

**INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILDREN RAISED IN ABUSIVE HOMES IN  
INDUSTRIAL CITY DIVISION MBALE CITY**

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**UGANDA CHRISTIAN  
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## DECLARATION

To the best of my knowledge, I **KWAGA DOREEN**, declare that this work is mine and never been published by any one or by any institution of higher learning.

Name: **KWAGA DOREEN**

Sign..........

Date.....<sup>th</sup> 1/09/2024.....

## SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL

This is to certify that, this research report has been done under my supervision as the university supervisor and approved.

Name: MADAM PIMER JESSICA UKOKU

Sign .....  .....

Date..... 9<sup>th</sup> - SEPTEMBER - 2024 .....

## **DEDICATION**

I do dedicate this research to all my parents and guardians for all the continuous support they have accorded to me. Throughout this academic life

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Gratitude goes to the God for His care, love, provision and protection. May his holy name be lifted higher every day for He has done great things that no one else can do.

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

AOGCMs	:	Atmospheric Oceanic Global Circulation Models
CO2	:	Carbon Dioxide
FAO	:	Food and Agricultural Organization
FTF	:	Feed the Future
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
IPCC	:	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LDA	:	Leads in Decrease in Agricultural
MWLE	:	Ministry of Water Lands and Environment
WFP	:	World Food Programme

## **ABSTRACT**

The problem of children raised in abusive homes is deeply rooted in our cultural and religious history. It is as old as civilization itself. Yet the fact of child and adolescent abuse has remained largely hidden and suppressed both in Uganda and around the world. The purpose of this study was to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. Specifically, the study was guided by three objectives which included to determine various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study also determined interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study used qualitative case study design to analyze data from the study area with the help of both qualitative and quantitative methods. The researcher collected data from 15 respondents in the study area who were selected using simple random and purpose sampling and questionnaires together with interview guide were used to collect data. The study discovered that there are various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and their responses such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and nutritional abuse. Further the study found that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems, child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children, child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems and child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems. The study also found several interventions of preventing child abuse and these included involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse, involving the media, improving household incomes and reduce poverty, addressing domestic violence, giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment, strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations. The study recommended that government and stakeholders should sensitize the community of the dangers of child abuse to children and should implement child-related laws to help prevent child abuse. There is need to strengthen family relationships. This will go a long way in mitigating problems related to alcohol addiction and the government together with stakeholders should strengthen the capacity of law enforcement institutions involved in child rights protection.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Introduction**

This study sought to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. Global trends that were just emerging at the 2000 UNESCO conference on children in Tokyo, Japan have now come into full play. Foremost among these are elimination of child trafficking activities, policy frameworks for prevention of child abuse and free education for all called "equitable education ". Since Tokyo, the relentless emphasis on child rights protection accompanied by the growing domination of decision making by transnational agencies like UNESCO and UNICEF have shaped human right policy environments both in developed and developing countries.

In this study, children raised in abusive homes refers to those children experiencing any behavior by parents, caregivers, other adults or older adolescents that is outside the norms of conduct and entails a substantial risk of causing physical or emotional harm to a child or young person. Such behaviors may be intentional or unintentional and can include acts of omission (i.e., neglect) and commission (i.e., abuse). This chapter discusses information related to the background of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study and the conceptual frame work.

### **1.2 Background to the Study**

#### **1.2.1 The situation of child abuse globally**

The phenomenon of children raised in abusive homes is deeply rooted in our cultural and religious history. It is as old as civilization itself. Yet the fact of child and adolescent abuse has remained largely hidden and suppressed (Mwaira; 2019). Reform movements that have pointed out the horrors being committed upon children and attempted to provide some protection have occurred at intervals, but in time the shocking facts of mistreatment and abuse seem always to have been avoided or forgotten. Child maltreatment is a global problem with serious life-long consequences. In spite of recent national surveys in several low- and middle-income countries,

data from many countries on interventions regarding the protection of children's rights are still lacking.

Children raised in abusive homes experience child abuse which includes all forms of violence against people under 18 years old, whether perpetrated by parents or other caregivers, peers, romantic partners, or strangers (World Bank, 2020). Globally, it is estimated that up to 1 billion children aged 2–17 years, have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect in the past year. Experiencing abuse in childhood impacts lifelong health and well-being. Target 16.2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to “end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against, and torture of, children and evidence from around the world shows that violence against children can be prevented (Ki moon, 2018). More often than not, the perpetrators go unpunished. Each year, hundreds of thousands of children are trafficked and enslaved; millions more are subjected to harmful practices. Child abuse kills and disables as many children between the ages of 1 month and 17 years as cancer and its toll on children's health surpasses that of traffic accidents and malaria combined. The Action plans from the 1994 international conference on population and development (ICPD) and the 1995 fourth world conference on women and children (Beijing) recognized the elimination of child abuse as central to releasing peaceful societies.

Over the centuries infanticide, ritual sacrifice, exposure, mutilation, abandonment, harsh discipline, and exploitation of child labor have been only some of the ways in which children raised in abused homes have been mistreated. Infanticide-the killing/murder of children by parents and the community has been a form of birth control, a way of avoiding the embarrassment of an illegitimate child, a method of disposing of a weak or deformed child, and a means of serving religious beliefs (Allen, 2021). Numerous religions have required that the first-born be sacrificed to an angry god. In societies of West Indies (Cuba, Puerto Rico and other islands of the Caribbean), female children were sacrificed because they were considered useless. Abandonment or exposure to the elements of a child and adolescents who were unwanted or who could not be provided for was a form of infanticide that was common in ancient societies and educational opportunities for children were virtually nonexistent (Nuagaba, 2017).

Ancient Greece knew exposure and infanticide well. The favorite figure in the comedy of the fourth century, B.C., was the child who had been exposed, saved, and later found by his parents. In Greece, Obbo (2018) argued that a child was the absolute property of his father, who had to decide whether he would live or die; on the fifth day after birth, at the ceremony of Amphidromia, the father was forced to decide whether or not to receive the infant into the family. Under Greek law property was divided among the Slaughter of the Innocents, when Christ escaped the order of King Herod that male infants be killed." Historically, infanticide and other forms of child abuse have usually been accomplished by bloodless methods like strangulation, drowning, smothering, burial alive, and incineration and often for a ritualistic purpose.

In China, India, Mexico, and Peru, children were cast into rivers in an effort to bring fine harvests and good fortune. In other early cultures the blood and flesh of slain infants was thought to confer vigor and health, and, as a result, it was fed to expectant mothers or favored siblings (WHO, 2018). Kings were worshipped as gods in some ancient societies, and, therefore, were expected to assure good crops and prevent public catastrophe. If the king failed in his godly duties, his subjects expected him to give himself in sacrifice. Kings would sometimes offer a son as a sacrificial substitute. In this respect positive, and in some respects, commendable measures have been taken by the existing Ethiopian government. In 1991, Ethiopia ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Following ratification of the Convention, the government issued proclamation No. 10/1992 for adaptation of the Convention into the Ethiopian legal system. There are, however, problems with respect to applying the provisions of the Convention primarily because: 1) there is no official translation of the Convention which is accepted and officially approved by the Ethiopian Government (although it has been translated in 11 local languages), and 2) because the text of the Convention is not reproduced and promulgated in the Negarit Gazeta, the official Ethiopian instrument for publicizing laws.

Lerer (2019) opines that circumcision, derived from the ancient Jewish tradition, is still performed despite its questionable medical value. Foot binding of girls for aesthetic reasons was common in ancient China and continued until recent times with victims being denied access to educational opportunities. The American Flathead Indians practiced cranial deformation, and the

Solomon Islanders still do. Other forms of mutilation-gouged eyes, deformed feet, and amputated or twisted arms were inflicted on children in ancient Rome and later in England to evoke pity so they could become successful beggars. Child rights protection theory and practice have informed intervention frameworks and models. Responding to survivors of child abuse in humanitarian settings is grounded in a survivor-centered, empowerment approach that prioritizes a survivor's rights to self-determination, an approach which has been the cornerstone of the child rights protection movement and elimination of child abuse around the world for decades (Bromfield, 2005; Cristofel et al., 1992; Gilbert et al., 2019).

