.

### **1.2 Background of the Study**

The background to the study is presented in four themes including historical, theoretical, conceptual, and contextual background.

#### **1.2.1 Historical Background**

Globally, child abuse is regarded as a world problem that forms a biggest part of criminality around the world WHO (2011). According to WHO Report (2011), an estimated 57,000 children were victims of homicide. Many child deaths, however, are not routinely investigated or autopsied making it difficult to know the true extent of the problem. The highest rates of fatal child abuse are found among children aged 0-4 years. The most common cause of death is head injury, followed by abdominal injuries and intentional suffocation. Deaths are only the visible tip of the problem. Millions of children are victims of non-fatal abuse and neglect. In some studies, between one-quarter and one-half of children report severe and frequent physical abuse, including being beaten, kicked or tied up by parents (UNICEF, 2009). Available data also suggests that about 20% of women and 5-10% of men suffered sexual abuse as children. A substantial amount of harsh punishment in the form of hitting, punching, kicking or beating

also occurs in schools and other institutions. Many children are subjected to psychological or emotional abuse as well as neglect, though the true extent of these problems is not known (WHO, 2012).

In the UK, approximately 50,500 children are at a risk of abuse. One in four adults that is 25.3% were severely maltreated during childhood, between one to four children die every 10 days due to child abuse however, there is no exact number in the UK of those who have been abused. In the USA a report of child abuse is made every 10 seconds and more than 5 children die every day as a result of child abuse, approximately 80% of children that die from child abuse are under 4 years of age, it is also estimated that 50–60% of child fatalities due to maltreatment are not recorded as such on death certificates, more than 90% of juvenile sexual abuse know their perpetrators in some way (Malmstrom & Holder, 2012)

In developing countries particularly those in Africa, still 59 million children one to more than one out of every five children aged 5–17 years are child laborers. They work under circumstances that harm them physically, mentally and socially, and prevent them from achieving basic education. International Labor Organization (ILO, 2014). More than 100,000 children in Central African Republic are facing sexual abuse and recruitment into armed groups. The highest prevalence rate of child sexual abuse geographically was found in South Africa (34.4%), primarily because of the high rates in South Africa. The prevalence of child sexual abuse in Africa is compounded in the virgin cleansing myth that sexual intercourse with a virgin will cure a man of HIV and AIDS. The myth is prevalent in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Nigeria (World vision, 2013)

Child abuse is rooted from African culture. The gang culture in South African townships is part of the history of oppression, and is influenced by a variety of socio-economic factors. Reasons for the formation of gangs have been identified as; break down of the family structure resulting



from measures put in place by the past government that forced parents to travel far distances to get to work or to work away from home, poverty that have accompanied cultural beliefs and careless parents (Kasiano, 2003). Africa takes the highest toll of child abuse in the world with over 42% (WHO, 2010).

In Uganda, Child abuse has been a long time aspect (MDL&SD, 2006). Child abuse occurs on a daily basis in Uganda through physical, emotional, sexual, neglect among others. Most cases are not reported. Due to its increasing rate, it has been always on the headlines in the media and many people see child abuse as one of the most pressing issues. In Uganda today, child abuse is one of the commonest forms of crime (The Uganda Crime Report, 2011). It has been noted that the general level of reported child abuse rose from 38,716 cases in 2011 to 42,760 cases in 2012 (The Uganda Crime Report, 2012). Northern Uganda has been engulfed in an extreme and violent conflict between government forces and rebels, resulting into large scale internal displacement, abductions of over 26,000 children, death, destruction of homes, basic infrastructure and services like education and health. In this conflict, adolescent girls have lost their parents and family members. Many were abducted, used as child soldiers, and physically and sexually abused while in rebel captivity (Amnesty International, 2004). In central Uganda specifically Kampala, Masaka, Mukono, Wakiso, there is the most dramatic increase in the number of serious child abuse cases in form of child sacrifice by mainly businessmen, traditional doctors, child prostitution, pornography, and child labor. Uganda has done so many efforts to see that this problem is fought against and among those efforts is through policing. In this case therefore, Uganda Police Force has for years received a consistent increase in child abuse cases ranging from sexual, emotional, neglect and physical abuse (Uganda Crime Report, 2013). However, the efforts done by the police to see that this problem is done away with are still in question that is in form of detection, protection, investigation and control measures.

### 1.2.2 Theoretical Background

According to Pence and Wilson (1992) investigation is only one of the ways in which law enforcement is involved in Child Protective Services cases. Law enforcement officers can also take children into protective custody on their own in situations where the children are at imminent risk of serious bodily injury, as defined by their state statutes, and then involve Child Protective Services to provide care. Commentators who promote the value of police involvement with Child Protective Services uniformly recommend formal coordination with Child Protective Services as a necessary prerequisite (Pence & Wilson, 1992, 1994a, 1994b). Law enforcement officers tend to view child abuse and neglect not as a social problem, but rather in the context of criminal law, and in “most States, all or most all forms of reportable child abuse or child neglect are crimes.

The study was also guided by the deterrent theory advanced by Bernard Brodie, 1959 and formalized by Thomas Schelling (1966) and community oriented policing model of Robert Peel 1990. Under the deterrent theory the major function of the law enforcement must be to deter crimes while minding about swiftness of the punishment. Deterrence theory is about justice which many of us find attractive because it conforms to what we recognize as *fairness*. The wicked should be punished quickly to the extent that pain will deter them from committing a crime again. Deterrence theory so permeates our thinking that we recognize it as the model by which law enforcement can be applied easily and prevent others from committing the same crime. The deterrence theory therefore is based on three assumptions that any criminal penalty must be severe enough to outweigh the benefits to be obtained by crime. This means our perceptions about the severity of punishment is, the more people suffer, the greater they have ‘paid’ for their crime. Secondly, the punishment must be administered swiftly that is the time between detection & punishment must be short enough for offenders to ‘get the message’. For punishment to have an educative effect in the public mind, it needs to be swift. Lastly,

offenders & those contemplating crime must be convinced that non-conforming behavior will carry sure & certain consequences (Schalleger, 2002). This idea intimates that if law enforcement is to be done, it is important that the agency like in this case the police undertakes detective, preventive and response measures that are deterrent in nature, if child abuse is to be fought against.

On the other hand, community oriented policing is, in essence, collaboration between the police and the community that identifies and solves community problems. With the police no longer the sole guardians of law and order, all members of the community become active allies in the effort to enhance the safety and quality of neighborhoods. Community policing has far-reaching implications. The expanded outlook on crime control and prevention, the new emphasis on making community members active participants in the process of problem solving, and the patrol officers' pivotal role in community policing require profound changes within the police organization. The neighborhood patrol officer, backed by the police organization, helps community members to mobilize support and resources to solve problems and enhance their quality of life. Therefore, for purposes of this study, to fight against child abuse, the police will have to take quick investigations of child abuse complaints and preserve evidence for prosecution and possible conviction to send a message to contemplating offenders of the price of the crime. Through community policing, the police will interact and work together with the communities. This can be done through workshops and seminars to sensitize the communities like on the channels of reporting and how to prevent child abuse in their communities.

### **1.2.3 Conceptual Background**

Many scholars define the concept of law enforcement as broadly referring to any system by which some members of society act in an organized manner to enforce the law by discovering, deterring, rehabilitating or punishing persons who violate the rules and norms governing that

society World Encyclopedia of Police Forces and Correctional Systems, (2006), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (2007). On the other hand, child abuse is a state of emotional, physical, economic and sexual maltreatment meted out to a person below the age of eighteen (WHO, 2005)

### **Sexual Abuse**

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) refers to the act of exposing a child to or involving a child in sexual activities, whether a girl or a boy. However, this act is more common in girl child. Child sexual abuse is any forced or tricked sexual contact by an adult or older child with a child (ANPPCAN Report, 2007). There are various types of sexual activity which may take place. It can include open mouth kissing, touching, fondling, manipulation of the genitals, anus or breasts with fingers, lips, tongue or with an object. It may include intercourse. Children may not have been touched themselves but may have been forced to perform sexual acts on an adult or older child. Sometimes children are forced or tricked into disrobing for photography or are made to have sexual contact with other children while adults watch. Child sexual abuse does not always involve physical touching. It can include any experience or attitude imposed on a child that gets in the way of the development of healthy sexual responses or behaviors.

### **Emotional Abuse**

The National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect in the United States defines emotional abuse as any act or omission delivered by the parents or other caregivers that have precipitated or could, in the future cause, cognitive, extreme behavioral, emotional or mental disorders. The American medical Association, in alignment with the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, defines emotional abuse as: “when a child is regularly threatened, yelled at, humiliated, ignored, blamed or otherwise emotionally mistreated. For example, making fun of a child, calling a child names, and always finding fault are forms of emotional abuse.” As a result of these definitions, emotional abuse goes beyond verbal abuse; emotional abuse is

the habitual attack on a child's social and emotional development. The mental impediment sparked by emotional abuse acts as a basic threat to healthy human development.

### **Physical Abuse**

Physical abuse will be defined as "... that which results in actual or potential physical harm from an interaction or lack of an interaction, which is reasonably within the control of a parent or person in a position of responsibility, power or trust (UNICEF, 2003)

### **Neglect**

Neglect can be defined as "the failure to provide for the development of the child in all spheres: health, education, emotional development, nutrition, shelter, and safe living conditions, in the context of resources reasonably available to the family or caretakers and causes or has a high probability of causing harm to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. This includes the failure to properly supervise and protect children from harm as much as is feasible" (UNICEF, 2002).

### **1.2.4 Contextual Background**

The Uganda police force in Uganda is legally mandated with the role of detecting, preventing and arresting criminals in the virtue of ensuring security Police Act (2004) Uganda Constitution (1995). It is from this basis that the police of Uganda developed a child protection unit aiming at fighting against cases of child abuse that range from defilement, child trafficking, child desertion, child kidnap, child neglect, torture, indecent assault and other sexual, physical and emotional cases. However, in reality, this seems not to be the cases. According to Uganda crime Report (2013) it indicated that child abuse and neglect has been increasing. In addition, other reports like UNICEF Report (2009) indicated that the cases of defilement and child trafficking were on the rise by 2.9 and 1.2% in Uganda. The ANPCCAN Uganda chapter has also indicated that the cases of child abuse have been increasing ANPCCAN Uganda chapter, (2011). Save

the children Uganda Report (2010) also indicated that most of the cases that are committed against children in Uganda are not reported to the police and these constitute over 70% against those that are reported. KMPN is one of the policing regions in Uganda with regional offices at Kawempe Police Station along Bombo road. This region constitutes Kawempe, Wandegaya, Old Kampala, Kasangati, Kakiri, Mattuga, Nansana and, Wakiso police stations in Kampala and Wakiso Districts. Cases of child abuse are high due to increasing unplanned housing estates which expose children to abuse. The existing dismay however, is that despite police mandates and efforts done, these have not translated into significant reduction on child abuse in KMPN.

**Table 1. 1:** Child abuse cases in Kampala Metropolitan Police between 2008 - 2012

<b>Crimes</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Defilement	8,360	7,361	8,645	8,364	8,442
Child neglect	3,011	3,126	3,212	3,127	4,101
Child desertion	754	753	855	881	758
Indecent assault	550	850	511	523	557
Child torture/physical	512	1052	552	593	666
Child stealing	206	416	207	301	451
Abortion	75	72	81	88	102
Child kidnap	49	149	244	491	303
Infanticides	106	336	23	122	146
Child trafficking	116	160	191	180	160
Child sacrifice	28	59	51	33	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,111</b>	<b>32,760</b>	<b>41,110</b>	<b>38,716</b>	<b>42,760</b>

**Source: Uganda Crime Reports 2008-2012**

### **1.3 Statement of the problem**

Child abuse exists on a daily basis through different forms as sexual, emotional, and physical and neglect to children below 18 years all over the world. According to a National Labor force and child activities survey (2013), there were 2 million child laborers in Kampala alone making it 16% of the entire children population of 11.5 million in Uganda. Cases of defilement are on the increase every year. It is also estimated that 15% of cases reported to police stations are child related (Uganda Crime Report, 2013). KMPN is located in Kampala city which has attracted many people in search for better jobs. This has led to the development of slums like Katanga, Bwaise, Angola, Kazo, Jambula among others associated with drug abuse, poor accommodation and domestic violence. There are also many lodges, bars, night clubs, and restaurants that use children to work in these happening places, which are unfriendly and can expose them to risks like sexual violence, child prostitution, cheap labour as house maids, bar attendants; According to the Trafficking in Persons report of 2013 by Uganda police, a total of 408 cases of internal trafficking were recorded and children were the most trafficked. The number of boys reported to have been trafficked were 192 while girls were 207. Among the five divisions in Kampala, Kawempe which is under KMPN had registered the highest levels of child trafficking (New Vision, 4th, October, 2014). The Government has put in place the Domestic legal and policy procedures like enforcement of the Children's Act, (2008), The Children's Statute, (1996); The Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2007, Trafficking in Persons Act, (2008), The Children Labor Policy (2006) and the establishment of child and family welfare department in UPF. However, despite the above legal and policy measures in place, it appears that the extent of child abuse in Uganda is increasing especially in Kampala Metropolitan North. There fore this study investigated the effect of law enforcement by the Uganda Police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North.

#### **1.4 Purpose of the Study**

The study examined the effect of law enforcement by the Uganda Police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North.

#### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this study were:

- i. To establish the effect of detective role by the Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North
- ii. To examine the effect of prevention role Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North
- iii. To establish the effect of response function Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North

#### **1.6 Research Questions**

This study sought to answer the following questions:

- i. What is the effect of detective role on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North?
- ii. What effect does prevention role have on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North?
- iii. What is the effect of response function towards child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North?