The Bible contains many references to infanticide. Whatever its historical accuracy, the Bible does reflect man's concerns throughout history. From the Old Testament we have the story of Abraham, whose loyalty to God was tested when he was instructed to offer his son, Isaac, as a burnt offering. A ram was substituted when God was satisfied of Abraham's faith and love." Obbo (2017) interpreted the Jewish tradition of circumcision as a substitute for the religious sacrifice of human life by the command of God to Abraham. Most societies have permitted severe physical punishment of children by parents, teachers, and others acting *in locoparentis*. Such action has been considered necessary to maintain discipline, to establish a proper atmosphere for teaching and learning, to satisfy religious imperatives, or to drive away evil spirits. "Spare the rod and spoil the child" is a Biblical warning of the dangers of parental leniency. Sick children were sometimes beaten for medical reasons to drive out the devil thought to possess them. In India Patto, (2018) argued that epileptic children were thrashed with a sacred iron chain to expel the demon. Many historical figures have complained of their abuse during childhood. In many countries however, interventions, for lacks budgetary appropriations and a wide gap exist between intention and reality.

In developing countries, a major problem arising from inadequate enforcement of child rights protection laws and policies relate to the capacity of institutions entrusted with the enforcement. Both the judiciary and the institutions of law enforcement (for example in Ethiopia, Southe Sudan, Somalia and Zimvabwe) have been characterized by lack of human resources and essential facilities (African Child Policy Forum, 2012). Police and Public Prosecutors have not

necessarily been given special training with the view to equip them with the technical and legal capacity to investigate and handle cases of violence against schoolgirls. Appropriate trainings, both short and long term, including refresher and specialized courses, must thus be given to the Police, Public Prosecutors, Children's Affairs Offices, Administrative Units; Community based Organizations and different associations. Building the capacity of these institutions, organizations and associations should not be restricted to trainings.

Before the nineteenth century, courts and public authorities rarely intervened in family life to protect children from parental neglect or abuse except when poor children were apprenticed or placed in almshouses. Beginning around 1825, it became gradually recognized that public authorities had a duty to intervene in cases of parental neglect. These early efforts interventions were considered more preventive than protective, since they were aimed at preventing neglected children from entering a life of crime and becoming a threat to the state. The first child-saving efforts were institutional-the "Refuge" movement (Patto, 2019). The New York House of Refuge was organized by a private corporation in 1824 and opened in 1825, thus becoming the first juvenile reformatory in the United States. Similar institutions were founded in Philadelphia in 1826, in Boston in 1826 (the first public institution, for the New York and Philadelphia Houses of Refuge were established by private corporations that received public funds which funds were even inadequate to cater for rising number of admitted victims of abuse), in New Orleans in 1845, and in Rochester and Baltimore in 1849. The laws authorized the courts to commit neglected, destitute, abandoned, and vagrant children to the houses of refuge along with child offenders however these houses of refugees had limited facilities (Wolfe, 2018).

Today in historical perspective, we have moved beyond the period of public interest in child abuse of the 1960's into a period of relative complacency at interventions. The problem is once more almost suppressed, Ruger et al; (2017). Child-abuse reporting laws may identify children who need protection, but they do not provide a simple solution to the complex legal and social issues involved in child protection. Interventions to prevent child abuse today like two decades ago has dissented to a degree of total neglect. Additionally, there has been no comprehensive single author survey on interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. Not that the subject has suffered from any lack of interests but many

historical scholars and publications particularly in Uganda and Africa have often been drawn more to the international scene than to the potentially more hazardous subject of interventions into child abuse at home. Very few historical nodes have been made on the subject and the resulting literature has, however, almost exclusively taken the form of edited volumes, specialized monographs and polemical contributions to debates and this is the gap this study intends to fill.

### **1.2.2 Child abuse in the African Region**

On the African scale, accurate information on the extent of adolescents' abuse is unavailable for many reasons. Abuse usually occurs in the privacy of the home. Further, abusing parents may be isolated from community life by poverty, geography, or social class. Often, the child victims are too young to either complain or understand that their treatment is inappropriate (Mushemeza, 2017). Moreover, it is comfortable to believe the parental explanation that the child's injuries were accidental. Even when abuse is known or suspected, relatives and neighbors are afraid to intervene, physicians and school officials are reluctant to report, and the courts have difficulties in establishing abuse under traditional procedures. Finally, the legal definitions of reportable child abuse vary from country to country (UNICEF, 2019). The quick responses of state legislatures in enacting child-abuse reporting laws from colonial time through 2000s reflect important legislative policy failure in the legal framework for child protection. The reporting laws are neither an effort by the state under *parens patriae* to replace parents who have failed nor reflect a policy to strengthen the child's own home through state resources and services to parents so that removal will not be necessary for effective child protection. In many African countries, children are sexually molested, battered, starved, medically neglected and overworked.

Child abuse is a form of maltreatment (cruelty, neglect, violence) of a child or young person. Children can be abused or neglected by inflicting harm on them, or by failing to prevent harm. Children or young people may be abused in a family, an institutional or a community setting by those known to them or by others. Child abuse is a major human right issue affecting millions of children across Africa (Omondi et al., 2021). Various forms of violence, exploitation, and neglect usually deny children their rights and access to essential services for their growth and development. In 2021, evidence shows that violence against children is increasing throughout Africa. From Sierra Leone to South Africa, the African Partnership to End Violence against

Children (APEVAC, 2020) found that rates of physical, sexual and psychological violence against children have grown, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing humanitarian emergencies.

Africa has the highest rates of child neglect in the world, with 41.8 per cent of girls and 39.1 per cent of boys being neglected by their caregivers. UNICEF (2022) estimates over 50% of children in Africa experience some form of physical, emotional, or sexual violence every year. In sub-Saharan Africa, nearly 3 in 4 children experience violent discipline by caregivers. Africa has the highest percentage of child neglect in the world having 41.8 percent of girls and 39.1 percent of boys. According to UNICEF (2022), 125 million women currently in Africa were married before their 18th birthday. Female genital mutilation has been inflicted on over 200 million girls and women in Africa that are alive today in 30 different countries of Africa. Sexual violence against children with disabilities is high in many countries, ranging from two incidents per child in Senegal to four per child in Cameroon. In Nigeria, 66 percent of girls and 58 per cent of boys under 18 witness violence in their home. Sixty-six percent of female girls below 18 years old and fifty-eight percent of male children witness domestic violence. On the other hand, over half of the adolescent students between the ages of thirteen and fifteen in West and Central Africa are harassed in schools (Okilinge et al., 2020).

Also in Nigeria, one in four women report experiencing sexual violence as children. With this report, it shows that violence against children is an alarmingly common form of abuse in Africa and the rate continues to increase yearly (UN, 2021). There are lots of cases that are not being reported and these are literally unspeakable justice and because of this, young children in Africa are being subjected to abuse daily. There is also little evidence in Africa of any intervention reform effort to address child abuse. Although there exists remarkably detailed work on child abuse, many past studies failure to top provide interventions for addressing child abuse was a more often observed historical feature in Sub Saharan Africa throughout 1980's. this study will therefore investigate interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City.

### **1.2.3 Child abuse in Uganda**

Most children in Uganda have experienced physical violence that threatens and halts their holistic and positive development (59 per cent of girls and 68 per cent of boys). Gender-based violence and sexual violence are also pervasive, with some 35 per cent of girls and 17 per cent of boys having experienced sexual violence during childhood. Girls are especially at risk of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, and female genital mutilation. Today, 4 in 10 women aged 20 to 49 years are married by 18 years, and at least 1 in 4 teenage girls are either pregnant or have a child. Child labour is pervasive, with children mainly working in the informal sector. In rural areas, 93 per cent of children are engaged in agriculture and fishing with no policy intervention to address the problem.

African child Rights Foundation (2010) argued that punishment against the perpetrators of child abuse should be more severe and the legal process has to be short and effective. Perpetrators should get the legal punishment they deserve. The police need to follow reported cases of violence strictly and with concern. The concerned bodies should do their best to enforce law effectively. Legal professionals should also teach the community about the legal provisions on violence against girls and women.

In Uganda, child rights and protection laws are found scattered in various laws. In order to facilitate the protection of the rights of the child and with the aim of implementing the UN CRC, consolidation and harmonization of the different provisions into a comprehensive children's act is necessary. The process would include collection, revision and improvement of the existing legislation as well as drafting new provisions. A comprehensive policy on all aspects of children's affairs in the country was developed with concrete strategies for actual implementation. However, lack of funds creates gaps in implementation.