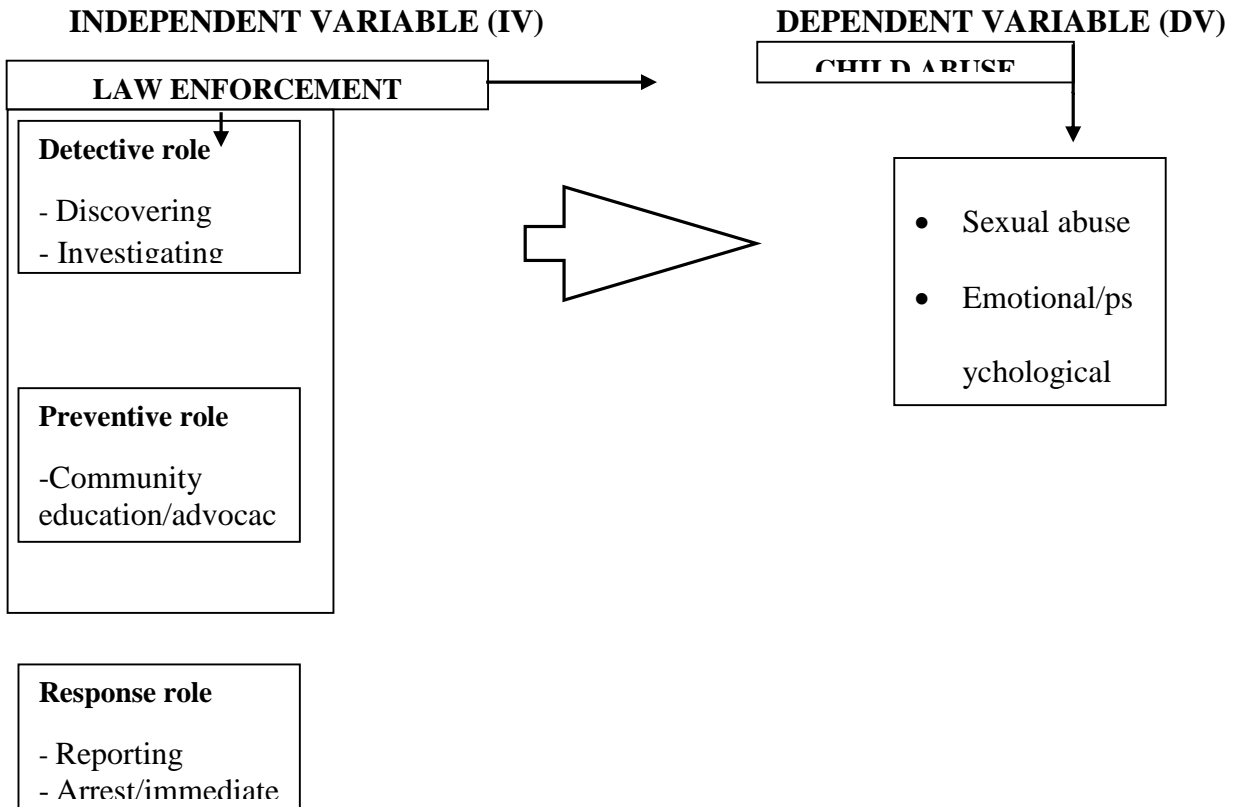
#### **1.7 Research Hypotheses**

The study tested the following hypotheses that:



- i. Detection has a significant positive effect on child abuse reduction
- ii. Prevention has a positive effect on child abuse reduction
- iii. Response function has a positive effect on the child abuse reduction

**1.8 Conceptual Framework**



**Source:** Adapted and modified by the researcher from Pence & Wilson (1992)

**Figure 1. 1: A Conceptual Framework for the understanding the Relationship between law enforcement and child abuse**

From the conceptual framework in Figure 1.1, it is hypothesized that if law enforcement agencies do their role of detecting, preventing and responding to crimes, this can have a significant reduction on child abuse which is often practiced in form of sexual, emotional, physical and child neglect. In the above conceptual framework, it can be established that law enforcement is the independent variable and child abuse, is taken as the dependent variable.

Therefore, it was assumed that if UPF does its roles in detecting, preventing and responding to child abuse cases, cases to do with child abuse can be reduced and vice versa.

### **1.9 Justification of the study**

Prior studies like a study on the causes of child sexual abuse in Kawempe Division, Kampala District by Mugarura (2011), Overview of the nature and extent of child sexual abuse in Europe conducted by Lalor & McElvaney (2010) and so many others have been done on law enforcement as a measure of fighting against child abuse around the world and in Uganda. However, no specific study has been done on Law enforcement under the dimensions of detective, preventive and response and child abuse measured using sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect in Kampala Metropolitan Police North. Therefore, the rationale behind the choice of this study was to empirically establish the effect of law enforcement by the Uganda police force on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North.

### **1.10 Significance of the study**

The study has much significance to organizations in the struggle to fight against child abuse in Uganda as it lays enough reasons as to why child abuse is increasing.

The findings in the study are important to policy makers in coming up with policies on how to curb child abuse after realizing the police role, its achievements and failures.

The study is useful to Uganda police force given the fact that it has the mandate under the police act and constitution in Uganda to keep law and order.

The study provides a contemporary cornerstone for using law enforcement to curb child abuse in Uganda and all over the world.

The study is important to academic arena by providing new knowledge on the extent to which law enforcement can reduce child abuse.

## **1.11 Scope of the Study**

### **1.11.1 Content Scope**

This study delimited itself to examining the effect of law enforcement and child abuse. Law enforcement had dimensions of detective, preventive and response whilst, child abuse was measured using sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect.

### **1.11.2 Geographical Scope**

The study was conducted in the Uganda Police Force stations in KMP- North which include; Kawempe, Wandegaya, Kasangati, Old Kampala, Mattuga, Kakiri, Nansana and wakiso police stations located in Kampala and Wakiso Districts. This case study was chosen because it is accessible to the researcher and ties in very well with the operationalization of the research problem under study.

### **1.11.3 Time Scope**

The study focus on the time framed (2012-2014) because this is the period when child abuse have been reported to increase in Uganda (Uganda Crime Report, 2012).

## **1.12 Operational Definitions of Terms**

**Detective role:** In the study, meant police's activities in Uganda regarding discovering child abuse cases and their reaction to them.

**Preventive role:** In the study, meant the activities done by the police of Uganda regarding protecting children against abuse.

**Response:** In the study, meant the police's activities done after realizing a case of child abuse in Uganda.

**Sexual abuse:** In the study, meant the abuse done on children that involve forced sex.

**Emotional abuse:** In the study, meant the abuse against a child that is psychologically discomforting.

**Physical abuse:** In this study, meant the act of another party involving contact intended to cause feelings of physical pain, injury, or other physical suffering or bodily harm.

**Child neglect:** In this study, meant the act or a deficit in meeting a child's basic needs

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1. Introduction**

This chapter reviews the literature related to establishing the effect of law enforcement on fighting child abuse. The review is conceptualized under the objectives of the study and focuses primarily on detective role, preventive role and response on child abuse. These are considered the pillars of the study.

#### **2.2. Theoretical Review**

According to Pence and Wilson (1992) investigation is only one of the ways in which law enforcement is involved in Child Protective Services cases. Law enforcement officers can also take children into protective custody on their own in situations where the children are at imminent risk of serious bodily injury, as defined by their state statutes, and then involve Child Protective Services to provide care. Commentators who promote the value of police involvement with Child Protective Services uniformly recommend formal coordination with Child Protective Services as a necessary prerequisite (Pence & Wilson, 1992, 1994a, 1994b). Law enforcement officers tend to view child abuse and neglect not as a social problem, but rather in the context of criminal law, and in “most States, all or most all forms of reportable child abuse or child neglect are crimes.

Because law enforcement officers are seen as a symbol of public safety, they are in an excellent position to raise community awareness about child abuse and neglect. Their perspective on the issue will carry significant weight with the media and the public at large.

Law enforcement is the criminal investigative agency in the community and often must investigate the same incident, involving the same people, as Child Protective Services (Pence and Wilson, 1992).

Child sexual abuse presents far greater problems in validation than physical abuse, due to the nature of the abuse. For the most part, validation relies upon the same categories of evidence but with some special considerations.

The Crime control theory assumes that the criminal justice must place emphasis on reducing the crime in society through increased police and prosecutorial powers while enforcing the law that is in detecting, preventing and responding to crimes. In contrast, the “due process model” focuses on individual liberties and rights and is concerned with limiting the powers of the law enforcement agencies. Crime control prioritizes the power of the law enforcement agencies to protect society, with less emphasis on individual liberties. A due process model is type of justice system which is based on the principle that a citizen has some absolute rights and cannot be deprived of life, liberty, or property without appropriate legal procedures and safeguards.

Due process involves both procedural and substantive aspects. Procedural due process requires fairness in the methods used to deprive a person of life, liberty or property, while substantive due process requires valid governmental justification for taking a person's life' liberty or property. Due process requirements apply to both criminal and civil law.

Due process generally requires fairness in government proceedings. A person is entitled to notice and opportunity to be heard at a hearing when they have life, liberty. or property at stake. Laws should be applied to persons equally, without discrimination on prohibited grounds, such as gender, nationality, handicap, or age. In criminal cases, fair procedures help to ensure that an accused person will not be subjected to cruel and unusual punishment, which occurs when an innocent person is wrongly convicted. Due process requirements apply to such government proceedings as trials, parole hearings, and administrative hearings involving benefits, among others.

Crime control theory posits that child abuse results from social and environmental stress. Stressful life events and conditions, such as poverty, unemployment, inadequate housing, and

a violent social milieu are prominent factors considered within this theoretical orientation. The perspective emphasizes factors in the environmental context of a family, which, by being felt as overwhelmingly stressful, interfere with a parent's ability to care for its children. Child abuse can be viewed as a symptom of distress in a family that compromises its ability to protect and nurture its children. Therefore, solving child abuse calls for working upon those factors in the environment that leads to it.

Therefore, in line with the literature for this study, the two theories are not without criticisms but as well, if the law enforcement is to fight against child abuse, it is very important that it undertakes detection, prevent, respond and control cases of child abuse while working hands in hands with the community.

### **2.3 The effect of law enforcement on child abuse reduction**

According to Goldstein (2004), law enforcement officers tend to view child abuse and neglect not as a social problem, but rather in the context of criminal law, and in "most States, all or most all forms of reportable child abuse or child neglect are crimes." Consequently, officers generally focus their energy on preservation and collection of evidence for criminal prosecution. Unless they have been trained in the philosophy of child protection, law enforcement officers will generally see little importance in family preservation. Many officers will believe a parent who abuses or neglects a child has abdicated parental responsibilities and does not deserve to care for the maltreated child. Most officers will consider incarceration of the person(s) responsible for the child's condition as the desirable outcome. As officers gain experience in cases of child maltreatment, they often begin to appreciate the civil protection alternatives CPS offers, the value of casework intervention, and the need for efforts to protect children without resorting to out-of-home placement.

### **2.3.1 The effect of detective role on child abuse reduction**

Hammond et al (2001) ascertain that law enforcement's role in detection is one of the key professions involved in the child protection system. Each discipline involved in the system maintains its own purpose, authority, philosophical basis, and approaches to intervening in child abuse and neglect. For example, Child Protective Services (CPS) generally is designated as the agency responsible for receiving reports of intra-familial child maltreatment. The CPS agency maintains a social work orientation, with a focus on protection of the child from further abuse and neglect and maintaining the integrity of the family. CPS has a rehabilitative focus in its intervention. According to Maguire (1993) asserts that decision making in these agencies is often shared, with individual CPS caseworkers seeking consultation from supervisors or legal counsel prior to significant case action such as the removal of a child from his/her family.

Maguire (1993) adds that most child protection systems receive reports 24 hours a day. Some do so through family "hotlines" at the local or State level like in United States of America while other, generally more rural communities rely on law enforcement to receive the calls after hours. Law enforcement refers the emergencies to the "on-call" CPS caseworker. A few States rely exclusively on law enforcement for after-hours emergency response. A limited number of agencies contract with private agencies to handle these cases National Center on the Prosecution of Child Abuse (2002). The largest percentage of the total reports is cases of neglect. In most jurisdictions law enforcement only becomes involved with the more serious cases, those involving serious injury, sexual assault, and death.

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2008) maintains that law enforcement's mission is to detect and investigate crimes and refer those believed responsible for the crime for criminal prosecution. The police agency is organized in a quasi-military structure with clear lines of authority. Individual officers generally act on their judgment without the requirement of formal consultation with supervisors. The prosecutor and other professionals, such as victim/witness



advocates, use the results of law enforcement investigations to prosecute cases and assist victims.

National Children's Alliance (2003) in addition argues that other key professionals such as physicians and other health personnel not only treat the injuries incurred as the result of abuse, but also provide critical information to investigators. Mental health professionals are also valuable members of the community's child protection team, assisting investigators in understanding what has happened to the child and using their skills to treat the emotional effects of maltreatment. Officers involved in the child protection system encounter a greater diversity of judicial forums than in other areas of law enforcement. Not only will they work with prosecutors and criminal courts, but they may find themselves called upon to testify in juvenile or family court, divorce courts (when allegations of abuse are being considered), and even before State administrative bodies such as day care licensing boards. Often less known to the law enforcement officers are the other members of the community's child protection system such as public health professionals, domestic violence shelter staff, homemakers, volunteers, educators, self-help groups, and others.

Child abuse and neglect represents a departure from the more traditional law enforcement cases. Most crime reports can be accepted as generally factual. That is, if Mrs. Jones reports her house has been burglarized, the responding officers can enter the case with the presumption that a crime has occurred and set out to find the person(s) responsible. In child maltreatment cases, however, the officer must first establish that a crime has, in fact, occurred. He or she cannot assume, in the absence of other evidence, that the injury or sexual assault reported has occurred, and that the child's condition is the result of an individual's actions or willful inactions. In fact, 47 percent of cases of child abuse or neglect reported to CPS across the Nation do not present adequate evidence to be substantiated Finkelhor, (2007). (Law enforcement officers can expect to see a somewhat higher rate of substantiated cases due to the

nature of the cases with which they typically get involved.) The role of the law enforcement officer and the CPS caseworker, as well, is *first to determine if abuse or neglect has occurred*, and if so, *who is responsible*, then decide *what actions*, if any, *are necessary to protect the child*. Only then can the officer really focus on collecting the evidence necessary for a criminal prosecution.

Office of National Drug Control Policy (2004) indicates that law enforcement officers will be called upon to investigate allegations of child maltreatment involving members of different ethnic or racial groups from their own. In some parts of the country, the cultural diversity of the community requires tremendous flexibility in the investigative style. Not only must officers be able to communicate with others who do not speak English, but they must also know the style of interview that will yield the most accurate results. Investigators will also need to consider cultural factors in the validation process.

Investigators need to be sure that their personal beliefs about child care do not become the standard to which they legally seek to hold others. As Goldstein (2000) illustrated, "an unproven popular belief is that young children should not be cared for by their older siblings. In some other cultures such caretaking arrangements are standard. "He further notes that, "determining whether caretaking by siblings is evidence of neglect should be a matter of context; whether such caretaking is valued by the group or imposed on an unwilling child. Numerous other examples exist that place the predominant culture's view of child rearing at odds with other cultures.

In addition, Cage (2008) argues that some cultural practices have the potential to be misinterpreted as child abuse. For example, Vietnamese may cause synthetically linear bruises from the cultural practice of coin-rubbing. The practice is for the treatment of fever, chills, or headache and involves massaging the back and chest with a coin. The result may appear to be

abuse related. Other practices of foreign cultures must be explored when the officer is called upon to investigate people whose culture is different and/or unknown.