Government of Uganda has tried to increase awareness about the negative effect of harmful traditional practices within the local communities which is essential intervention. General awareness campaigns have not been supported by concrete mobilization of religious and community leaders, including health professionals, educators, etc. Involve NGOs and CSOs in community mobilization and creation of child protection structures (including the way to and from school) and in general awareness raising and mobilization for the promotion of human and

child rights. Even establishing and strengthening Child Protection Units at all levels of regional Police Commission has suffered from lack of funding and generally has not improved the knowledge and attitudes of law enforcement authorities in regard to child abuse. Strengthen community policing and community action capacity by involving schools and communities will work but this has not been supported by an increase the number and capacity of human resources involved in child rights protection.

### **1.3 Problem statement**

According to situational analysis report of industrial City division of Mbale City, cases of child and adolescent abuse are wide spread. Children are battered by parents as a form of disciplining while others are roaming the street as beggars of sorts. Majority are neglected, burnt, malnourished and no schooling. Children in many households do not have proper shelter and clothing (Division report, 2023). The situation analysis report shows industrial City division of Mbale City (2023) further show that child neglect was ranked the highest violation of children's rights, while sexual violence or defilement emerged the second. Physical violence, property rights and children in conflict with law followed in that order. By gender, the female victims dominated with 53.9% against 46.1% males. Generally, boys were the victims of beatings and physical punishment more often than girls, while girls dominated as victims of sexual abuse and educational neglect. In most cases of child abuse in industrial City division, the abuser was someone the child knew, including religious leaders or instructors, teachers, parents, relatives or family friends.

This phenomenon when not handled leads to numerous negative consequences for children who are victims of abuses including accidents, sexual abuses, school disruption and juvenile delinquencies in Industrial City Division. Mbale City being one of the poorest and flooded prone areas faces significant economic marginalization with 40% of its population being children abused and living in poverty. Preliminary results show that these children also experience attachment and interpersonal relationship problems as well as cognitive and personal growth problems. Preliminary results show that there is lack of information regarding interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, a gap that this study intends to fill. To address this gap, this study determined interventions for preventing child abuse

in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and propose strong and focused strategies to prevent child abuse.

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

The purpose of this study was to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City.

#### **1.5 Objective of the study**

- I. To explore various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City
- II. To determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City
- III. To determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City

#### **1.6 Research questions**

- I. What are the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?
- II. How does child abuse affect children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?
- III. What interventions can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?

#### **1.7 Scope of the study**

The study was limited to the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and the study scope was categorized into geographical, content and time as follows:

##### **1.7.1 Geographical Scope**

The study was carried out in Mbale City. Mbale City is found in Bugisu Sub-Region, in Eastern Region of Uganda. It is approximately 231 KMs, by road, east of Kampala, the capital and largest city of Uganda. It's also bordered by Sironko in the North, Tororo in the south west and Kumi in the North West, Pallisa in the west and the republic of Kenya in the East It lies at the western foot of the extinct Mount Elgon Volcano, which is 4321 meters above the sea level. The coordinates of the district are: 01 21N, 34 03E.

##### **1.7.2 Content scope**

The study contained information about the effect of child abuse on children. It looked at the various forms of child abuse and how they affect children. It will also determine interventions

that can be implemented to prevent child abuse. Through this content scope, the researcher was able to collect adequate and relevant information that helped to attain study objectives.

### **1.7.3 Time Scope**

The research study considered the period between 2020 and 2023. This period is considered because it is during this time that incidences of child abuse are more intensified in Industrial City Division of Mbale City due to the effect of COVID19 (Division report, 2023)

### **1.8 Justification of the study**

The main reason for this study was to investigate interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City

### **1.9 Significance of the study**

The results of the study may go a long way to help strengthen the implementation of rules and regulation regarding the employment of children.

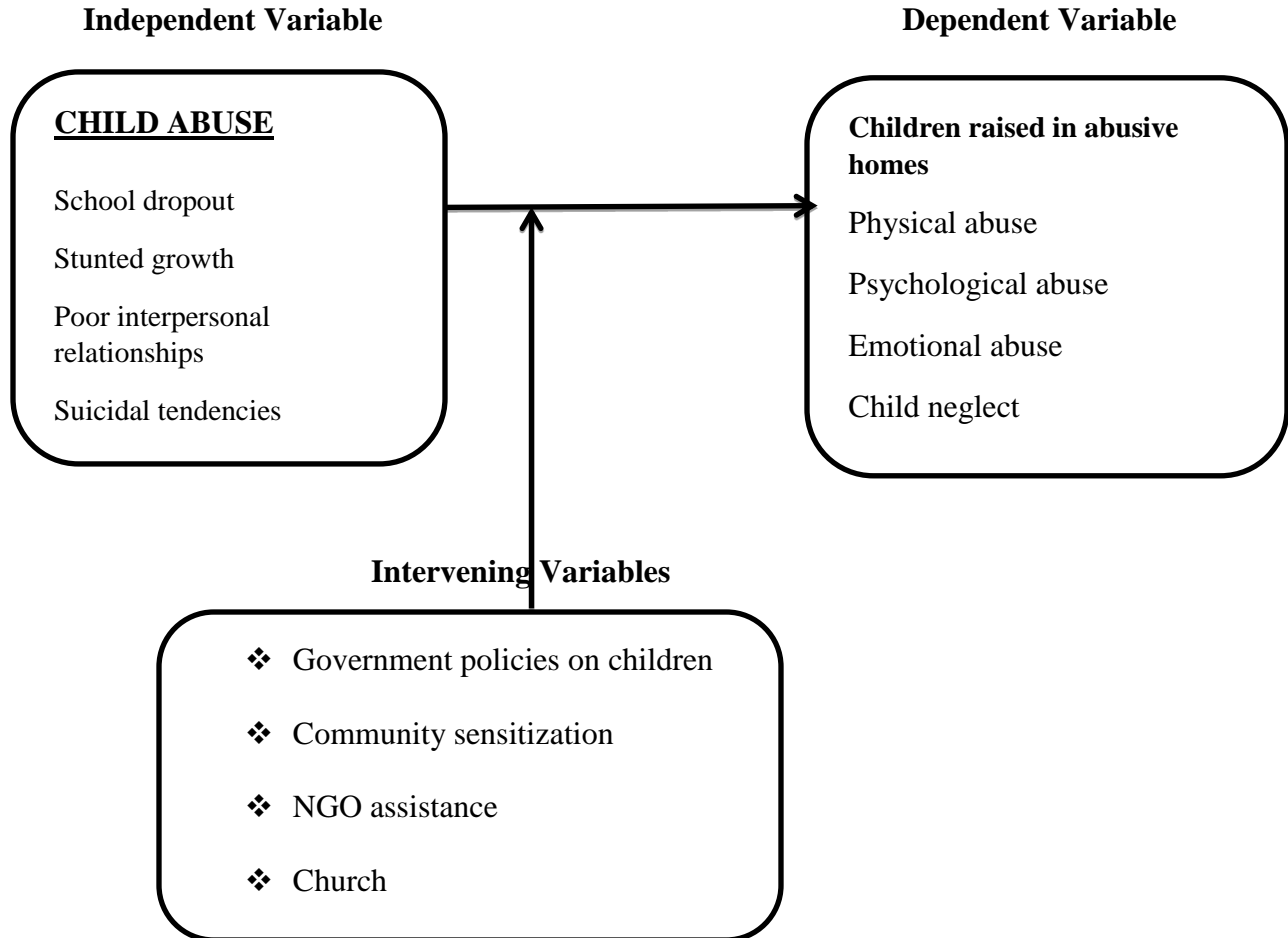
It may also help to form a basis for future planning and negotiations with various stakeholders on the elimination of child abuse.

The findings of the study may provide useful and practical information to planners and decision makers that would inform policy thinking and practice as far as the elimination of child abuse is concerned

The study may contribute to the existing body of knowledge on interventions for children raised in abusive homes.

The study may provide information to future researchers who intend to carry out research on interventions for children raised in abusive homes.

## 1.10 Conceptual Frame work



Source: From the Researcher's model, (2024)

**Figure 1.1 Conceptual Framework showing relationship between variables**

The above conceptual framework shows the relationship between variables

### **Definition of variables**

#### **Independent Variable**

An independent variable is exactly what it sounds like. It is a variable that stands alone and isn't changed by the other variables you are trying to measure. Independent variable causes some kind of change in the other variables, or dependent variables. In this study, child abuse is the independent variable and it include parameters of school dropout, stunted growth, poor interpersonal relationships and suicidal tendencies

## **Dependent Variable**

A dependent variable is the variable that changes as a result of the independent variable manipulation. In statistics, dependent variables are also called: Response variables (they respond to a change in another variable). In this study, the dependent variable is children raised in abusive homes and has the following sub-variables: physical abuse, psychological abuse, emotional abuse and child neglect

## **Intervening Variables**

An intervening variable, also known as an interaction variable, affects the strength or direction of the relationship between an independent variable and a dependent variable. Moderating influence the relationship between variables under specific conditions and they include government policies on children, community sensitization, NGO assistance and church

### **1.11 Definition of key terms**

**a) Interventions:** These are remedies for improving a given situation (Onyango et al., 2020)

**b) Child abuse:** Child abuse refers to any behavior by parents, caregivers, other adults or older adolescents that is outside the norms of conduct and entails a substantial risk of causing physical or emotional harm to a child or young person. Such behaviors may be intentional or unintentional and can include acts of omission (i.e., neglect) and commission (i.e., abuse) (Bromfield, 2015; Cristobel et al., 2020; Gilbert et al., 2019). The five main subtypes of child abuse and neglect are physical abuse, emotional maltreatment, neglect, sexual abuse, and witnessing family violence.

### **1.12 Chapter summary**

The above chapter shall discuss the introductory part of this research and it has been observed that phenomenon of child abuse is deeply rooted in our culture, and continues to be one of the most notable human rights violations within all societies throughout the world. It is perhaps the most wide spread and socially tolerated of humans' rights violations. The cost to children, families and communities is a significant obstacle to reducing poverty, preventing human rights abuse and meeting sustainable development goals (SDGs). However, there are several gaps at

interventions. The information in the forgoing chapter tells us that effort has been done at intervention to prevent child abuse but these interventions have not been implemented. In most countries including Uganda inclusive, intervention to prevent child abuse lac budgetary appropriations and requisite human resources to implement them properly.

### **1.13 Conclusion**

The introduction section has discussed the background to the study, problem statement, objectives and study scope well as significance of the findings and conceptual frame work. This section outlined the gaps and presented the rationale for the study. This led to the statement of the problem. The researcher identified existing studies to support the problem under investigation. The next chapter will discuss an array of past studies that are significantly related to the area under investigation. During the review, the research study will consider conceptual, contextual, theatrical and methodological genius of authors and endeavored to point out gaps in this studies that this study will address.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This study investigated interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study reviewed literature connected to the topic and was guided by three objectives mainly; to explore various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and to determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and this chapter discusses literature review. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2017) and Kumar (2019) interprets literature review as the systematic identification, location and analysis of documents containing information related to the research problem being investigated, which forms an integral part of the entire research process and makes a valuable contribution to almost every operational step in the research process.

#### **2.1 Various Forms of child abuse**

##### **Physical abuse**

Physical abuses take place at both global and national levels. The WHO (2018) argued that intentional use of physical force against the child that results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in harm for the child's health, education, survival, development or dignity. Although legal definitions vary from state to state, physical abuse is broadly defined as any non-accidental physical act inflicted upon a child by a parent, caregiver, or other person who has responsibility for the child. Among professionals and the general public, there is disagreement as to what behaviors constitute physical abuse of a child. However, Tumusiime (2019) opined that physical abuse often does not occur in isolation, but as part of a constellation of behaviors including authoritarian control, anxiety-provoking behavior, and a lack of parental warmth and these discourages schooling. This includes hitting, beating, kicking, shaking, biting, strangling, scalding, burning, poisoning and suffocating. Much physical violence against children in the home is inflicted with the object of punishing. Joan (2012) opined that most physical abuse is physical punishment "in intent, form, and effect".

Corporal punishment which may result into school dropout involves hitting ('smacking', 'slapping', 'spanking') children, with the hand or with an implement – whip, stick, belt, shoe, wooden spoon, etc. But it can also involve, for example, kicking, shaking or throwing children, scratching, pinching, biting, pulling hair or boxing ears, forcing children to stay in uncomfortable positions, burning, scalding or forced ingestion (for example, washing children's mouths out with soap or forcing them to swallow hot spices).

Kenyan Institute of Health & Welfare (2017) opined that humiliations, spankings and beatings, slaps in the face, etc. are all forms of abuse, because they injure the integrity and dignity of a child, even if their consequences are not visible right away. Often, physical abuse as a child can lead to physical and mental difficulties in the future, including re-victimization, personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, dissociative disorders, depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, eating disorders, substance abuse, and aggression. Physical abuse in childhood has also been linked to homelessness in adulthood.

### **Sexual abuse**

Sexual abuse is a common phenomenon not only at global but also national level. Kenyan Institute of Health & Welfare (2022) argued that sexual abuse occurs when an adult or another child asks or pressures a child for sexual contact. The abuser may use physical abuse, bribery, threats, tricks, or take advantage of the child's limited knowledge of sexual matters. Most cases are perpetrated by a person familiar to the child - usually not a stranger. Sexual abuse can also include taking photos of the child, or showing them pornography through pictures, magazines, movies and abusive online communications.

Child sexual abuse (CSA) according to Tumusiime (2018) is a form of child abuse in which an adult or older adolescent abuses a child for sexual stimulation. Sexual abuse refers to the participation of a child in a sexual act aimed toward the physical gratification or the financial profit of the person committing the act. Forms of CSA include asking or pressuring a child to engage in sexual activities (regardless of the outcome), indecent exposure of the genitals to a child, displaying pornography to a child, actual sexual contact with a child, physical contact with the child's genitals, viewing of the child's genitalia without physical contact, or using a child to produce child pornography. Selling the sexual services of children may be viewed and treated as child abuse rather than simple incarceration.

In his other works, Tumusiime (2014) opined that children who are the victims are also at an increased risk of sexually transmitted infections due to their immature immune systems and a high potential for mucosal tears during forced sexual contact. Sexual victimization at a young age has been correlated with several risk factors for contracting HIV including decreased knowledge of sexual topics, increased prevalence of HIV, engagement in risky sexual practices, condom avoidance, lower knowledge of safe sex practices, frequent changing of sexual partners, and more years of sexual activity.

### **Neglect**

At global and national levels, child neglect is a common facet of child abuse. Okiiria (2018) opined that children and adolescents who have been sexually abused, and some children who have been physically neglected, have shown heightened sexuality and signs of genital manipulation which makes them fail to attend school. Child neglect is the failure of a parent or other person with responsibility for the child, to provide needed food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision to the degree that the child's health, safety or well-being may be threatened with harm. Neglect is also a lack of attention from the people surrounding a child, and the non-provision of the relevant and adequate necessities for the child's survival, which would be a lack of attention, love, and nurturing.

Some observable signs of child neglect include the child is frequently absent from school, begs or steals food or money, lacks needed medical and dental care, is consistently dirty, or lacks appropriate clothing for the weather. Neglected children raised in abusive homes may experience delays in physical and psychosocial development, possibly resulting in psychopathology and impaired neuropsychological functions including executive function, attention, processing speed, language, memory and social skills which leads to learning difficulties and poor academic performance. Onyango, (2019) argued that neglected children in the foster and adoptive homes manifest different emotional and behavioral reactions to regain lost or secure relationships seem to have learned to adapt to an abusive and inconsistent caregiver by becoming cautiously self-reliant, and are often described as glib, manipulative and disingenuous in their interactions with others as they move through childhood.

Children who are victims of neglect can have a more difficult time forming and maintaining relationships, such as romantic or friendship, later in life due to the lack of attachment they had in their earlier stages of life. However, Gilbert (2021) noted that early neglectful and physically abusive practices have no devastating consequences on children academics. The current study will thus find out whether children who have been sexually abused and some children raised in abusive homes who have been physically neglected, have shown heightened sexuality and signs of genital manipulation.