Therefore, as per the literature reviewed, it clearly affirms that detective role has an effect on the fight against child abuse as per the observations made above; however, the literature seems to be limited to international cases cited in US and specific children crimes in KMPN. and lack critical views from Ugandan case and particularly in Kampala Metropolitan area. This is a very big gap that this study seeks to endeavor to fill by undertaking this study.

### **2.3.2 The effect of prevention function on child abuse reduction**

The prevention function of Law enforcement has been indicated to have a sincere effect on the fight against child abuse as it exposes abusers and empowers victims National Children's Alliance (2003). The crimes of child abuse and neglect also present some other unique issues. First, the victim is always a child, and some are very young. Hammond (2001) asserts that the officer's ability to communicate with children is dependent upon his/her understanding of cognitive and language development of children. The crime victims in this class of case are at a disadvantage in any subsequent legal proceedings. Second, many forms of abuse resemble non-abusive conditions. Inflicted traumatic injuries will be described by defense attorneys as the result of accidents. Some medical conditions may also be initially misdiagnosed as maltreatment, even by trained medical professionals. Therefore, the officer must consider all reasonable alternative explanations for the child's condition Maguire (1993). The situation is especially sensitive when it involves child death. Complicating the investigation further is the fact that child abuse and neglect generally occurs in private places and the victims, for a number of reasons, may actively try to hide the evidence of maltreatment and deny its existence even when approached by an investigator.

Dietz (2006) adds that Law enforcement officers assigned to child abuse investigations must possess special skills. The investigators chosen for this type of work should be able to communicate and empathize not only with the victim but also with the family and the perpetrator. In many instances, if the investigator can talk effectively with the offender, he or she can obtain a confession or other incriminating statements. Often, meticulous, detailed effort is necessary to build the case. Also, knowledge of the patterns and types of child maltreatment is a necessity for the investigator.

Investigators who work with child abuse cases must receive special training. While a good investigator can work on a child abuse case, specialized knowledge and skills eliminate much of the guesswork on the part of the investigator. Any law enforcement training provided to investigators must focus on the special needs of the victim. It is important for the investigator to realize that the victims of child abuse may suffer both psychological and physiological trauma. Immediate attention to psychological wounds assures greater possibility of successful treatment just as immediate attention to physical wounds assures greater probability of successful medical treatment. Finally, investigators must also be able to share authority with other disciplines and work in a team environment with CPS officials if the outcome of all agencies is to be achieved Goldstein (2003).

Cage (2008) raises concern that because law enforcement officers are seen as a symbol of public safety, they are in an excellent position to raise community awareness about child abuse and neglect. Their perspective on the issue will carry significant weight with the media and the public at large. Because of this, many law enforcement agencies actively participate in community education efforts designed to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect and encourage reporting. The most common prevention programs are held in school settings and target extra-familial sexual abuse. Officers conducting such programs must balance their

presentations with material on abuse by relatives and caregivers if programs are to be effective for most potential victims.

Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect (2000) alludes that the initial investigative interview with a child is a delicate situation requiring skill and tact. The setting for the interview should be chosen as carefully as possible. The interview should be held in a neutral setting where the child feels comfortable and not threatened. When a child is fairly young, his/her general schedule (e.g., naps) should be considered when scheduling interviews. If an interview in the home or location where the abuse may have occurred is unavoidable, the team is advised to select a place where the abuse is unlikely to have taken place. The interviewing team should consist of as few individuals as possible. Which team member questions the child is not as important as the skill of the interviewer *and* the preference that the child may indicate.

The interview will be enhanced if a cooperative adult accompanies the child and acts as liaison between the child and the interviewer. The adult can introduce the interviewer to the child as someone who is specially trained to help children. In addition, the adult can encourage the child to tell the interviewer everything that happened, thereby giving the child permission to talk freely Cage (2008).

Winterfeld & Sakagawa (2003) adds that it is important to conduct the interview in a quiet setting with minimal disruptions. It is also important to keep in mind that a child rarely feels free to disclose sensitive information when a parent or relative is present. However, if the child is extremely distressed or unwilling to be questioned alone, a non-offending parent or other supportive adult may sit quietly in during the interview. Although multiple interviews may be necessary, the original interviewer should either conduct them or be present to introduce the child to the new interviewer. This preserves the rapport between the interviewer and the child and protects the child from unnecessary anxiety. However, it is extremely important to minimize the number of interviews and professionals the child experiences. The greater the

number of interviews, the more trauma the child suffers. Whenever possible, the same individual, either the interviewer or a volunteer, should accompany the child to all appointments and proceedings relative to the case. The child is thus provided with a familiar and supportive person throughout the legal process.

In addition, Finkelhor (2007) says that the investigator must be extremely careful how he/she reacts to the child's statements. Inexperienced investigators hearing the graphic details of child sexual abuse for the first time from a small child may inadvertently display shock or discomfort. Most children are very perceptive and "pick up" on even subtle reactions by the adults around them. If the child believes the interviewer really does not want to hear the information, he/she may stop talking about the very issues that necessitated the interview in the first place. New investigators must become comfortable with the slang language of sexual assault and be able to talk about the details of abuse without emotion. Even body language and facial responses must be carefully controlled. The investigator must use his/her words and demeanor to encourage, not discourage, open communication.

If a police officer is the interviewer or is going to sit in during the interview, he/she should ask him/herself two questions: "Should I be in uniform?" "Will the uniform distract or be threatening to the child?"

To answer these questions, Hammond et al (2000) says that the uniformed officer should consider the following five points: The child's beliefs about what would happen to the child if he/she disclosed. The officer should keep in mind that the child may have been told by the perpetrator that: if the child told, the child would be punished, and the child may assume that the officer is the instrument of that punishment; the child will get in trouble, and the police will arrest the child and take him/her away; or if the child disclosed, the perpetrator would be arrested; the child may assume that the police officer is there for that function. The child's beliefs about police and past experiences with police. For example, have the parents told the

child that the law enforcement officer's function is punitive; not one of a helpful, friendly individual who is there in the child's best interest?

The child may view the police uniform as a symbol of protection and feel much safer having that protection present, believing that the uniform means that the perpetrator cannot be with the child again. The officer might find it to his/her advantage to either change into civilian clothes or put a jacket on over the uniform to play down obvious signs of authority. In all child interviews, the officer should remove and secure his/her weapon so that it is out of sight prior to the interview. The child may believe that the uniform represents authority. This can be positive if a child looks to someone of authority to grant permission to talk freely. However, in some instances, such as when dealing with adolescent victims, the uniform may be a negative influence. The officer might find it to his/her advantage to either remove the uniform or to put on a jacket over the uniform to downplay obvious signs of authority.

A smaller child is frequently attracted to the uniform and the various objects that are worn by the officer. An exploration of an officer's uniform, by the officer and the child, may help establish rapport and may enable the child to feel more comfortable. Amon et al (2001) adds that another issue to consider is that all interviews with children should be documented fully by the interviewer. If more than one interviewer is present, the professional not interviewing the child should take notes of the child's statements. These notes should be as exact as possible using the specific words of the child rather than an interpretation by the adult of what the child has said. The interviewer should not stand above the child but should get down on the child's level, even if this means sitting on the floor. The interviewer should merely get close enough to the child to hear what the child has to say. The interviewer must remember that each person maintains a body space and to violate this space could be a reminder of the invasion of the offender.

Amon et al (2001) further indicates that investigators must introduce themselves to the child. They may use their first name, if they feel comfortable doing so. Through school programs, many children have been exposed to an "Officer Friendly" type interaction and will respond well when the officer introduces him/herself as Officer Bill or Officer Mary. The investigator should also let the child know the agency that he/she represents. Initial questions should be unrelated to the incident itself, such as the child's age, where he/she goes to school, does he/she have any brothers or sisters, what are his/her favorite games, etc. This should help the child become accustomed to talking with the interviewer in a nonthreatening manner. The interviewer should remember to look at the child throughout the interview. The language the interviewer uses should be appropriate for the child's age and development. Questions should be phrased in familiar terms. As rapport is established, the interviewer evaluates that child's competency: Is the child able to distinguish between fantasy and reality? How does the child respond when asked to recall and relate information? For young children, what is their developmental level, do they understand the meaning of the words used?

It is generally advisable for the interviewer not to initiate physical contact with children during questioning. If the child touches the interviewer in a seductive or inappropriate manner (as some sexually abused children may), the interviewer may respond by saying, "I feel uncomfortable when you touch me that way. Let's not do that. We can just sit here next to each other. Okay?" As a prelude to specific questions about the abuse incident, an investigator may talk with the child about the duties of his/her job. For example, "My job is to talk to children about things that happen in their lives. I talk to kids about things that make them happy, sad, mad, or angry. Sometimes these children have problems they need help with."

The interviewer should never suggest that the nature of the problem is already known. Rather they should encourage the child to talk. "Someone who is concerned about you called me today and said that you might have a problem at home and need some help." If the child shows



discomfort, this should be acknowledged and explored. To elicit a response, the interviewer might say, "You seem worried (scared, embarrassed, nervous) right now. What are you worried about? Are you worried that someone might find out you talked with me? Who are you worried about? What do you think will happen?"

The interview should flow from the general (getting to know the child) to the specific (the actual abuse).

During this phase of establishing an alliance or getting the child to trust the investigator, the officer needs to identify and build on the request how the child hopes or wishes the law enforcement officer can help. Law enforcement officers can accomplish this by: Identifying what the child wants (this child may want you to promise not to tell anyone). Identifying what the officer can do to meet what the child wants ("I can first listen to you tell me what happened to you."). Letting the child know that the interviewer is honest (won't lie to him/her) and is trustworthy. Enabling the child to perceive the interviewer as empathetic.

It is increasingly important for CPS and law enforcement to work together. One area of cooperation involves law enforcement support to CPS. Sometimes CPS caseworkers must visit isolated, dangerous locations and deal with mentally unstable, violent, and/or substance controlled individuals. Caseworkers generally do not have on-site communication (radio, car phone, etc.), weapons, or special training in self-protection. Because of this and the stabilizing effect that law enforcement personnel have on many people, it is often necessary for law enforcement personnel to accompany CPS caseworkers to conduct their investigations.

Cage (2008) found out that Law enforcement officers may accompany CPS caseworkers based on the location of investigation, the time of night, or history of the subjects involved. Failure to have proper backup has unfortunately resulted in the deaths of several CPS caseworkers and injuries to many others. Law enforcement's authority is also much more widely accepted than

the CPS authority. Many times CPS caseworkers are denied access to alleged victims of maltreatment while law enforcement's requests to see the child are honored. The officer with the power of arrest is also in an excellent position to enforce any standing orders of the court. For example, in States that allow warrantless arrests of those violating civil protection orders, the officer may be able to remove an offender from the home who has previously been placed under restrictions by the court. In some circumstances, this may avoid the need to remove a child from his/her home.

When it is necessary to remove children from their home, law enforcement officers are often called upon for assistance. Law enforcement has general authority to take custody of children. However, 46 States give specific authority to officers to take legal custody of children without a court order Goldstein (2003).

Therefore, it can be reached that despite the fact that the gist of the matter is well brought out on how preventive function of the law enforcement can viably be adopted and fight against child abuse as indicated prior above, however, no study had ever been conducted on the same in Kampala metropolitan Police north area.

### **2.3.3 The effect of response function on child abuse reduction**

Winterfeld & Sakagawa (2003) clearly brings out the role of response function of the law enforcement on fighting against child abuse. He assures that because of the law enforcement officer's presence in the community, law enforcement officers often encounter situations that appear to involve child maltreatment. For example, on domestic calls or during drug arrests the officer may see evidence of harm to a child. Police are, in fact, legally mandated to report any suspected abuse and neglect Police statute (2004).

Law enforcement is often able to react to emergency situations faster than any other agency Lanning (2009). If officials learn that a child is being seriously abused or the perpetrator is

trying to flee the jurisdiction of the court with a child in State custody, a patrol unit can generally get to the scene much faster and stabilize the situation until CPS and/or law enforcement investigators can arrive. Law enforcement is also available 24 hours per day while the CPS after hour response is limited in some communities.

Law enforcement is the criminal investigative agency in the community and often must investigate the same incident. In many communities, this involves a parallel investigation where CPS and law enforcement must attempt to not work at cross purposes. To avoid potential conflict and to improve investigative outcomes, a team approach with CPS and law enforcement working collaboratively is far more desirable (Kean, 2004).

There are, however, cases of maltreatment where law enforcement personnel generally work alone or take the lead role (Kean, 2004). These include child homicides, particularly where no other children are in the home; out-of-home care abuse (in many States in US); commercial child pornography (these cases often involve law enforcement teams with postal inspectors and the FBI); and organized sexual exploitation of minors (again involving the FBI if State lines were crossed). In communities where no victim witness services are available, the law enforcement officer may be called upon to help prepare and support the child victim through the experience of prosecution. This may include taking the child to the courtroom prior to trial to see where everyone sits and explain what each person's role is; it may simply mean being available to a child who wants to talk about what is happening during the trial.

Increasingly, Shepherd (2005) points out that professionals involved in child abuse and neglect investigations recognize the need to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort, to promote proper and expeditious collection and preservation of evidence, and to "develop a coordinated system for identifying and investigating appropriate calls." This is best accomplished through a team approach where law enforcement work collaboratively, sharing information, assigning investigative tasks, and participating in a shared decision-making process. As a result of a team

effort, the victim is less likely to be further traumatized by the investigation and a positive outcome for all investigative parties is enhanced.

Law enforcement brings to the team expertise in the collection and preservation of evidence, in crime scene examination, and in taking statements and confessions (Benayoun, 2002). Law enforcement can also make arrests and present the criminal case in a lawsuit through obtaining warrants, presenting the case at a preliminary hearing or grand jury and in criminal court. CPS caseworkers often have greater experience in interviewing children (victims and siblings), in assessing the risk of further abuse, in arranging for medical or psychological exams and services, and in working with the protective alternatives of juvenile or family court. Law enforcement can place children in custody, but the CPS agency generally must provide foster care services (White & Quinn, 1999). Other members of an investigative team might include the prosecutor or agency attorney who assesses the evidence as it is collected and then formally prosecutes the case. The prosecutor can assist in drafting search warrants, preparing witnesses, and providing general direction and guidance. Mental health professionals also provide consultation to investigators on the clinical needs of the victim and others involved in the investigation, help interpret psychological information secured, and offer guidance on interviewing strategies with children and adults. To facilitate team operation, local agencies are encouraged to establish formal CPS/law enforcement protocols White & Quinn (1999). As the participants in a national consensus building conference on CPS/law enforcement cooperation concluded, the protocol should include: statement of purpose; discussion of joint and respective missions and organizational responsibilities; types of cases covered (e.g., sexual abuse and serious or potentially serious cases of physical abuse); procedures for handling cases, including special investigative techniques; criteria for child's removal; criteria for arrest of suspects; criteria for law enforcement referral to the CPS agency; criteria for CPS referral to the law enforcement agency; procedures to assist the CPS agency; criteria and/or procedures

for joint investigations, including timing, determining who has prime decision-making authority, and concurrent prosecutions; provisions for joint training; provisions for multidisciplinary consultation; and criteria and/or procedures for cooperation/ coordination with/among agencies.