### **Emotional Abuse**

Incidences of children being abused emotionally are rising both at global and national levels. Onyango (2012) opined that childhood is the time for emotional, psychological, cognitive and personality development if children are to live well. Interaction with family members, other children and peers through play, games, sports exchange of thoughts and expression of feelings are vital for the harmonious development of self which are hard to achieve due to psychological and emotional feelings that appear as a result of abuse. Schooling has a great role to play in the process of development. However, Dorman (2018) opined that abused children lack the opportunity to learn work skills, study and to explore, to develop relationships with family as well as their peers, all of which are critical to their physical, mental, emotional and intellectual development.

Gladys (2020) argued that although children raised in abusive homes may be increasingly vulnerable to sexual promiscuity and at increased risk for teenage pregnancy, solid empirical evidence on its impact to academic performance does not yet exist. Research is needed to clarify and extend our knowledge about possible causal relationships between different forms of childhood victimization and adolescent pregnancy, taking into account relevant demographic variables and confounding factors such as socioeconomic status.

### **Child Trafficking / Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**

Child trafficking / commercial sexual exploitation of children is a rising practice globally. A commercially sexually exploited child is one under the age of 18 who engages, agrees to engage

in, or offers to engage in sexual conduct in exchange for money, clothing, food, shelter, education, goods or care. Exploited youth are not “child prostitutes,” they are child victims. Allen, (2021) argued that a relationship between childhood sexual abuse and sexually promiscuous or dysfunctional behavior, psychosocial emotional distress and school attendance in adolescence do exist. However, Oiti (2010) argued that the methodological weaknesses of Allen’s studies do not provide empirical support for a causal relationship between sexual abuse, sexual dysfunction, and promiscuity. Indeed, in a review of research on the impact of child sexual abuse on children and adolescent education, MoES (2014) cautioned that "although clinical literature suggests that sexual abuse during childhood plays a role in the development of other problems ranging from anorexia nervosa to prostitution, empirical evidence about its actual effects education is sparse."

### **Institutional Abuse or Neglect**

Institutional Abuse or Neglect of children are being practices practiced globally and Uganda is no exception. Okiira and Okiidi, (2021) argued that abuse or neglect which occurs in any facility for children, including, but not limited to, group homes, residential or public or private schools, hospitals, detention and treatment facilities, family foster care homes, group day care centers and family day care homes. In Kenya, Mwaira (2018) opined that a reorientation in the focus of the surveys about the causes of the academic failure of the huge contingent of abused children and adolescents revealed the countless school mechanisms and processes responsible for learning difficulty. The difficulties identified in the pedagogical action no longer allow us to state that the institutional problems are problems of the poor and abused children and adolescents and their families such as poor feeding which should be considered in an isolated manner.

In addition, Okello and Ojalo (2023)opined that the assumption that the students don’t have certain skills that they often do have, the expectation that the clients don’t learn, the bureaucratic obstacles to achieve the works at school – such as the constant displacement of the teachers throughout the school year, the frequent changes in educational programs and projects, the excessive hierarchy of the functions and the authoritarian relations that circulate through all levels of the school structure, besides the low remuneration of the teachers and their professional devaluation – produce a "failurization of the pauperized children"

### **Health neglect and abuse**

In many countries including Uganda, Gilbert et al., (2021) argued that strong associations have been made between health neglect, child and adolescent maltreatment and learning difficulties and/or poor academic achievement in Chilean republic. Abuse and neglect in the early years of life can seriously affect the developmental capacities of infants, especially in the critical areas of speech and language due to poor diet which in turn limit academic performance. However, Ugandan Ministry of Health (2011) opined that the interaction between genes and environment plays a role in how the brain develops in order to enhance speech and language, particularly during the early developmental period.

### **Nutritional abuse**

Both at global and national levels, children are suffering from nutritional neglect. Onyango (2017) opined that nutritional neglect and abuse cases may occur at any point of a child's development but are often associated with early childhood and where it occur, it leads to delayed school enrollment and absenteeism, when they are more likely to be discovered by health professionals, educators, and child welfare workers. One form of child neglect is associated with nonorganic failure to thrive in infants. The absence of physical growth in these infants can be measured by objective scales of weight and height. Nutritional neglect according to Mwititi et al., (2020) is usually suspected when such infants and adolescents demonstrate significant weight loss following hospital admission or child removal from the abusive family. Derivational dwarfism, a medical term applied to children of small stature whose physical growth is impaired by the absence of nutritional requirements, is another type of child and adolescent neglect associated with some young children which makes it hard for them to attend school leading to high repetition rates and eventual dropouts.

### **Psychological abuse**

There is an incidence in the rise in Psychological abuse globally and nationally. The American Psychiatric Association (APA) (2017) opined that Child Psychological abuse is "non-accidental verbal or symbolic acts by a child's parent or caregiver that result, or have reasonable potential to result, in significant psychological harm to the child." It includes spurning, terrorizing, isolating,

exploiting, corrupting, denying emotional responsiveness, or neglect" or "A repeated pattern of caregiver behavior or extreme incident(s) that convey to children that they are worthless, flawed, unloved, unwanted, endangered, or only of value in meeting another's needs". UNICEF (2018) opined that even after diagnosis and treatment, the psychological consequences of emotional neglect persist. Rugero et al. (2020) found that young adolescents who in their infancy were diagnosed as failure to thrive were defiant and hostile both at home and school creating a hard time for teachers and parents and poor academic performance is inevitable. In early periods of neglectful behavior, the child may exhibit stressful behaviors in the forms of feeding problems, irritability, or deficits in social responsiveness that place increased demands on the parent's caretaking duties and this results into poor school grades as they retards academic concentration (Okello and Ojalo, 2020). In some cases, nutritional deprivation, combined with increased maternal detachment, sets into motion a "vicious cycle of cumulative psychological risk" which makes school attendance impossible. However, Wolfe (2019) opined that factors that trigger nonorganic failure to thrive and child neglect should be separated from factors that maintain these behaviors.

### **2.3 Effect of child abuse on children**

#### **Child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems**

Both at global and national levels, Child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems. Oiti, et al. (2021) opined that children and adolescents exposed to abuse and neglect are more likely to experience insecure or disorganized attachment problems with their primary caregiver. Patterns of child-caregiver attachment are extremely important for a child's early emotional and social development and school attendance. For children with an insecure attachment, the parent/caregiver, who should be the primary source of safety, protection and comfort, becomes a source of danger or harm. However, reviews of the literature by UNICEF (2018) have reported that child maltreatment is not associated with problematic peer relationships in childhood and adolescence. Further to this, difficulties in peer relations may not be a precursor to difficulties in romantic relations and academic performance. The current study will therefore investigate whether children exposed to abuse and neglect are more likely to

## **Child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems**

In all countries around the world Uganda inclusive, child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems. Strong associations have been made between child maltreatment and learning difficulties and/or poor academic achievement (Gilbert et al., 2019). Abuse and neglect in the early years of life can seriously affect the developmental capacities of infants, especially in the critical areas of speech and language (Wolfe, 1999). Prospective research studies have consistently shown that maltreated children have lower educational achievement than other groups of children (Gilbert et al., 2019). In a meta-analysis by Veltman and Browne (2021), 31 of 34 studies (91%) indicated that abuse and neglect was related to poor school achievement and 36 of 42 (86%) indicated delays in language development. However, Oiti, et al. (2019) acknowledged that studies associating child abuse and neglect with learning problems are problematic in that most studies do not know the intellectual status of children before maltreatment. A more recent longitudinal study of maltreated children in the Kenya found that chronicity of maltreatment affected maths scores negatively and type of maltreatment affected reading scores negatively but higher intelligence and daily living skills (e.g., ability to dress oneself, ability to perform household tasks) were protective factors against poor math and reading performance.

Ministry of Health (2018) identified a strong relationship between child maltreatment and a range of mental health problems, with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) which is often reported to have worst impact on children's schooling (Gilbert et al., 2019). Maltreated children experiencing PTSD symptoms are also often found to be experiencing other disorders such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, oppositional defiant and conduct disorders, substance abuse, and anxiety, mood, psychotic, and adjustment disorders. Mental health problems, such as depression and anxiety disorders, have consistently been linked with child abuse and neglect, particularly for adolescents (Brown, 2018). However, Tumusiime (2021) opined that diagnosing children with PTSD does not capture the full developmental effects of chronic child abuse and neglect and as noted previously, many researchers now prefer the term "complex trauma".