Finally, Besharov (1990) argues that when all reasonable interventions that would protect the child in his/her own home have been examined but none are found suitable, removal from the home and placement in State custody may be necessary to protect the child from harm. Police officers may have to act in an emergency, but the likelihood of maintaining custody is enhanced if the decision to remove is made with juvenile or family court concurrence or at least in cooperation with CPS staff and their attorneys. Generally, removal from home and placement in foster care causes a total disruption of the child's life, including a loss of familiar surroundings, possessions, pets, friends, and family. The children frequently must change schools and move into totally unknown surroundings. This experience is very traumatic in its own right and should be avoided when possible. For this reason, CPS staff will explore possible relative placements or other avenues to minimize the negative impact of removal on children.

Therefore, it comes out clearly that most of the literature observed is limited in scope when it comes to Ugandan and Kampala metropolitan north area. There is thus a need for a study like this to clearly understand how such keys can lead to a visual fight against child abuse in Uganda.

#### **2.4 Summary of the literature review**

The literature reviewed clearly indicates that there are a number of studies in place that have viably established the effect of law enforcement in the fighting against child abuse world over. However, there are no studies in this line that has been done in Uganda, and particularly Uganda Police Force that is in Kampala Metropolitan North. Therefore this found a positive

relationship between law enforcement and child abuse reduction in the Uganda Police Force in Kampala Metropolitan North.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The chapter indicates how data for the study was collected. It comprises of the research design, study population, determination of sample size, sampling techniques, data collection methods, data collection instruments, quality control, data collection procedures, data analysis, measurement of variables, and ethical considerations.

### **3.2 Research Design**

A research design is the overall blueprint or strategy for the research Amin (2005). This study used a cross sectional research design. This design was chosen because it is important for the researcher to find out the opinions of a cross section of the population about a subject under investigation in a particular period of time using a particular part of organisation as stated by Sekaran (2003). In this study, numerical figures and descriptive information were obtained, giving it both a quantitative and qualitative research dimension. The study used both qualitative and quantitative approaches during sampling, data collection, quality control, and analysis which allowed capitalizing on strengths of each while covering gaps of one by the other. It also enabled collection of both numerical data and stories, thus enriching the findings.

### **3.3 Study Population**

This study was conducted in Kampala Metropolitan North (KMPN). This population was chosen for the study because it has been indicated to have registered a number of child abuse cases in Uganda. The study population consisted of 106 respondents from KMPN. These included 13 senior police officers, 14 Children and Family protection unit (CFPU) staffs, 11 crime intelligence staff, 45 investigators of sexual offences and 23 other KMPN staff (Uganda Police Manpower Audit Report June, 2014) The senior officers were selected to participate in this study because they are informed of cases of child abuse that have been happening in the area. The children and family protection unit staffs were chosen because specifically handle child and family related cases in the area. Crime intelligence staffs gather information in the area and inform investigators who gather evidence for prosecution.

### **3.4 Determination of the Sample Size**

A sample size of 98 respondents was drawn from an accessible population of 106 respondents using the Krejcie & Morgan (1970) population Table as depicted in Table 3.1.

#### **Table 3. 1: Sample Size of Respondents and Sampling Technique**

<b>Category of Population</b>	<b>Population Size</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Sampling Technique</b>
KMPN Senior officers	13	11	Purposive sampling
Children and Family protection unit staffs	14	13	Purposive sampling
Crime intelligence staff	11	10	Purposive sampling
Investigators of sexual offences	45	43	Simple random sampling
Other KMPN staff	23	21	Simple random sampling
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>98</b>	

**Source:** Uganda Police Manpower Audit Report June (2014) and determined using the Krejcie & Morgan 1970.

### **3.5 Sampling Techniques and procedure**

Two techniques including non-probability sampling (purposive) and probability sampling (simple random sampling) were used in determining the sample size as explained in 3.5.1 and 3.5.2 respectively.

#### **3.5.1 Simple Random Sampling**

The simple random a probability based sampling method in which every unit of the population has an equal chance of being selected from the population was used to select investigators of sexual offences and other KMPN staff. The reason to this choice is that biasness is eliminated, it is less expensive in terms of costs, and less time is required to collect the data (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999).

#### **3.5.2 Purposive Sampling**

From the existing non-probabilistic sampling techniques, purposive sampling was employed to select senior police officers, Children and Family protection unit (CFPU) staffs and crime intelligence staff in KMPN. These were targeted due to their perceived knowledge arising out



of known experience that they have and time spent in the area while handling cases of child abuse. This technique was employed following the postulate that if sampling has to be done from smaller groups of key informants, there is need to collect very informative data, and thus the researcher needs to select the sample purposively at one's own discretion (Sekaran, 2003).

### **3.6 Data Collection Methods**

The study used three methods to aid its data collection. The details are provided in 3.6.1, 3.6.2 and 3.6.3 below.

#### **3.6.1 Questionnaire Method**

This method was used to collect primary data from investigators of sexual offences and other staff in the KMPN, and, it involved using a questionnaire. The method of survey using a questionnaire was deemed appropriate since it offers the officers a choice of picking their answers from a given set of alternatives (Amin, 2005).

#### **3.6.2 Interview**

The method was used to collect primary data by the researcher from senior officers, crime intelligence staff and Children and Family protection unit staffs in KMPN. It involved using of a semi-structured interview guide. The method of interview using a semi-structured interview guide is deemed appropriate since the aforementioned categories of staff have vital information about child abuse (Sekaran, 2003).

#### **3.6.3 Documentary Review**

This method enabled collection of secondary data and guided by a documentary review checklist. Some of the documents reviewed included: The Uganda Crime Report (2011), The Uganda Crime Report (2012), The Uganda Crime Report (2013), The Children Labor Policy (2006), The Children's Statute, (1996) and The Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2007 among

others with literature relevant to law enforcement and child abuse which were analyzed as secondary sources of data to supplement primary data from the questionnaire survey and interviews (Amin, 2005).

### **3.7 Data Collection Instruments**

The study used three methods to aid its data collection. The details are provided in 3.7.1, 3.7.2 and 3.7.3 below.

#### **3.7.1 Self-administered Questionnaire**

Questionnaires were used to collect data from crime intelligence staffs and investigators of sexual offences in KMPN. The questionnaire (Appendix I) was used in this case because it has proved to be an invaluable method of collecting a wide range of information from a large number of individuals (Sekaran, 2003). The questionnaires are popular because the respondents filled them in at their own convenience and are appropriate for large samples. The questionnaire was designed with mainly closed ended questions (Amin, 2005). This was administered to a group of respondents who included investigators of sexual offences and other KMN staff as depicted in Appendix 1

#### **3.7.2 Interview guide**

The researcher prepared and used a semi-structured interview guide to conduct interviews with senior officers, Children and Family protection unit and criminal intelligence staff in KMPN. Interviews were chosen because they were thought to provide in-depth information about a particular research issue or question. Still, interviews are chosen because they made it is easy to fully understand someone's impressions or experiences, or learn more about their answers as compared to questionnaires. According to Mugenda & Mugenda (2003), interviews are advantageous in that they provide in-depth data which is not possible to get using questionnaires (see attached, appendix II).

### 3.7.3 Documentary Review Checklist

This instrument consisted of a list of documents Sekaran (2003) particularly concerning effects of law enforcement on fighting against child abuse which are directly relevant. Some of the documents reviewed include: The Uganda Crime Report (2011), The Uganda Crime Report (2012), The Uganda Crime Report (2013), The Children Labor Policy (2006), The Children's Statute, (1996) and The Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2007 among others (Appendix III)

### 3.8 Data Quality control

#### 3.8.1 Validity

Validity is the extent to which research instruments measure what they are intended to measure Oso & Onen, (2008). The researcher used the expert judgment of her supervisors to verify the validity of the instruments. To assess this, the two supervisors were contacted to evaluate the relevance of each item in the instruments to the objectives. The experts provided the rating for each instrument focusing on items that were either relevant or not relevant. Validity was determined using Content Validity Index (C.V.I).  $C.V.I = \frac{\text{Items rated relevant by both judges}}{\text{total number of items in the questionnaire}}$  as shown hereinafter.

$CVI = \frac{\text{No. of items rated relevant}}{\text{Total no. of items}}$

$$CVI = \frac{42}{55}$$
$$CVI = 0.76$$

As recommended by Amin (2005), the instrument was valid as the C.V.I obtained was above 0.7

#### 3.8.2 Reliability

Reliability is the extent to which a research instrument yields consistent results across the various items when it is administered again at a different point in time (Sekaran, 2003). To

establish reliability, the instruments were pilot-tested twice on the same subjects at a time interval of four weeks. According to Amin (2005), internal consistent specifically cronbach alpha can be used to measure the extent to which the instrument can produce consistent scores when the same group of individuals is repeatedly measured under same conditions. The results from the pretest were used to modify the items in the instruments. To ensure reliability of quantitative data, the Cronbach's Alpha Reliability Coefficient for Likert-Type Scales test as performed with the results that emerged presented in Table 3.2 below.

**Table 3. 2:** Reliability results for Law enforcement and Child abuse

<b>Variable name</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Number of items</b>
Detective role	.637	7
Preventive role	.628	81
Response function	.554	9
Child Abuse	.890	18

**Source:** primary data

For realizing reliability results, the alpha score were summed up (2.609) and were divided by 4 representing the number of study variables. The result of 0.656 was obtained. The results suggest that the instrument was reliable, as the score obtained was above 0.5 as recommended by Amin (2005).

### **3.9 Data Collection Procedures**

The researcher obtain a letter from Uganda Management Institute, School of Management Science introducing her to the KMPN regional commander and specifying that the data to be collected as solely for study purposes. Upon obtaining the requisite permission, the researcher proceeded with data collection starting with giving out questionnaires to KMPN area staffs. After that interviews were conducted with set respondents for the study and the results that were obtained are presented in the next chapter

### **3.10 Data Analysis**

Data was analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively.

#### **3.10.1 Quantitative data analysis**

Quantitative data analysis involved use of both descriptive and inferential statistics in the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Descriptive statistics entailed determination of measures of central tendency specifically the mean, frequency distributions and percentages. Data was processed by editing, coding, entering, and then presented in comprehensive tables showing the responses of each category of variables. Inferential statistics included correlation analysis using a correlation coefficient and regression analysis using a regression coefficient in order to answer the research questions. According to Sekaran (2003) a correlation study is most appropriate to conduct the study in the natural environment of an organization with minimum interference by the researcher and no manipulation. A correlation coefficient was computed because the study entailed determining correlations or describing the association between two variables (Oso & Onen, 2008). At bivariate level, law enforcement role as an independent variable was correlated with child abuse as the dependent variable using Pearson's Correlation Coefficient.

#### **3.10.2 Qualitative data analysis**

Qualitative data analysis involved both thematic and content analysis, and, was based on how the findings were related to the research questions. Content analysis was used to edit qualitative data and reorganize it into meaningful shorter sentences. Thematic analysis was used to organize data into themes and codes were identified Sekaran (2003). After data collection, information of same category was assembled together and their similarity with the quantitative data created, after which a report will be written. Qualitative data was interpreted by composing

explanations or descriptions from the information. The qualitative data was illustrated and substantiated by quotation or descriptions.

### **3.11 Measurement of Variables**

Mugenda & Mugenda (2003) support the use of nominal, ordinal, and Likert type rating scales during questionnaire design and measurement of variables. The nominal scale was used to measure such variables as gender, marital status, and terms of employment, among others. The ordinal scale was employed to measure such variables as age, level of education, years of experience, among others. The five point Likert type scale (1- strongly disagree, 2-disagree, 3- not sure, 4- agree and 5-Strongly agree) was used to measure the independent variable (law enforcement roles) and the dependent variable (child abuse). The choice of this scale of measurement is that each point on the scale carries a numerical score which is used to measure the respondent's attitude and it is the most frequently used summated scale in the study of social attitude. According to Mugenda (2003) and Amin (2005), the Likert scale is able to measure perceptions, attitudes, values and behaviors of individuals towards a given phenomenon.

### **3.12 Ethical considerations**

The major ethical problem anticipated in this study is the privacy of the respondents and confidentiality of their information. To ensure privacy, the respondents were informed upfront that indeed their names were not be required, that they have the right to leave questions unanswered for which they do not wish to offer the requisite information, and that the researcher was not to put the respondent under pressure if this happened (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). To ensure confidentiality, the respondents were informed that the information they were to give would solely used be for academic purposes and the data obtained on private matters was to be treated in confidence (Amin, 2005).



## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter comprises of the presentation, analysis and interpretation of results. Furthermore, the chapter begins with the response rate, followed by demographic characteristics of the study respondents as well as the empirical findings laid in line with the study objectives

#### 4.2 Response Rate

The study administered a number of questionnaires of which 45 out of 64 administered were returned constituting (70.3%). On the other hand, a number of interviews were planned (34) however, (18) were actual conducted realizing a response of (52.9%).

**Table 4. 1: Response rate**

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Planned/issued</b>	<b>Returned/conducted</b>	<b>Percentage return</b>
Interview Guide	34	18	52.9%
SAQ	64	45	70.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>63</b>	64%

**Source:** primary data

From the Table 4.1 above, it can be observed that the overall response rate of 64.0% ( $63/98 \times 100\%$ ) was obtained. Amin (2005) argues that a study response rate equal to 50% is adequate enough while that above 70% is good.