### **Child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children**

Both at national and international levels, child abuse leads to suicide. Okiira and Okiidi, (2022) argued that abuse and neglect significantly increases the risk of suicidal ideation and attempted suicide for young people and this leads to school dropout (Brodsky & Stanley, 2018). Similarly, in a systematic review of the literature, Miller and colleagues (2013) found that although all forms of maltreatment were associated with adolescent suicidal ideation and suicide attempts, child sexual abuse and emotional abuse might be more important than physical abuse or neglect. Supporting this, Brodksy and Stanley (2018) found that risks of repeated suicide attempts were eight times greater for youths with a sexual abuse history. The authors suggested that sexual abuse could be specifically related to suicidal behavior because it is closely associated with feelings of shame and internal attributions of blame. However, a systematic review by Oiti, et al. (2020) did not find a strong link between physical and sexual abuse and attempted suicide/suicidal thoughts occurring during adolescence.

### **Child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use**

Globally just like in Uganda, Child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use. The psychological effects of child abuse and neglect may lead to alcohol and drug abuse problems in adolescence and adulthood (Mande, 2019). Evidence by Okiira and Okiidi, (2018) suggests that all types of child maltreatment are significantly related to higher levels of substance use (tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs). It is less clear if particular types of maltreatment are more closely linked to substance misuse and what factors, if any, may mediate the relationship although physical abuse and combinations of abuse do appear to be associated with increased substance abuse among children and adolescents which results into neglected academics. However, in surveying public school students in Grades 6, 9 and 12 in the United States, Harrison and colleagues (2017) did not find that experiences of physical or sexual abuse increased the likelihood of students using alcohol, marijuana and other drugs.

### **Child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems**

Around the world and at national level, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems. Mande, (2022) argued that child abuse and neglect is associated with behavior problems in childhood and adolescence which negatively affect schooling and academic performance. Mande

associated maltreatment with internalizing behaviors (being withdrawn, sad, isolated and depressed) and externalizing behaviors (being aggressive or hyperactive) throughout childhood. A large, nationally representative study in Tanzania reported that children who were maltreated in multiple developmental periods (infancy, toddlerhood, preschool years and early school years) displayed more problem behaviors than children maltreated in only one developmental period and children who were chronically maltreated tended to display more problem behaviors than children suffering situational maltreatment, although this was mediated by a range of family variables such as caregivers having alcohol or drug dependence, lower levels of education or diagnoses of depression (UNICEF, 2021).

## **2.4 Interventions that can be implemented to combat child abuse**

### **Interventions at undertaking home visitation programs**

Both at global and national levels, undertaking home visitation programs as an intervention measure has prevented child abuse. Mande, (2022) opined that home visiting programs should be designed to provide universal services for all new mothers. In the United States, a resurgence of interest in home visitation occurred in the last decade, and the audience for such programs has expanded from children solely at biological and educational risk (from low-birth weight or pre-term births) to children who are at risk because of poverty or child maltreatment. WHO (2019) argued that approaches based on a variety of models that have been initiated and evaluated in the last 10 years include a parent education model a public health model, a social support model, a mental health model, a parenting education and problem-solving model, and an interactional attachment model. Overlaps among these models exist (for example, the public health model includes social support and parenting as program components).

According to davis et al., (2021), another recent home visitation program that has received significant attention is the Healthy Start program sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Branch of the Hawaii State Department of Health. The Hawaii program seeks to target families at the time of birth that are at high risk for future incidents of child maltreatment and provides intervention to foster healthy child development and family self-sufficiency as well as education for such children. Home visitors visit families weekly, based on their level of need, with the schedule of visits lasting about a year, diminishing to monthly and finally four visits per year

until the child reaches age five. However, to date, only limited evaluations have been conducted to examine the effectiveness in preventing child maltreatment and improve academic performance through reports for families enrolled in the program with those of other high-risk or state populations in poor countries like Uganda (Mande, 2018).

### **Giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment**

Globally just like in Uganda, giving families welfare support as form of intervention has lowered child maltreatment. In contrast to the home visitation programs discussed above, which directly target families reported for or at risk of child maltreatment, Rugero, (2018) argued that a number of family-oriented programs have been developed to improve the general welfare of children whose families are characterized by multiple problems, including child abuse and neglect. These programs often require that family members (usually the mother) attend special classes or counseling sessions in a center that offers a wide range of resources. Family support programs may be effective in reducing the prevalence of child maltreatment by addressing multiple risk factors associated with abuse and neglect, including disabilities, poverty, family violence, and poor health.

However, UNICEF (2019) opined that the comparative effectiveness of general family support programs and center-based programs that target families based on psychosocial factors associated with poverty, child abuse, punitive parenting, and child failure, such as stressful life events, maternal depression, and low social support, has not been evaluated and inappropriate targeting criteria has not been effective in Uganda and other developing countries.

### **Community based programs that target poor and at risk families have been put in place**

Interventions of putting in place community based programs that target poor and at risk families has form part of the intervention globally and nationally will help to prevent child abuse. Rugero, (2018) argued that a majority of center-based programs for groups at familial environmental risk focus on poor children. In his review of the results from 11 separate (primarily preschool) programs indicates that most children in these programs demonstrated the efficacy of early education immediately following the treatment including significant reduction in grade failure in the middle of elementary school (Ramey, 2022). The majority of children from disadvantaged

families are served by federal initiatives such as the Parent-Child Development Centers (PCDC) and, for older children; some intervention programs should target teenage mothers who, in general, are also poor. Programs designed for teenage mothers and for poor mothers include large proportions of single mothers, mothers on welfare, and minority families

Okiiria, (2018) argued that a wide range of community-based intervention programs target poor communities, including national or state programs such as Healthy Start in Rwanda, Fair Start, and Women fund in Uganda, Healthy Beginnings, and the Children's Initiative which can foster school attendance. These forms of community intervention programs seek to improve health care and social services for families at risk of a range of social and health problems (including low birth weight, teenage pregnancy, as well as child abuse and neglect). Such programs avoid the risks of labeling families and can be integrated into ongoing community services (beyond the demonstration stage) if they are seen as benefiting the entire community. However, Rugero, (2018) opined that community-level interventions do not allow for an examination of differential effects of programs for various groups of families or families with a particular pattern of risk factors like nutrition, health and educational attainment.

### **Addressing domestic violence**

There is need at both global and national levels to addressing domestic violence and promote child schooling. In the past decade, a number of community-based interventions have been developed to address the problem of domestic violence (the New Vision (Tuesday, January 15, 2018) opined that these programs include a range of services, including law enforcement and judicial programs designed to protect women who are victims of physical or sexual assaults by their husbands, as well as battered women's shelters that offer housing, financial, and counseling services to victims of domestic violence and their children. Domestic violence treatment programs may offer some promise in preventing child maltreatment as well. However, Okiiria, (2008) opined that scientific literature regarding the impacts of domestic violence treatment programs on the children who witness spousal assaults, or who may be subject to violence themselves, is too limited at this stage to provide a basis for inferences by the panel.

## **Hospitals and health professionals are involved in curbing child**

Globally and in Uganda, hospitals and health professionals have been involved in curbing child Okiiria, (2018) argued that many hospital centers, clinics, and health professional groups have sought to provide opportunities for parent-child interactions in the neonatal period, recognizing that the quality of parent-infant attachment and bonding in the immediate postpartum period has significant implications for child development. The objectives of these services are to heighten parental awareness of the significance and implications of neonatal cues and to identify and correct faulty parental expectations and perceptions of infant behaviors. In addition to early and extended contact strategies, Onyango (2019) acknowledged the need to emphasize the capabilities and limitations of newborns for parents, enhance parent-child interactions, and thus address factors that may lead to child maltreatment and poor school outcomes. However, the New Vision (Tuesday, January 15, 2018) opined that the effectiveness of this intervention does not depend solely on the cognitive information or demonstrations; motivational factors are particularly significant. Although quite promising, no investigation to date has evaluated the effects of newborn demonstration projects on subsequent rates of child maltreatment among children raised in abusive homes.

## **Schools are involved in preventing abuses**

Throughout the world and in Uganda, schools have been involved in preventing abuses. Bukenya, (2019) opined that child and adolescent maltreatment prevention programs are usually found in the schools: they are primarily child sexual abuse prevention programs designed for children in elementary and high schools. In addition to major efforts in child sexual abuse prevention, two other efforts were reviewed by the panel that may have implications for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. These are the violence prevention programs in the schools designed to educate children, primarily adolescents, about conflict resolution skills, and community-based antipoverty programs, some of which involve vocational or educational assistance. Although such programs may be important in helping improve the welfare of many families, Baer and Martine, (2019) argued that they have not been systematically evaluated in terms of their outcomes for children raised in abusive homes.