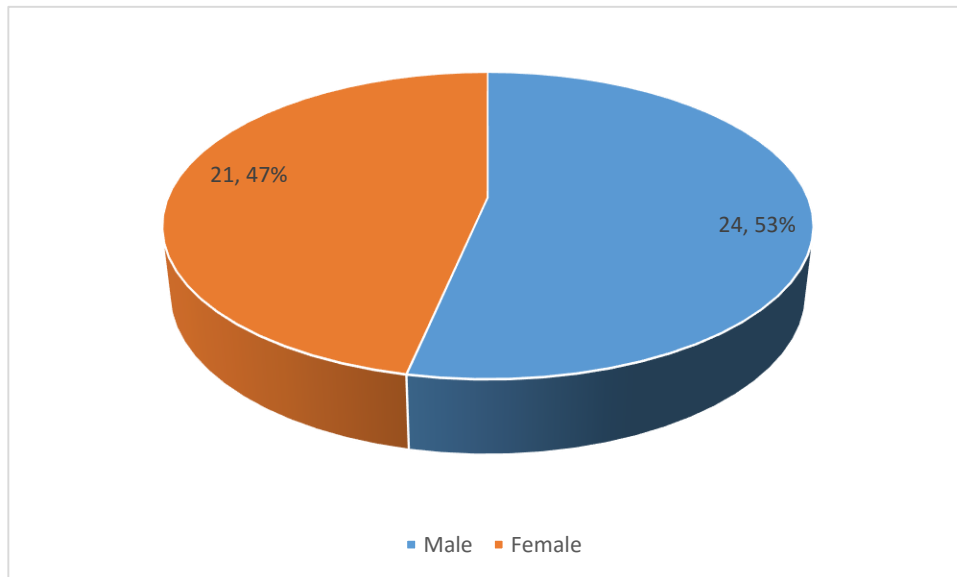
#### 4.3 Background data of the respondents

A number of respondents' background variables were considered for the study. These included respondents' gender, their age category, highest level of education, as well as their marital status and years that they had worked for in Kampala Metropolitan North.



### 4.3.1 Gender of respondents

The study set to investigate whether respondents genders' had a bearing on law enforcement in fighting against child abuse, with answers provided in Figure 4.1 below.



**Source: Primary data**

**Figure 4. 1:** Gender distribution of the respondents

From Figure 4.1 above, it can be suggested that there were more male respondents (53%, n=24) compared with (47%, n=21) female. The results suggest that the KMN boasts of a fairly distributed gender with a good number of female and male staff ensuring that the law is enforced and operating under its umbrella. Secondly, a number of respondents participated in the study and provided key information on child abuse as a key variable under investigation meaning that child abuse opinions or views were provided by both gender.

### 4.3.2 Age of respondents

Respondents were of varying age category with the results obtained below reflecting their age categories.

**Table 4. 2:** Age distribution of the respondents

<b>Age of respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
20 - 29 years	5	11.0
30 -39 years	19	42.0
40 – 49 years	17	38
Above 50 years	4	9.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Primary data**

From Table 4.2 above, it can be said that 24(53.0%) of the staff in KMPN forming a majority were 39 years of age and below. While other respondents 21(47%) were 40 years and above of age meaning that KMPN boasts of a police force with the youth, middle aged and policemen in their advanced age. This team of staff is ensure to oversee the right enforcing of the Law (including Law and Order) and ensure that it is not abused including child abuse. It can be observed that with the presence of such a force; the youth and middle aged police office engage in operations including detective, prevention and response functions as they seem energetic and therefore serving the force while those in advanced age are mainly advisers. Its implication of the study is that the researcher was able to obtain valuable information from a team of youthful, middle and staff in advanced age KMPN staff that were involved in the child abuse operations including detective, prevention and response function that were in place to ensure that a number of child abusers were arrested and such crime reduced.

#### **4.3.3 Highest education level of respondents**

This was the education levels of respondents who were involved in the study. The choice for this variable was to establish whether respondents' education levels had an effect on the enforcement of the law by the Uganda Police on child abuse. Results are summarized in the table below.

**Table 4. 3:** Education of the respondents

<b>Education category</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Masters	3	7.0%
Bachelors	20	44.0%
Diploma	10	22.0%
Other	12	27.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.3 above comprises of the respondents level of education, the frequency and percentages obtained. It is also revealed from this table that 20(44%), of the KMPN staff who participated in the study were degree holders, followed by other qualifications with a 12(27%), while diploma holders were 10(22%) and finally the least of the staff had masters' qualification with 3(7.0%). Based on the results obtained, it can be said that the respondents were literate meaning that they could read, write and therefore were able to provide the researcher with factual and reliable information on child abuse.

#### **4.3.4 Marital Status of respondents**

The respondents in this study were of varying marital status and were requested to indicate their marital status. Below is a Table showing the responses that were obtained from the questionnaires.

**Table 4. 4:** Marital status distribution of the respondents

<b>Marital status of the respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Single	10	22.0%
Married	22	49.0%
Divorced	4	9.0%
Separated	7	16.0%
Widowed	2	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.4 above reveals the varying marital statuses of the respondents that engaged in the study. Results obtained reveal that 22(49.0%) of the KMPN were married and seemed to have family ties, while the singles formed the second portion of respondents with 10(22.0%), the separated were 7(16.0%), divorced formed 4(9.0%) and the least 2(4.0%) were widowed. This trend of statistics suggests that in one way or another, each of this category had at one point interacted or had ties with children and therefore any form of abuse that they (children) were subjected too seemed familiar to them and required the intervention of the law. The respondents were therefore able to provide reliable information as was required by the researcher.

#### **4.3.5 Length in years that you have worked in Kampala Metropolitan Police North?**

Respondents were requested to provide information on how long (years) that they had worked for KMPN and below are results presented in Table 4.5 that emerged.

**Table 4. 5:** Period staff have worked for at KMPN

<b>Period (in Years)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
--------------------------	------------------	----------------

< 1 year	1	2.0%
2 - 4 years	11	24.0%
5 - 7 years	15	33.0%
> 7 years	18	41.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Primary data**

The findings from Table 4.5 above reveal that fewer KMPN staff 12(26.0%) had worked for a period of 4 years and below while majority of the KMPN staff had 33(74.0%) had worked with KMN for a period of over 5 years meaning these staff had a sense of belonging to the KMN and police in general as a result were stable on their law enforcement and child abuse roles among others. Finally, it can be argued that these respondents had attained a reasonable level of working experience to fully understand the what law enforcement and child abuse was all about as well as providing reliable information on child abuse.

**4.4 Child Abuse Reduction**

Child abuse reduction as the dependent variable was measured using sexual abuse, emotional abuse, physical abuse and neglect. Below are the results in Table 4.12 that were obtained.

**Table 4. 6:**Statements on Child abuse reduction

<b>Questions on Child abuse reduction</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>NS</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Cases of incest have reduced	62% (28)	18% (8)	20% (9)	<b>3.53</b>
Pornography in KMPN has been fought	49% (22)	20% (9)	31% (14)	<b>3.27</b>
The number of children involved in prostitution in the area has reduced	57% (26)	16% (7)	27% (12)	<b>3.42</b>
Defilement cases have reduced in the area for the last three years	71% (32)	9% (4)	20% (9)	<b>3.64</b>
Domestic violence has reduced	76% (34)	0% (0)	24% (11)	<b>3.67</b>
Cases of step mothers mistreating children have reduced	57% (26)	9% (4)	34% (15)	<b>3.40</b>
Child sacrifice in the area has completely reduced	62% (28)	11% (5)	27% (12)	<b>3.49</b>
Most parents can provide basic need for their children	66% (30)	16% (7)	18% (8)	<b>3.56</b>
There are few complaints of corporal punishment from schools	67% (30)	11% (5)	22% (10)	<b>3.58</b>
Cases of child torture by parents have reduced in the area	63% (28)	13% (6)	24% (11)	<b>3.51</b>
Issue of child trafficking have reduced in Kampala Metropolitan North	69% (32)	16% (7)	13% (6)	<b>3.78</b>
Child labor has reduced	63% (28)	11% (5)	26% (12)	<b>3.49</b>
Child neglect in the area has reduced	69% (31)	0% (0)	31% (14)	<b>3.64</b>
Cases of missing children has reduced in the area	69% (31)	13% (6)	18% (8)	<b>3.58</b>
The number of street kids has reduced in the area	53% (24)	17% (7)	31% (14)	<b>3.29</b>
There are few cases of abandoned children	67% (30)	9% (4)	14% (11)	<b>3.51</b>
<b>Average Mean = <math>\sum</math> (mean) / number of items Thus 56.36/16</b>				<b>3.522</b>

**Source: Primary data**

**A=Agree      NS=Not Sure    D=Disagree    D= Disagreed    Std Dev=Standard Deviation**

For interpretation purposes; all standard deviation, mean scores and percentage responses are interpreted as follows. The standard deviation scores below one (<1.00) reveal commonalities in responses while that above one (>1.00) reveals mixed responses in responses that were obtained. Further, the mean value above three (>3.00) reveal many of the respondents having agreed as that below three (<3.00) reveals disagreement. In addition, for purposes of easy interpretation of results obtained, the researcher grouped both agreed (A) with strongly agreed

(SA) to reflect the respondents who agreed. More still, the researcher grouped disagreed (D) and strongly disagreed (SD) to show the respondents who disagreed while the not sure (NS) were not grouped.

A group of 04 questions were set on sexual abuse of which the following represent the opinions that were obtained from the respondents. On whether the cases of incest had reduced, a portion of respondents (62%, N=28) agreed while 18%, N =8 neither agreed nor disagreed and 20% disagreed respectively. Similarly, majority of the respondents (mean=3.27, 49%) agreed that pornography in KMPN has been fought, however, (31%, N =14) disagreed and (20%, N =9). The results suggest that crime linked to children have been given priority and continuously taken on a serious note with the intent to arrest and prosecute the culprits as required by the law. Secondly, despite efforts by police to curb pornography amongst the children, such acts have continuously risen due to non-existing pornographic laws and very rampant among the culprits hence a danger to the lives of the children and increase child abuse.

Many respondents (mean =3.42, 57%, N =26) agreed that the number of children involved in prostitution in the area had reduced, however (16%, N =7) were undecided and (27%, N =12) disagreed respectively. Further still, (71%, N =32) of the respondents agreed while (9%, N =4) were neutral and 20%, N =9 disagreed that defilement cases had reduced in the area for the last three years. Based on these results, it can be argued that children engaging in such acts in given localities were identified or singled out, counseled and re-united with their families. In addition, defilement and prostitution issues seemed closely monitored, potential culprits arrested and charged while others were sent to jail. These kind of judicial processes in one way or another sent a message to culprits that the law was active and ready to work on whoever engaged in such evil child acts.

Emotional abuse another dependent variable sub indicator had five questions asked with the respective answers obtained including: mean of 3.67, 76%, N =34 of the respondents indicated positively that domestic violence had reduced as compared with 24%, N =11 that disagreed. In addition, (mean of 3.40, 57%, 26) respondents agreed that cases of step mothers mistreating children had reduced while (9%, N =4) were neutral and (34%, N =15) of the respondents disagreed meaning that any abnormal physical acts including physical torture performed on children did not go unpunished. Violent parents (mother and fathers) had be reported to the local authorities (LC) including police and cases opened, these seemed summoned and questioned by the authorities and warnings given. These kinds of mistreatments were punishable under the laws leaving the children with freedom to exercise their rights and protection.

While (mean of 3.49, 62%, N =28) respondents agreed that child sacrifice in their area had completely reduced, however (27%, N =12) disagreed and (11%, N =5) reserved their comments meaning that the issue of community policing and use of media to deliver such evil acts helped in the reporting, identifying, arrest and prosecution of such culprits. The combination of such legal attributes might have resulted into reduced child sacrifices in some of the areas. However, pockets of child sacrifice were still evident in some areas with several arrests made.

Lastly, 66%, N =30 of the respondents indicated positively that most parents could provide basic need for their children, with 16%, N =7 neither agreeing nor disagreeing and a proportion of (18%, N =8) disagreeing with the statement meaning that it was the right of the children to receive and enjoy the basic needs of life including clothing, food, shelter, education among others from the support provided by their parents and failure to do so would resulted into arrest and prosecution of such parents due to their crimes. One respondent interviewed said;



*“KMPN has recorded a number of child neglect where guardians and other family members have been recorded. Child neglect cases have included situations where someone intentionally not providing a child with food, water, shelter, clothing, medical care, or other necessities”.*

Physical abuse the third dependent variable dimension had 4 questions set on it and the following respect the results that were obtained. On whether there were few complaints of corporal punishment from schools; (67%, N =30) agreed, followed by (22%, N =10) disagreed score and (11%, N =5) not sure scores. Further still, (63%, N =28) of the respondents agreed that cases of child torture by parents had reduced with (13%, N =6) being indecisive and (24%, N =11) disagreeing respectively.

Quantified results obtained on the question that the issue of child trafficking had reduced in Kampala Metropolitan North had the following responses including: 69% agreement, 16% neutrality and 13% disagreement meaning that pockets of trafficked child held against their will through acts of coercion, and forced to work for or provide services to the trafficker or others were being tracked by the local police and authority. In addition, KMPN has put in place a string of measures including toll free lines, direct lines, information desk among others to ensure the elicitation of child trafficking information was captured and culprits brought to book as this would reduce on child abuse acts. One respondent interviewed said;

*“Human trafficking is a crime against the person because of the violation of the victim's rights of movement through coercion and because of their commercial exploitation”.*

Lastly on physical abuse was a question asked on whether child labor had reduced: mean score of 3.49, a proportion of respondents (63%, N =31) indicated that they agreed while (15%, N =5) and (26%, N =12) disagreed to the statement implying that a number of appeals were made

by police and local authorities to ensure that physical child force or violence that resulted in bodily injury, pain, or impairment. It includes assault, battery, and inappropriate restraints were reported. This act tended to limit on child abuse acts that were common among children. One respondent interviewed said that physically abused children are at risk for later interpersonal problems involving aggressive behavior, and adolescents are at a much greater risk for substance abuse.

Neglect the last dependent variable dimension had the following questions asked and respective answers obtained including: (69%, N =31) of the respondents indicated that child neglect in the area had reduced and (31%, N =14) disagreement meaning that child neglect as a form of child maltreatment, a deficit in meeting a child's basic needs including the failure to provide basic physical, health care, supervision, nutrition, emotional, education and/or safe housing needs among others had been addressed and awareness realized among the locals. In addition, it was also found that society generally believed that there were necessary behaviors that a caregiver must have provided to a child to enable such child to develop physically, socially, and emotionally.

On whether cases of missing children had reduced in the area, (69%, N =31) agreed, followed by (18%, N =8) who disagreed and (13%, N =6) who were neutral meaning that the local authorities and the police had stringent measures in place including help lines, flyers, toll free numbers and posters among others often used to track and return the lost or missing children

Lastly, (53%, N =24) of the respondents indicated that the number of street kids has reduced in the area however, (31%, N =14) disagreed and (17%, N =7) were indecisive. Similarly, (67%, N =30) of the respondents agreed that there were fewer cases of abandoned children, (14%, N =11) disagreed and 9%, N =4 were not sure. The results can be linked to the fact that a number of street children have been lured from the streets, measures had been put in place to

stop issuing the street children with money, food stuffs and other items, only encourages them to stay off the streets of Kampala. This has in return reduced on child abuse cases including street kids.

#### 4.5 Detective role and Child abuse reduction in the Uganda Police

Objective one of the study was to establish the effect of detective role by the Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North. Detective roles covered the area of discovering, investigation and preventive arrests as indicated in the Table 4.6 below.

**Table 4. 7:** Statements on Detective role

Questions on detective role	A	NS	D	Mean
The police has done a lot to discover a number of hidden child abuse cases in the area	96% (43)	2% (1)	2% (1)	<b>4.18</b>
The police works with the community to see that child abusers are identified and arrested	100% (45)	0% (0)	0% (0)	<b>4.33</b>
A number of people who are thought to be child abusers have been convicted	73% (33)	9% (4)	18% (8)	<b>3.71</b>
The police have been key in reducing on the number of street kids in the area	80% (36)	2% (1)	18% (8)	<b>3.82</b>
Parents who engage in child abuse and neglect have always been identified and arrested by the police	67% (30)	20% (9)	13% (6)	<b>3.73</b>
The police in the area frequently undertakes operations that involve identifying child prostitutes	77% (35)	7% (3)	16% (7)	<b>3.82</b>
Police has arrested a number of employers who employ children in hazardous labor	62% (28)	11% (5)	27% (12)	<b>3.47</b>
Average Mean = $\sum (\text{mean}) / \text{number of items}$ Thus $27.06/7 =$				3.86

**Source: Primary data**

A=Agree      NS=Not Sure    D=Disagree    D= Disagreed    Std Dev=Standard Deviation

For interpretation purposes; all standard deviation, mean scores and percentage responses are interpreted as follows. The mean value above three (>3.00) reveal many of the respondents having agreed as that below three (<3.00) reveals disagreement. An average mean value of 3.86 obtained reveals more of agreed opinion as compared with disagreed opinions. In addition, for

purposes of easy interpretation of results obtained, the researcher grouped both agreed (A) with strongly agreed (SA) to reflect the respondents who agreed. More still, the researcher grouped disagreed (D) and strongly disagreed (SD) to show the respondents who disagreed while the not sure (NS) were not grouped.

The first sub indicator was discovering from which a number of questions were asked and answers were provided and are reflected as follows: A majority respondents 43(96%) agreed that the police had done a lot to discover a number of hidden child abuse cases in the area, 1(2%) of these respondents were neutral and 1(2%) respondents disagreed.

All respondents 45(100%) agreed to the statement that the police worked with the community to see that child abusers are identified and arrested meaning that a number of police departments supported by their staff including investigators liaised with one another, formed teams and did timely discoveries of a number of crimes including child abuse. In addition, as a way of expressing support and extending the delivery of law and order services, the police had to frequently socializing with the communities intended to obtained information and support them as well.

Investigating another sub indicator for detective role was measured using 02 questions based on a five item likert scale. These questions have been grouped accordingly. On whether a number of people thought to be child abusers had been convicted had the following responses obtained 33(73%) of the respondents who agreed, 8(18%) who disagreed and 4(9%) of the respondents that were not sure. Furthermore, on whether the police had been key in reducing on the number of street kids in the area another question asked from which the following answers obtained including: 36(80%) agreed, 8(18%) disagreed and 1(2%) were not sure meaning that after operations were made including arrests of the culprits and other appropriate investigations (evidence) obtained, these cases were handled to the courts of law for

prosecution. More still, the police laid and followed a number of aggressive detective measures that were intended to reduce a number of street children including taking them to orphaned homes and other rehabilitation places.

Preventive arrests a third sub indicator for detective role was measured using 03 questions based on a likert scale of five items. These quantified questions include a majority respondents 30(67%) who agreed to the fact that parents who engaged in child abuse and neglects were identified and arrested by the police compared with 6(13%) who disagreed and 9(20%) who were indecisive.

On whether the police in their area frequently undertook operations that involve identifying child prostitutes; a majority 35(77%) agreed, 7(16%) disagreed and 3(7%) were not sure.

Finally, 28(62%) of the respondents agreed that police had arrested a number of employers who employed children in hazardous labor with 12(27%) disagreed and 5(11%) being neutral. The results suggest that as a way of the law taking its course, culprits including child abuse and neglect and child prostitution among others were tracked, arrested and kept in custody pending investigations. This clearly explains the job of the police linked to ensuring law and order. Secondly, it can be said that a way of ensuring that the labour law is adhered to by employers, a number of on spot checks and investigation were enforced and culprits taken to book. This was intended to ensure that such acts were purely close up.

#### **4.5.1 Correlation results for detective roles and Child abuse reduction**

In an effort of establishing the relationship between detective role and child abuse, Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient index specifically the bivariate correlation was analyzed.

**Table 4. 8: Correlation Results for detective roles and Child abuse reduction**

		Detective roles	Child abuse reduction
Child abuse reduction	Pearson Correlation	1	.476**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.001
	N	45	45
Detective roles	Pearson Correlation	.476**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001	
	N	45	45
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.8 above shows a positive significant correlation between Detective roles and Child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North. ( $r=.476^{**}$   $p < 0.05$ ). So there is a positive significant relationship between Detective roles and Child abuse in Kampala Metropolitan Police North (Sig. = 0.001,  $P = .000 < 0.05$ ). This meant that the model is significant because its significance value is below 0.05. This means that more effort in discovery of child abuse cases; increased police- community cooperation, identification and arrest of child offenders and undertaking frequent operations that involve indentifying child prostitutes, other factors remaining constant, is likely to reduce Child abuse by 47.6%. However, this analysis is not conclusive, thus the need to test the hypothesis further.

Therefore, in establishing the effect that detective role had on child abuse, coefficient of determination (linear regression) was used and the findings are presented in Table 4.9 below.



**Table 4. 9:** Linear regression results for detective role

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Sig. (95% conf. level) p <0.005
1	.476 <sup>a</sup>	.227	.209	.53609	.001
a. Predictors: (Constant), detective role					

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.9 shows the coefficient of determination and regression with scores including R as .476, R squared as .227, Adjusted R square as .209 and standard error of the estimate of (.53609) using the predictor; detective role. The R<sup>2</sup> value of (.184) explains up to 20.9% (.209 x 100%) variance that detective role had on child abuse. However, there are other factors responsible for child abuse reduction as reflected by the (79.1%). This implies that as KMPN increases the use of discovering, investigating and preventive arrests as key detective roles would reduce on child abuse.

One of the respondents said following the statement about the number of child abuses cases that, *“The community has not been sensitized about the dangers of such cases against children and not conscious about it, therefore these cases have mushroomed”*.

In confirmation one respondent said; *“To some extent whereby through pattern ships, collaborative engagement with various stakeholders a lot of sensitization of child rights, parentages and referrals have been adopted”*.

Another official interviewed said,

*“We have engaged in numerous activities to prevent child abuse, some of which have included school visits, village meetings, radio talks, television and trainings among others”*



Still, an interviewee said,

*“The KMPN is overwhelmed with the number of complaints made, yet it is under staffed. Just look at the existing ratio of police officers to the policing population, it very low and partly contributes to the volume of child abuse crime. This is not good for our communities”*

#### 4.5.2 Hypothesis One test results

Table 4.9 shows that the relationship between detective role and child abuse reduction was significant (Sig. = 0.001, P =.000 <0.05). This meant that the model is significant and that the direction of the variable is as expected because its significance value is below 0.05.

Based on the positive results obtained on hypothesis one that, “Detection has a significant positive effect on child abuse reduction” is accepted.

#### 4.6 Preventive role and Child Abuse reduction in the Uganda Police

The second objective of the study was to examine the effect of prevention role Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North. Preventive roles were measured using community education/advocacy, child protective services and victim support as indicated in the Table 4.10 below.

**Table 4. 10:** Statements on Preventive role

Questions on preventive role	A	NS	D	Mean
The police organizes outreach community education workshops about child abuse	92% (41)	4% (2)	4% (2)	<b>4.13</b>
The police has always sensitized people in the area to report all cases of child abuse to them	94% (42)	2% (1)	4% (2)	<b>4.20</b>
Police officers are inducted in prevention of child related cases	88% (40)	2% (1)	10% (4)	<b>4.07</b>
Children are encouraged by police to report any problem relating to the abuse of their rights	76% (34)	18% (8)	6% (3)	<b>3.98</b>
The children who report child abuse cases to the police are protected from victim attacks	79% (35)	13% (6)	8% (4)	<b>3.80</b>

Police provides counseling to families and care takers of abused children	86% (39)	7% (3)	7% (3)	<b>4.04</b>
The police works with NGOs and CBOs in the area to reduce on cases of child abuse	84% (37)	8% (4)	8% (4)	<b>4.02</b>
<b>Average Mean</b> = $\sum (\text{mean}) / \text{number of items}$ Thus 28.24/7				<b>4.03</b>

**Source: Primary data**

**A=Agree NS=Not Sure D=Disagree**

For interpretation purposes; all standard deviation, mean scores and percentage responses are interpreted as follows. The mean value above three (>3.00) reveal many of the respondents having agreed as that below three (<3.00) reveals disagreement. An average mean value of 4.03 obtained reveals more of agreed opinion as compared with disagreed opinions. In addition, for purposes of easy interpretation of results obtained, the researcher grouped both agreed (A) with strongly agreed (SA) to reflect the respondents who agreed. More still, the researcher grouped disagreed (D) and strongly disagreed (SD) to show the respondents who disagreed while the not sure (NS) were not grouped.

Preventive role as an independent variable was classified using three dimensions of which each was used to enable in the collection of valuable information about the study. The findings are presented below according to these indicators and questions linked to the same subject grouped together.

Responses or opinions obtained on community advocacy included: A portion of respondents 41(92%) agreed to the statement that the police organize outreach community education workshops about child abuse, 2(4%) disagreed and 2(4%) were neutral. Similarly, 42(94%) of the respondents agreed that the police always sensitized people in the area to report all cases of child abuse to them, 1(2%) disagreed and 2(4%) were not sure. These findings can be linked to the fact that funds were budget for and allocated to specific activities including workshops to enable spread the gospel of child abuse in several of the communities. These workshops were organized and liaison made through the local leaders. These involved use of routine social

gathering and the meetings involved a warm exchange and sharing of constructive ideas pertaining to the law enforcement and crime including child abuse.

Responses or opinions obtained on child protection services include: 44(88%) of the respondents who agreed that police officers were inducted in prevention of child related cases while 4(10%) disagreed and 1(2%) reserved their comment.

Similarly, 34(76%) respondents agreed that children were encouraged by police to report any problem relating to the abuse of their rights, 3(6%) disagreed and 8(18%) were neutral. More still, 35(79%) of the respondents indicated that the children who report child abuse cases to the police are protected from victim attacks, however, 4(8%) disagreed and 6(13%) were neutral meaning that police through its personnel office was entirely responsible for nothing more than a tour of police key facilities and an introduction to key personnel amongst which some become eventually workmates. More still, police using both formal and informal means of communication informed key beneficiaries including children of their right to report any sort of abuse that negatively affected them.

Responses or opinions obtained on victim support include: 39(86%) that agreed, 3(7%) who disagreed and 3(7%) who were indecisive to the statement that police provided counseling to families and care takers of abused children.

Lastly, 37(84%) of the respondents agreed that the police worked with NGOs and CBOs in the area to reduce on cases of child abuse, 4(8%) disagreed and 4(8%) were not sure. These revelations can be linked to the fact that counseling was deployed as a mechanism to ensure that the affected had all the confidence and trust in the system that it was going to play its role. Secondly, a sense of togetherness was portrayed to the system through counseling, all intended to avail relief to the affected parties.

#### 4.6.1 Correlation results for Preventive roles and Child abuse reduction

In an effort of establishing the relationship between preventive role and child abuse reduction, Pearson’s product moment correlation coefficient index specifically the bivariate correlation was analyzed.

**Table 4. 11: Correlation Results for Preventive roles and Child abuse reduction**

		Child abuse reduction	Preventive roles
Child abuse reduction	Pearson Correlation	1	.221
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.144
	N	45	45
Preventive roles	Pearson Correlation	.221	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.144	
	N	45	45
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.11 above shows a weak positive correlation between preventive roles and Child abuse in Kampala Metropolitan Police North. ( $r=.221$   $p < 0.05$ ). So there is a positive relationship between preventive roles and Child abuse in Kampala Metropolitan Police North even though scientifically not significant (Sig. = 0.144,  $P = .000 < 0.05$ ). This meant that the model is not significant because its significance value is above 0.05. This means that organizing more outreach community education workshops about child abuse; sensitizing people in the area to report all cases of child abuse, induction of police officers in prevention of child related cases, other factors remaining constant, is likely to reduce Child abuse by 22.1%. However, this analysis is not conclusive, thus the need to test the hypothesis further.

Therefore, in establishing the effect that preventive role had on child abuse, coefficient of determination (linear regression) was used and the findings that were obtained are presented in Table 4.12 below.

**Table 4. 12:** Linear regression results for Preventive role

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Sig. (95% conf. level) p <0.005
1	.221 <sup>a</sup>	.049	.027	.59458	.144
a. Predictors: (Constant), preventive role					

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.12 shows the coefficient of determination and regression with scores including R as .221, R squared as .049, Adjusted R square as .027 and standard error of the estimate of (.59458) using the predictor; preventive role. The R<sup>2</sup> value of (.027) explains up to 2.7% (.027 x 100%) variance that preventive role had on child abuse. However, there are other factors responsible for child abuse reduction as reflected by the (97.3%). This implies that the increased sensitization of the communities using community education, ensuring advocacy and increasing victim support including psychological and counseling services would reduce on child abuse reduction but minimally. One respondent confirmed that,

*“The induction process here is an important tool for ensuring effectiveness in our operations. These expectations include police corporate values, ethics, expected office etiquette and decorum and an understanding of what is expected in terms of work output”*

This was affirmed by one respondent who said, *“Counseling services availed have helped these clients to choose the best solution to a crime problem, through the process of listening and questioning”*.

#### **4.6.2 Hypothesis two test results**

Table 4.12 shows that the relationship between Prevention role and child abuse reduction was positive even though scientifically not significant (Sig. = 0. 144, P =.000 <0.05). This meant that the model is not significant because its significance value is above 0.05.

Based on the positive results obtained on hypothesis one that, “Prevention has a positive effect on child abuse reduction” is accepted.

#### 4.7 Responsive function and Child Abuse reduction in the Uganda Police

The third objective of the study was to establish the effect of response function Uganda police on child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan North. Response function was measured using Reporting, arrests/immediate response/institute criminal proceedings where key findings are presented in Table 4.13 below.