## **Improving household incomes and reduce poverty**

There is need to Improving household incomes and reduce poverty both globally and at national levels. According to Gulu Support the children Organization, (GUSCO) (2015), programs designed to improve the income of poor families, especially those headed by a single parent, have become a major intervention of prevention of child neglect. At a time when higher education has become a mandatory requirement for well-paying jobs, programs designed to increase the career options of young parents through educational and vocational training efforts are commonly viewed as part of the preventive spectrum for child maltreatment. Furthermore, the change and unpredictability associated with the lifestyles of neglectful families often affect their involvement in programs that require a commitment to a consistent schedule of meetings. However, Baer and Martine, (2019) opined that antipoverty or vocational training programs are often not sufficient to deal directly with the complex set of psychological, social, and biological factors that increase risk for child neglect among children raised in abusive homes.

## **Involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse**

Other interventions included religious institutions should play a role in preventing child abuse globally and national levels. According to Bukenya, (2019) are often viewed as an underused resource in preventing and detecting child maltreatment and its effects, but efforts to address child abuse and neglect in religious institutions have not been assessed. Religious institutions have access to enormous numbers of children and families and the means to deliver messages about child maltreatment. Some leaders in the religious community, emphasizing that religious institution have addressed moral issues and to care for children, have taken action in the area of child protection. A non-profit organization, Covenant to Care, has been established to link representatives of religious institutions with social workers, to sponsor public education forums, and assist pastors, rabbis, and temple leaders in developing sermons on the topic of child maltreatment (Baer, and Martine, 2019). The experience of religious institutions in handling increasing numbers of disclosures of abuse that may involve their own members also has not been documented systematically.

## **Involving the media**

Interventions at both at national and global levels, the media have been involved the disseminating information and community sensitization campaign against child abuse. Okiira and Okiidi, (2020) argued that media representatives have become important participants in public education about prevention in child abuse and neglect. Survey data from the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse involving various forms of print and broadcast media suggest that public awareness of child maltreatment has increased dramatically over the past decade. Media efforts to prevent child maltreatment has benefited from lessons derived from the role of the media in addressing public health issues. Research is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of various types of social marketing and advertising campaigns directed toward the prevention of child maltreatment. For example, quasi-experimental field designs and time series analyses, using matched controls, could be developed to identify the differential effects of programs using print or broadcast media for selected community campaigns. But the limitations of public awareness or educational campaigns also deserve consideration. For groups who have low literacy skills or who are socially isolated from media or educational services, however, public awareness campaigns may have little value unless they are specifically targeted to such subpopulations.

## **Strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations**

Countries around the world including Uganda, interventions for strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations against child abusers have been implemented. The use of criminal sanctions is an important aspect of prevention of child abuse because of the popular belief that strict legal standards and punitive measures reduced the incidence of child maltreatment. In the area of sexual abuse, some offenders are so incapable of change that they must be incapacitated by incarceration. Nevertheless, the use of criminal penalties to deter offenders and the development of judicial and administrative procedures to remove children from abusing parents may be counterproductive in many cases, particularly in situations involving parental offenders and mild to moderate forms of child abuse or neglect. In Uganda, Okiira and Okiidi, (2018) argued that there is currently lack evidence that criminal penalties deter child abuse or neglect, and reliance

on criminal penalties does not offers few resources to improve the abilities of parents in dealing with their children.

## **2.4 Gaps in literature**

Though a number of studies were carried out on child abuse, however those addressing the intervention for children being raised from abusive homes are still limited, even though the existing studies were done in different geographical settings other than industrial division, at different time and using different methods (mostly mixed quantitative and qualitative approach). All could not exactly bring out the clear image on the interventions for children's being raised in abusive homes. For example, Livingstone et al., (2022) broadly assessed effect of street children on their psychosocial wellbeing, not on the interventions. While other studies considered impact of drug abuse on children's academic performance, pupil school enrollment and pupil nutrition (such as Batte et al., 2021, Okedel, 2020).

There is need to examine the interventions for children raised in abuse homes. Although there is a theoretical basis for identifying a number of interventions for children raised in abuse homes, evidence is far from convincing. In addition, data on interventions for children raised in abuse homes is often affected by uncontrollable and complex variables unrelated to child abuse.

Even the Wights and Broomfoot volume "street children" though published in 2017 consist of papers given at a conference at the Commonwealth Institute in London in 2014 and is heavily constrained by its origin as a set of short talks to a general audience and no study of this kind has ever been carried out in industrial division mbale city. Taken as a whole, therefore, past studies are a frankly disappointing bunch.

The number of their contributions to the subject matter of children being raised in abusive homes which may have something interesting and original is dispiritingly small thus causing limitations and distortions in literature. This study therefore assessed the interventions for children being raised in abusive homes of Industrial Division, Mbale City

## **2.5 Chapter summary**

According to the literature reviewed above, the effectiveness of interventions in the area of child abuse and maltreatment calls for recognition of the multi-problem character of abusive and neglectful families. Many of these families are already involved with the legal system because of other behaviors, including substance abuse, juvenile delinquency, and other crimes. Assessment of the impact of interventions solely in the area of child abuse is quite challenging, and legal protection programs lack budget appropriations leading to gaps in implementation. Although literature tells us that there are problems with interventions, it does not list from author to author the causes of these problems and this points the need for further studies to this study is premised. The next chapter discusses the methodologies that were employed by the study in order to come up with unbiased finding.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This study sought to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study was guided by three specific objectives which included; explore the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and to determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City

In order to achieve the desired outcomes of a non-biased study report, this chapter presents the methods that the researcher employed while conducting the study. It show the research design, study population, sample size and selection, sampling techniques and procedures, data collection methods and techniques, validity and reliability of instruments, procedure of data collection, data analysis, variable definition and measurement and ethical considerations.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

A case study is a qualitative research design best suited for gaining an in-depth understanding of a social phenomenon within its cultural context without imposing pre-existing expectations (Denzin & Lincoln, 2012). Gall et al. (2017) agree with this definition as they define a case study as an in-depth study of instances of a phenomenon in its natural context and from the perspectives of the participants involved in the phenomenon and in educational research. Best and Kahn (2006) also define a case study as a way of organizing social data for the purpose of viewing social reality. It examines a social unit as a whole. The social unit may be a person, a family, a social group or a community (Best & Kahn, 2016). Gall et al. (2017) propound that in a case study, a significant amount of data are collected about the specific case selected to represent the phenomenon. The justification for the choice of a case study is that it was restrict the researcher to a small, manageable group, where rigorous and thorough explorations were made to examine the phenomenon of raising children on urban streets (Best & Kahn, 2016). The case study also provided in-depth, comprehensive and vivid data in this study, as well as a thick description thereof. It also enabled the researcher to gain an in-depth understanding of streets as a context of improving lives of pupils

### 1.3 Area of study

The study was carried out in industrial Division of Mbale City covering the wards of Namatala, Malukhu and Nyanzi cells

**Table 3.2 showing wards and population of Industrial City Division of Mbale City**

S/NO.	PARISH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
<b>01</b>	Masaba	4567	4765	<b>9332</b>
<b>02</b>	Namatala	3677	3768	<b>7445</b>
<b>03</b>	South central	3879	3542	<b>7421</b>
<b>04</b>	Malukhu	4326	4576	<b>8902</b>
<b>05</b>	Nabuyonga	4376	4388	8764
Total		<b>20825</b>	<b>21039</b>	<b>41864</b>

**Source: Primary Data, 2024**

The above table shows that the population of industrial Division is **41864** Population By 2020 statistical; Report. (20825 Males and **21039**.Females)

### 3.4 Sources of information

#### 3.4.1 Primary data

This involved collecting data directly from each ward using probability sampling method from local people, local leaders and division staffs. New information in this case will be collected.

#### 3.4.2 Secondary sources

These are sources which are already gathered, processed and stored for the purpose. These sources provided more knowledge to the researcher under the area of investigation. They include information from text books, records and respondents, information.