**Table 4. 13:** Statements on Responsive function

Questions on Responsive function	A	NS	D	Mean
Cases of child abuse reported to the police are investigated promptly	82% (36)	8% (4)	10% (5)	<b>3.80</b>
The police makes frequent arrests in case of any suspect of child abuse in the area	80% (35)	4% (2)	16% (8)	<b>3.91</b>
Cases of child abuse reported to the police are thoroughly investigated and instituted into criminal proceeding	72% (32)	4% (2)	24% (11)	<b>3.67</b>
The police works with juvenile courts to see that children are prepared as key witnesses	96% (42)	2% (1)	4% (2)	<b>4.02</b>
Police uses the media to announce reports of missing and abandoned children in the area	88% (39)	4% (2)	8% (4)	<b>4.11</b>
People who are arrested of child abuse in the area are prosecuted	66% (30)	18% (8)	16% (7)	<b>3.76</b>
Police bonds for child abusers are granted	83% (37)	11% (5)	6% (3)	<b>4.00</b>
The number of convictions in criminal justice system have increased	49% (22)	20% (9)	31% (14)	<b>3.31</b>
The police has a free toll line for reporting child abuse cases	100% (45)	0% (0)	0% (0)	<b>4.87</b>
<b>Average Mean =</b> $\sum$ (mean) / number of items Thus 34.45/9				<b>3.82</b>

**Source: Primary data**

**A=Agree NS=Not Sure D=Disagree**

For interpretation purposes; all standard deviation, mean scores and percentage responses are interpreted as follows. The mean value above three (>3.00) reveal many of the respondents

having agreed as that below three (<3.00) reveals disagreement. An average mean value of 3.82 obtained reveals more of agreed opinion as compared with disagreed opinions. In addition, for purposes of easy interpretation of results obtained, the researcher grouped both agreed (A) with strongly agreed (SA) to reflect the respondents who agreed. More still, the researcher grouped disagreed (D) and strongly disagreed (SD) to show the respondents who disagreed while the not sure (NS) were not grouped.

Reporting as one of the response role sub indicator was measured using a number of questions and these have been grouped, responses obtained include: 36(82%) that agreed, 8(10%) that disagreed and 4(8%) that neither agreed nor disagreed to the statement that cases of child abuse reported to the police were investigated promptly. On whether the police made frequent arrests in case of any suspect of child abuse in the area had: 35(80%) of the respondents who agreed, 8(16%) who disagreed and 2(4%) who were neutral. The results meant that routine investigations were sanctioned with the intent to establish whether crime had been committed on the children. This act clearly revealed that police and specifically the CID were at work. Furthermore, as a means of ensuring that people were either convicted or acquitted of any wrong doing, the needed to first be under police custody while thorough investigation including child abuse were being carried out. In addition, 36(82%) of the

respondents agreed that cases of child abuse reported to the police were thoroughly investigated and instituted into criminal proceeding, however, 11(24%) disagreed, and 2(4%) were neutral.

Lastly, on reporting another of the question asked was on whether police used the media to announce reports of missing and abandoned children in the area. Scores obtained include 39(88%) who agreed, 2(4%) who were not sure and 4(8%) who disagreed respectively meaning that all matters reported to police and needed urgent investigation were recording and investigator assigned tasks to do a perfect investigation role. This was intended to ensure that

evidence was provided against the culprits. As a way of accountability of public funds used, it can be said that the Uganda police is mandated to provide a current state of affairs in police cutting across a number of departments including the child protection service unit where child abuse falls.

Arrest/immediate response the second response role sub indicator was measured using several questions. These have been grouped as follows: 30(66%) of the respondents agreed that people who were arrested of child abuse in the area were prosecuted, however, 7(16%) disagreed and 8(18%) were neutral.

Further still, 45(100%) with a mean score of 4.87 of the respondents agreed that the police had a free toll line for reporting child abuse cases.

The results suggest that a number of cases reported have been followed by quick investigation and eventually arrest, imprisoning and forwarding the reports cases to the local courts of law for prosecution. In addition, as a means of communications and keeping touch with the local community and overseeing that law and order are observed, the police have put in place a telephone and email system with toll free lines and emergency line including 999 and 112. The line are intended to respond very fast whenever need be and also draw a crime to continuous crime including child abuse.

Institute criminal responses the third sub indicator was measured using the following questions, of these have been grouped with their respective responses: A majority respondents 42(96%) supplemented by mean of 4.02 indicated positively that the police works with juvenile courts to see that children who are caught in delinquency are punished, although, 2(4%) disagreed and 1(2%) reserved their opinion. In addition, 22(49%) of the respondents agreed to the statement that the number of convictions in criminal justice system had increased, 14(31%) disagreed and 9(20%) neither agreed nor disagreed.



Finally, (83%) of the respondents agreed that police bonds for child abusers were granted, however, 3(6%) disagreed and 5(11%) were neutral. The findings reveals a legal connection between the Juvenile court and the police as the court bases on evidence provided by police to continue with its proceedings.

In addition, on whether convictions in criminal justice system had increased reveals how the courts of law are provide quality and timely justice to all parties and the increased clearing of cases relating to child abuse. This seems to serve as a reminder to others that failure to honour child rights results into conviction and eventually imprisonment. Finally, the results can be linked to the fact that sufficient evidence to pin the suspects hence honoring the law and eventually releasing the suspects on police bond.

#### 4.7.1 Correlation results for responsive function and Child abuse reduction

In an effort of establishing the relationship between responsive function and child abuse, Pearson’s product moment correlation coefficient index specifically the bivariate correlation was analyzed.

**Table 4. 14: Correlation Results for responsive function and Child abuse reduction**

		Child abuse reduction	Responsive function
Child abuse reduction	Pearson Correlation	1	.296*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.048
	N	45	45
Responsive function	Pearson Correlation	.296*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.048	
	N	45	45
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.14 above shows a weak positive correlation between responsive function and Child abuse in Kampala Metropolitan Police North ( $r=.296^{**}p < 0.05$ ). So there is a positive

relationship between responsive function and Child abuse in Kampala Metropolitan Police North even though scientifically not significant (Sig. = 0.048,  $P = .000 < 0.05$ ). This meant that the model is not significant because its significance value is above 0.05. This means that prompt investigation of child abuse cases; frequent arrests in case of any suspect of child abuse, thoroughly investigation and institution into criminal proceeding, putting in place a free toll line for reporting child abuse cases other factors remaining constant, is likely to reduce Child abuse by 29.6%. However, this analysis was not conclusive, thus the need to test the hypothesis further.

Therefore, in establishing the effect that responsive function had on child abuse, coefficient of determination (linear regression) was used and the findings that were obtained are presented in Table 4.15 below.

**Table 4. 15:** Linear regression results for responsive function

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Sig. (95% conf. level) p < 0.005
1	.296 <sup>a</sup>	.088	.067	.58227	.048
a. Predictors: (Constant), responsive function					

**Source: Primary data**

Table 4.15 shows that a positive insignificant relationship between responsive function and child abuse. This analysis shows that ( $r=0.296^{**}$ ;  $p < 0.05$ , .048). This analysis shows that a unit increase in response function, reduced child abuse in KMPN by 29.6%. However, this analysis is not conclusive hence the need to go further and compare the coefficient of determination. On the other hand, regression with scores including R as .296, R squared as .088, Adjusted R square as .067 and standard error of the estimate of (.58227) using the predictor; responsive function. The  $R^2$  value of (.067) explains up to 6.7% (.067 x 100%) variance that response function had on child abuse reduction. However, there are other factors responsible for child

abuse reduction as reflected by the (93.3%). This implies timely reporting of child abuse, followed by arrests/immediate response when they are confirmed and the instituting criminal proceedings based on evidence would signal a reduction in child abuse acts. One respondent said;

*“Criminals are dealt with in the courts of law whose procedure is regulated by the procedural law. The procedure which governs the criminal proceedings and Court proceedings before it decides a case is fair, inspires confidence and at the same time is not such as provides a wide escape route for the guilt”*

This was confirmed by one respondent who said;

*“Police has set up a toll free line across all mobile phone networks to enable the public report any cases of abuse of the law including child, solicit for bribes and other crimes and as a result there have been over 2065 recorded complaints ranging from child abuse, soliciting for bribes, mismanagement of case files, harassment of the public, to thefts and murders”*

One respondent said;

*“The police lassies with court however, there is only one constituted juvenile court with its own juvenile court magistrate in Uganda. This is in the capital Kampala. This means that often in other parts of the country children are tried in open adult courts, creating an intimidating atmosphere for the children, and magistrates use the same procedure as for adults which does not take into account the best interests of the child”.*

#### **4.5.2 Hypothesis three test results**

Table 4.12 shows that the relationship between Response function and child abuse reduction was positive even though scientifically not significant (Sig. = 0.048,  $P = .000 < 0.05$ ). This meant that the model is not significant because its significance value is above 0.05.

Based on the positive results obtained on hypothesis one that, “Response function has a positive effect on child abuse reduction” is accepted.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

The previous chapter focused on the presentation of findings. This chapter presents summaries, discussed, concludes and recommends based on the specific objectives. It further entails the limitations and areas for further studies.

#### 5.2 Summary of Law enforcement and Child Abuse Reduction

This section provides the summary of the findings based on the specific objectives of the study and these are detailed in sub section 5.2.1, 5.2.2 and 5.2.3 respectively.

##### 5.2.1 Detective role and Child Abuse

The study found out that a significant positive relationship (.476\*\*) exists between detective role and child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect with a 20.9% variance realized. Child abuse crime or cases including street children, child prostitutes and parent-child matters were handled by the crime prevention section of police in line with the CIID and measures including discovering, investigating and preventive arrests deployed to ensure its reduction. An average mean value of 3.86 was obtained when a number of quantified questions were asked and results analyzed meaning that KMPN increases the use of discovering, investigating and preventive arrests as key detective roles, would reduce on child abuse.

##### 5.2.2 Preventive role and Child Abuse

It was found out that preventive maintenance had up to 2.7% variance on child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect with a positive correlation result of (.221\*\*) obtained. In summary, it can be said that increased involvement

and sensitization of the local communities using community education coupled with upping advocacy and not forgetting victim support (counseling services) would create a path for child abuse reduction. In addition, a mean average of 4.03 was obtained indicating agreement to most of the questions that were posed to the respondent.

### **5.2.3 Response function and Child Abuse**

The inferential results reveal that responsive function in this particular study could not be separated from child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect in Uganda Police force as indicated by the positive pearson correlation value of (.296\*\*) obtained and reflected in Table 4.9 in chapter four. In nutshell, the following is summarized about responsive function and child abuse that implies timely reporting of child abuse, followed by arrests/immediate response when they are confirmed and the instituting criminal proceedings based on evidence would signal a reduction in child abuse acts. Finally, average mean score of 3.82 realized indicates more agreement compared to disagreement on responsive function.

## **5.3 Discussion of Law enforcement and Child Abuse Reduction**

This section presented a detailed account of the findings in line with the scholarly literature as presented in chapter four. In addition, it is at this point that a number of gaps are identified based on the specific objectives of the study.

### **5.3.1 Detective role and Child Abuse Reduction**

As earlier reflected, research shows that detective role had a positive effect on the reduction child abuse by KMN as reflected by the positive correlations and overall mean obtained for the study. This can be supported by the number of positive responses that were obtained when a couple of questions were asked on detective roles.

For instance a portion of respondents (96%) agreed that the police had done a lot to discover a number of hidden child abuse cases in the area while (100%) of the respondents agreed that the police worked with the community to see that child abusers are identified and arrested. In addition, 73% respondents agreed that people who are thought to be child abusers have been convicted. The findings are in line with Hammond et al (2001) who ascertained that law enforcement's role in detection is one of the key professions involved in the child protection system. Each discipline involved in the system maintains its own purpose, authority, philosophical basis, and approaches to intervening in child abuse and neglect. National Children's Alliance (2003) in addition argues that other key professionals such as physicians and other health personnel not only treat the injuries incurred as the result of abuse, but also provide critical information to investigators. The results mean that police in the KMPN area is entrusted with the task of ensuring that law and order are adhered to and the key culprits are brought to book hence a positive gesture as indicated by the positive results obtained reflected by the 96% and 100% respectively. However, some discrepancies were observed during the course of the study as indicated by the 4% that disagreed to the fact that fewer discoveries of hidden child abuse cases in the area were actually realized. Some of these discrepancies may include lack of sufficient evidence (information) about the abuse cases under investigation where some culprits walked away freely without any legal prosecution.

Secondly, another revelation is linked to the fact that 27% of the respondents disagreed that fewer of the culprits were brought to book. This percentage might reveal numerous loopholes in the conviction procedures or way such culprits (child abuses) are investigated. This can be attributed to the fact that constant threats are directed to key witnesses who would have provided key evidence which scares them to life. The failure of such witnesses to appear and give evidence required to effect legal proceeding and eventually convict these abusers seems a problem.

Lastly, a portion of respondents actually representing a majority, 67% indicated that a number of people who are thought to be child abusers have been convicted. The findings concur with literature as presented in chapter two where for instance the Office of National Drug Control Policy Report of (2004) highlights that that law enforcement officers will be called upon to investigate allegations of child maltreatment involving members of different ethnic or racial groups from their own. The researcher agreed to the fact that the presence of crime measures helps to limit on a number of child abuse crimes caused by lawbreakers. On the other hand, the number of negative responses obtained cannot be left unanswered. These are reflected by the 33% who disagreed to the statement that number of people who are thought to be child abusers have been convicted. This disagreed return, 33% reveals conviction gaps in the way such people are punished in relation to the law. Among the possible gaps are that the culprits are never identified. Another scenario is where settlement of such cases is done outside courts of law hence resulting into more child abuse practices.

### **5.3.2 Preventive role and Child Abuse Reduction**

Preventive role entailing increased involvement and sensitization of the local communities using community education coupled with upping advocacy and ensuring that victim support is extended to the children would result into reduced child abuse. This statement can be supported by the positive responses that were obtained during the course of the study where for instance a portion of respondents, 92% indicated that the police organizes outreach community education workshops about child abuse and 93% accepted that police has always sensitized people in the area to report all cases of child abuse to them. This statement has a link with Hammond (2001) who asserts that the officer's ability to communicate with children is dependent upon his/her understanding of cognitive and language development of children and Cage (2008) raises concern that because law enforcement officers are seen as a symbol of public safety, they are in an excellent position to raise community awareness about child abuse



and neglect. The researcher agrees to the findings as any attempt to make oneself or others aware of and responsive to certain ideas, events, situations, or phenomenon especially about child abuse makes them very conscious and careful hence attributes needed by the community in ensuring less child abuse. On the other hand, even with numerous communication channels through which the police sensitize the local communities, the level of information awareness or consumption has seemed low and as a result fewer community members have actually attended the workshops hence creating an information gap as reflected by the 8% and 7% disagreed scores.

Secondly, it can be argued that the criterion used to identify which community members to attend or not to attend community education including workshops seems an obstacle to information consumption by the local communities hence a contributing factor to the increase child abuse cases.

In addition, 88% agreed that police officers were inducted in prevention of child related cases. This fact can be complemented by Dietz (2006) who added that Law enforcement officers assigned to child abuse investigations must possess special skills. The investigators chosen for this type of work should be able to communicate and empathize not only with the victim but also with the family and the perpetrator. The researcher agrees to the laid statements as the induction of police staff on child matters including cases helps them acknowledge more knowledge, skills and competence about how best to enforce the law when cases are brought forward. In addition, induction helps these officers to share and exchange common experiences pertaining to child abuse and adopt a better working culture. However, the 12% that disagreed or were neutral reveal discrepancies with the way induction in police is handled. Some of these discrepancies may include poor timing and delays in conducting induction. Such untimely schedules have left out some of the newly recruited officers from acquiring knowledge on child abuse cases hence a problem.

Furthermore, 79% of the respondents agreed that the children who reported child abuse cases to the police were protected from victim attacks and 76% agreed that children are encouraged by police to report any problem relating to the abuse of their rights. These revelations are in line with scholars including Winterfeld & Sakagawa (2003) acknowledged that it is important to conduct the interview in a quiet setting with minimal disruptions. It is also important to keep in mind that a child rarely feels free to disclose sensitive information when a parent or relative is present. Similarly, Finkelhor (2007) says that the investigator must be extremely careful how he/she reacts to the child's statements. Inexperienced investigators hearing the graphic details of child sexual abuse for the first time from a small child may inadvertently display shock or discomfort. The researcher agrees to the above statements. The protection of a child who reports an attempt on their rights makes the child have a sense of belong and trust police as an organ responsible for providing law and order. This is evidence by the 79% and 76% positive responses that were obtained. Nonetheless, a number of negatives were obtained linked to gaps in protection of the victims. Some of the gaps include the fact that most of the victims are civilians and staying in known neighborhoods which exposes them to threats and other risks.

### **5.3.3 Response function and Child Abuse Reduction**

The average mean score of 3.82 obtained earlier reveals that more agreed scores were obtained on responsive function. First, 82% respondents agreed that cases of child abuse reported to the police are investigated promptly and 72% indicated positively that cases of child abuse reported to the police are thoroughly investigated and instituted into criminal proceeding. The findings correlate with Winterfeld & Sakagawa (2003) who argued that the role of response function of the law enforcement on fighting against child abuse. He assures that because of the law enforcement officer's presence in the community, law enforcement officers often encounter situations that appear to involve child maltreatment while Kean (2004) argues that to avoid potential conflict and to improve investigative outcomes, a team approach with CPS and law

enforcement working collaboratively is far more desirable. The researcher agrees to the fact that information is required to gather substantial evidence for possible prosecution of the culprits. However, weaknesses were identified in the way most investigations were handled presented by 18% and 28% disagreement scores. Some of these weaknesses may include the insufficient resources including human and financial resources. This has delayed investigations and evidence had been lost among other hence contributing to more child abuse acts

Among other scores obtained was the 96% who agreed that police works with juvenile courts to see that children prepared as key witnesses and 66% of the respondents who agreed that people who are arrested of child abuse in the area were prosecuted. The findings coincide with Shepherd (2005) points out that professionals involved in child abuse and neglect investigations recognize the need to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort, to promote proper and expeditious collection and preservation of evidence, and to "develop a coordinated system for identifying and investigating appropriate calls. Further evidence as provided by Besharov (1990) on the use of law reveal that when all reasonable interventions that would protect the child in his/her own home have been examined but none are found suitable, removal from the home and placement in State custody may be necessary to protect the child from harm. As a researcher, it is good to establish a legal connection between the Juvenile court and the police as the court of law use evidence provided by police to provide with its criminal proceedings including convicting the culprits. On the other hand, prosecution discrepancies were realized in the prosecution. Some of the discrepancies may include provision of court bail at the earliest possible time as investigations are ongoing.

#### **5.4 Conclusions of Law enforcement and Child Abuse Reduction**

This section provides the conclusions of the findings based on the specific objectives of the study and presented in 5.4.1, 5.4.2 and 5.4.3 respectively.

#### **5.4.1 Detective role and Child Abuse Reduction**

There is a moderate positive relationship between Detective role and child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North whereby a change in Detective role was related to a considerable change in child abuse reduction where improved Detective role was related to improved child abuse reduction, and vice versa. Basing on of the findings of the study, it can be concluded that Detective role affects a number of outputs in the Police force. More effort in discovery of child abuse cases; increased police- community cooperation, identification and arrest of child offenders and undertaking frequent operations that involve indentifying child prostitutes were crucial in reduction of child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect by the Police force.

#### **5.4.2 Preventive role and Child Abuse Reduction**

There is a weak positive relationship between Preventive role and child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North whereby a change in Preventive role was related to a considerable change in child abuse reduction where improved Preventive role was related to improved child abuse reduction, and vice versa. Basing on of the findings of the study, it can be concluded that Preventive role affects a number of outputs in the Police force. Organizing more outreach community education workshops about child abuse; sensitizing people in the area to report all cases of child abuse, induction of police officers in prevention of child related cases were crucial in reduction of child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect by the Police force.

#### **5.4.3 Responsive function and Child Abuse Reduction**

There is a weak positive relationship between Responsive function and child abuse reduction in Kampala Metropolitan Police North whereby a change in Responsive function was related to a considerable change in child abuse reduction where improved Responsive function was related to improved child abuse reduction, and vice versa. Basing on of the findings of the study, it can be concluded that Responsive function affects a number of outputs in the Police force. prompt investigation of child abuse cases; frequent arrests in case of any suspect of child abuse, thoroughly investigation and institution into criminal proceeding, putting in place a free toll line for reporting child abuse cases were crucial in reduction of child abuse in the form of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and physical abuse and neglect by the Police force.

## **5.5 Recommendations**

This section provides the recommendations based on the specific objectives of the study.

### **5.5.1 Detective role and Child Abuse**

Basing on the study findings, KMPN management together with Criminal Intelligence & Investigation Department and Community Liaison Unit should ensure that they engage more community members and their local leaders in the elicitation of factual and reliable information about law breakers as this will ensure that evidence on the crimes they committed is provided and based on such culprits are identified, arrested and prosecuted in the Courts of Law.

KMPN management in line with the Courts of Laws should review the existing child abuse penalties as this is likely to ensure that the potential and existing culprits get maximum punishment as this serves as deterrent measure to others hence reduce on acts of child abuse since it was found detective role is positively related to child abuse reduction.

The Kampala Metropolitan Police North should sensitize the Community about the danger of cases against children through community visits, village meetings, radio talks, television and

trainings among others since the study findings revealed that detective role is positively related to child abuse reduction.

The Kampala Metropolitan Police North should partner with various stakeholders such as the community members, NGOs and CBOs in identifying and investigating cases of child abuse since this study found that detective role is positively related to child abuse reduction.

The Uganda Police Force at headquarters should recruit more police officers to improve on the existing ratio of police officers to the policing population among whom some will work as child crime detectives because there is a positive relationship between detective role and child abuse reduction.

#### **5.5.2 Preventive role and Child Abuse**

Basing on the study findings, KMPN management together with the local leaders should ensure that both informal and formal means of communication to community members are adhered to by Police to ensure that training on child abuse prevention is re-laid to the community. This can be adopted to ensure that sensitization is clearly given to the locals pertaining to law enforcement and child abuse since the study found out that the local community lacked awareness on the number of organized trainings.

With a number of obstacles identified as limitations to reduced attendance of the local community, KMPN management in line with Community liaison office should consider reviewing the criterion upon which community education is based by using all forms of media to reach out to the people as this will strengthen information flow amongst the locals within the communities. This is intended to ensure that mutual cooperation is established between the Police and the local community as well as boost attendance hence allowing reliable information flow as the community lacked information.

KMPN management should conduct formal training programs in child abuse prevention. This is will enable KMPN police officers gain experience, skills and competence required to execute their roles child protection since this study found that preventive role is positively related to child abuse reduction.

The KMPN should organize frequent outreach community education workshops about child abuse to sensitize people to report all cases of child abuse through use of the media since the study found out that the local community lacked awareness on the number media platforms available for informing the police.

### **5.5.3 Response function and Child Abuse**

Basing on the study findings, KMPN management together with its Research and Planning directorate should review the existing budget on crime intelligence investigations. This will ensure that more funds are made available and allocated to the information fund. The availability of the funds, will boast fast crime intelligence investigations and identifying of child abuse cases among others hence reduction in the crime since study findings indicated that response role is positively related to child abuse reduction.

### **5.6 Areas for further study**

The researcher recommends the following areas for further studies including:

Given the fact that most child abusers walk away free without being prosecuted, this has created a widening gap between police-victims and courts of laws. The researcher recommends that research be carried out on sufficient evidence gathering techniques in Child abuse cases in Uganda.

The researcher recommends that research be conducted on the Influence of Local Community Participation on Child abuse in Uganda

Lastly, the researcher recommends that research be conducted on the Impact of Victim protection and Child abuse in Uganda



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5. For how many years have you worked in Kampala Metropolitan North?

- a) Less than one year      b) 1-5 years      c) 6-10 years      4) Over 10 years

**SECTION B: INDEPENDENT VARIABLE – LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**i) Detective role**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = strongly Agree**

No	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
1.	The police has done a lot to discover a number of hidden child abuse cases in the area					
2.	The police works with the community to see that child abusers are indentified and arrested					
3.	A number of people who are thought to be child abusers have been convicted					
4.	The police have been key in reducing on the number of street kids in the area					
5.	Parents who engage in child abuse and neglects have always been identified and arrested by the police					
6.	The police in the area frequently undertakes operations that involve indentifying child prostitutes					
7.	Police has arrested a number of employers who employ children in hazardous labor					

**ii) Preventive role**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = strongly Agree**

No.	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
1	The police organizes outreach community education workshops about child abuse					
2	The police has always sensitized people in the area to report all cases of child abuse to them					
4	Police officers are inducted in prevention of child related cases					
5	Children are encouraged by police to report any problem relating to the abuse of their rights					
6	The children who report child abuse cases to the police are protected from victim attacks					
7	Police provides counseling to families and care takers of abused children					
8	The police works with NGOs and CBOs in the area to reduce on cases of child abuse					

**iii) Response function**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = strongly Agree**

No.	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
1	Cases of child abuse reported to the police are investigated promptly					
2	The police makes frequent arrests in case of any suspect of child abuse in the area					
3	Cases of child abuse reported to the police are thoroughly investigated and instituted into criminal proceeding					
4	The police works with juvenile courts to see that children are prepared as key witnesses					
5	Police uses the media to announce reports of missing and abandoned children in the area					
6	People who are arrested of child abuse in the area are prosecuted					
7	Police bonds for child abusers are granted					
8	The number of convictions in criminal justice system have increased					
9	The police has a free toll line for reporting child abuse cases					

**SECTION C: DEPENDENT VARIABLE – CHILD ABUSE**

**i) Sexual abuse**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree**

No.	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
1	Cases of incest have reduced					
2	Pornography in KMPN has been fought					
3	The number of children involved in prostitution in the area has reduced					
4	Defilement cases have reduced in the area for the last three years					

**ii) Emotional Abuse**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree**

No.	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
1	Domestic violence has reduced					
2	Cases of step mothers mistreating children have reduced					
3	Child sacrifice in the area has completely reduced					
4	Most parents can provide basic need for their children					
5	Defilement cases have reduced in the area					



**iii) Physical Abuse**

**In this section please tick in the box that corresponds to your opinion/view according to a scale of 1 = strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not Sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1	There are few complaints of corporal punishment from schools					
2	Cases of child torture by parents have reduced in the area					
3	Child sacrifice in the area have completely reduced					
4	Issue of child trafficking have reduced in Kampala Metropolitan North					
5	Child labor has reduced					

**iv) Neglect**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1	Child neglect in the area has reduced					
2	Cases of missing children has reduced in the area					
3	The number of street kids has reduced in the area					
4	There are few cases of a abandoned children					

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION**

**APPENDIX II: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR SENIOR OFFICERS AND CHILDREN AND FAMILY PROTECTION UNIT STAFFS IN KAMPALA METROPOLITAN NORTH.**

Position in Kampala Metropolitan North .....

Department /Section.....

1. a) Does police engage in detecting child abuse cases in the area? *Please tick the appropriate option.*

a)

b)

b) What activities do you engage in to detect child abuse cases?

.....  
.....

c) Have those activities reduced on the number of child abuse cases in the area? Give a reason for your answer.

.....  
.....  
.....

2. a) Does police engage in preventing child abuse cases in the area? *Please tick the appropriate option.*

a)

b)

a) If yes, what activities do you engage in to prevent child abuse cases in the area?

.....  
.....

b) Have those activities reduced on the number of child abuse cases in the area? Give a reason for your answer.

.....  
.....  
.....

3. a) Does police promptly respond to reported cases of child abuse cases in the area Promptly? *Please tick the appropriate option.*

a)

b)

b) If yes, how?

.....  
.....

c) Have those activities reduced on the number of child abuse cases in the area? Give a reason for your answer.

.....  
.....  
.....

4. How would you describe the general rate of child abuse in the area? Is it increasing or reducing and why?

.....  
.....

**THANK YOU SO MUCH**

### **APPENDIX III: DOCUMENTARY REVIEW CHECKLIST**

- 1) The Uganda Crime Report (2011)
- 2) The Uganda Crime Report (2012,
- 3) The Uganda Crime Report (2013)
- 4) The Children Labor Policy (2006)
- 5) The Children's Statute, (1996)
- 6) The Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2007

**APPENDIX IV: TABLE FOR DETERMINING SAMPLE SIZE FROM A GIVEN POPULATION (KREJCIE & MORGAN 1970 TABLE)**

<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
10	10	220	140	1200	291
15	14	230	144	1300	297
20	19	240	148	1400	302
25	24	250	152	1500	306
30	28	260	155	1600	310
35	32	270	159	1700	313
40	36	280	162	1800	317
45	40	290	165	1900	320
50	44	300	169	2000	322
55	48	320	175	2200	327
60	52	340	181	2400	331
65	56	360	186	2600	335
70	59	380	191	2800	338
75	63	400	196	3000	341
80	66	420	201	3500	346
85	70	440	205	4000	351
90	73	460	210	4500	354
95	76	480	214	5000	357
100	80	500	217	6000	361
110	86	550	226	7000	364
120	92	600	234	8000	367
130	97	650	242	9000	368
140	103	700	248	10000	370
150	108	750	254	15000	375
160	113	800	260	20000	377
170	118	850	265	30000	379
180	123	900	269	40000	380
190	127	950	274	50000	381
200	132	1000	278	75000	382
210	136	1100	285	100000	384

*Source: Krejcie & Morgan (1970, as cited by Amin, 2005)*

Note.—*N* is population size.

*S* is sample size.