### 3.5 Population and sampling techniques

The population of study means all items of inquiry which constitute a universe or population which describes the sample size that was used to collect data to support the study (Kothari 2005). The population of study comprised of 10 local leaders, 10 local people and 10 division staffs venders. Local people are chosen to participate in this study because they are the potential victims of homelessness and have information regarding the factors that contribute to homelessness while local leaders are selected because their effort at formulating and implementation of housing policies. Additionally, division staffs were chosen because they have relevant information regarding their involvement in addressing housing needs. The study population was drawn from Industrial Division of Mbale City.

The total number of study participants (N) was 25 people and therefore the sample of 15 participated in the study, that is to say; 05 local leaders, 05 local people and 05 division staffs using Krejcie and Morgan (1970) methods of determining sample size from the population (Sarmah & Hazanka, 2012).

**Table 1.1 showing sample size and sampling technique**

<b>Category of population</b>	<b>Target population</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>Sampling technique</b>
Local leaders	10	5	Purposive sampling
Local people	10	5	Purposive sampling
Division staffs	10	5	Purposive sampling
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	

**Source: Primary Data, 2024**

### **3.7 Sampling Technique**

#### **3.7.1 Purposive sampling**

The researcher used purposive sampling to select 5 local leaders, 5 local people and 5 children. These study participants was selected because they possess the required information. Purposive sampling enabled the researcher to get in-depth information that helped to answer the research questions.

#### **3.8 Procedure for data collection**

The researcher got a letter from the department of social sciences which was presented to authorities in Industrial City Division of Mbale City to allow for data collection. Thereafter, the researcher sent consent letters to the responders requesting for them to participate in the study. Raw data was then be compared and coded before data analysis is done. During editing, points of views of the participants that seemed unclear were clarified so as to make certain of the meaning of the seemingly ambiguous replies. Thereafter, the researcher wrote a report that was submitted to the department for examination.

#### **3.9 Data Collection Instruments**

The researcher used interview and observation methods for data collection.

##### **3.9.1 Interview**

Data collection method is the process of assembling and measuring information on targeted variables in an established systematic style which enables one to answer research questions and evaluate outcomes (Lescroëlet al. 2017). This study collected primary information through conducting structured interviews. According to Amin (2005), an interview is a structured and unstructured set of questions administered to interviewee(s). It is an oral administration of a questionnaire and therefore it was a face-to-face encounter. The researcher used interview schedule to collect data from participants. Interview method was used because it helped to provide in-depth data which is not possible to get using a questionnaire.

##### **1.9.2 Observations**

The researcher used non-participant observation to collect data in this study. Nonparticipant observation is a research technique whereby the researcher watches the participants of the study with their knowledge, but without taking an active part in the situation under scrutiny (Gall et al., 2007). An observation, in qualitative research, usually consists of detailed notation of behaviors,

events and the contexts surrounding such events and behaviors (Best & Kahn, 2006:264). Gall et al. (2007) assert that non-participant observation allows the researcher to obtain truthful social behaviors objectively when participants are being observed. Observation was used since young children have not yet developed camouflages to hide themselves from the public as adults do (Thorndike & Hagen, 2000). In this study, the researcher observed children at their respective homes for about two weeks to ensure credibility.

### **3.10 Quality control**

#### **3.10.1 Validity**

The validity of an instrument is defined as the ability of an instrument to measure what it is intended to measure. Validity considers how correctly the research tools measure what the researcher wants to measure. Thus, validity is about the research tool being credible or trustworthy or being accurate or correct (Etyang, 2018). After formulating the questionnaire, the supervisors and other experts reviewed the items and checked the language clarity, content comprehensiveness, and relevancy and how long the questionnaire is. To establish the validity of the instruments, the researcher used expert judgement as recommended by Gay (1997) as the best method for ensuring validity. Thus the researcher ensured that the instrument is clear, relevant, specific and logically arranged. The validity of the interview guide was tested using the content validity test (CVI). To arrive at the relevancy of the questionnaire, the researcher designed the instrument that yielded content –valid data by first specifying the domain of indicators that are relevant to the concept being measured. A content-valid data measure contained all possible items that were used in measuring interventions for children raised in abusive homes.

#### **3.10.2 Reliability**

A tool's reliability shows the extent to which it is free of errors and for that makes sure that there is continuous valuation across time and also across the various items in the instrument. This therefore means that a tool's reliability shows how stably and consistently the tool evaluates the idea thereby helping to measure the worthiness of a measure (Sekaran & Bougie, 2019). The researcher employed the test-retest reliability. According to Sekaran and Bougie(2019), the reliability of the instrument is tested using the test re-test method of reliability and Cron-bach alpha tests to determine the reliability index with the help of SPSS. Data was collected from 10 people not among those in the sample. The principle of reliability as far as research instruments

are concerned, is clearly put forward by Amin (2019), an instrument is reliable if it produces the same results wherever it is repeatedly used to measure a trait or a concept from the same population and under similar circumstances.

### **3.11 Data Processing and Analysis**

Data analysis is the process of methodically applying logical techniques to describe and illustrate, summarize and recap, and evaluate data (Shamoo & Resnik, 2003). The task is to make sense of massive amounts of data, reduce the volume of information, identify significant patterns and construct an outline communicating the essence of what the data reveal (Best & Kahn, 2006).

### **3.14 Ethical considerations**

The following ethical considerations were looked at by the researcher during the research.

**3.14.1 Informed consent and voluntary participation:** The researcher sought consent from the respondents to involve in the research not just forcing them to participate. Informed consent is the basis of ethical research (Denzin & Lincoln, 2019). The people participating in the study were made aware of what the study is about, its purpose, usage of the data, and any consequences that could arise from it (Fleming, 2018). The researcher furnished the respondents with information on the reason for the research and the procedure of collecting data. The participants were allowed enough time to ask questions and have any concerns addressed. The respondents exercised free will in deciding whether to participate in research activity or not. All people to be involved in the research was given consent form to express their acceptance to participate in the study.

**3.14.2 Confidentiality:** Confidentiality is looked at by Walford(2018) to mean information that is private and is not to be divulged to others. Whatever has been said in confidence must remain confidential. The researcher assured participants that information offered by the respondent was not to be passed on to another party (third party) without consent of the respondent. Their identity and response were made confidential and anonymized through the use of numbers or through pseudonyms.

**3.14.3 Anonymity:** Anonymity, termed more appropriately as pseudonymity, is defined by Wiles (2013) as a major means used by the researcher to safeguard the confidentiality of

responders by using pseudonyms. Anonymisation is one of the kinds of confidentiality, comprising of identity concealment of research responders (Saunders, Kitzinger, & Kitzinger, 2015). The researcher ensured that all respondents are anonymous implying that their identities are not known and not salient in the study. Withholding the identity of respondents is a guarantee that their statements are authentic (Taylor, 2015).

**3.14.4 Plagiarism:** The researcher ensured that all written work was original and without any borrowed and manipulated texts, results or even expressions. The researcher made sure that, all words and publications of the author are given their due acknowledgement (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2019). The researcher subjected the written works to the turn it in software and make sure it is 15% or less compliant of plagiarism material.

### **3.12 Methodological constraints**

The study may be affected by non-response rate. This may be due to the fact that some respondents may be hesitant to give information. However, this was solved through having a dialogue with respondents and explaining clearly the purpose of the study.

The problem of limited time, many respondents had no enough time to respond adequately to the questions while attending to their busy schedules.

In adequate finances, the researcher had little funds to move to and fro the field and more so buying the necessary requirements used in the study. However, friends and relatives were requested to contribute to solve the situation.

## **2.5 Conclusion**

This chapter has presented the research methodology that were employed. Qualitative research design to present data that was collected from 15 participants identified through simple random sampling. Validity and reliability was used to ascertain the credibility of research tools and a number of ethical issues such as confidentiality, Anonymity, and plagiarism was adhered to during data collected. This methodology was crucial in fulfilling the study objectives.

## **2.6 Chapter Summary**

This study used a qualitative research approach in determining the primary factors contributing to homelessness in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. This qualitative approach entailed presenting and analyzing data collected through interviews through logical techniques to

describe and illustrate, summarize and recap, and evaluate data. The aim of this mythology is to enable the attainment of non-biased findings of the study and this enabled the replication of research findings.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

#### 4.1 Introduction

The central objective of this study is to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and it was guided by three study objectives which included to explore various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, To determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study used qualitative research approach and a case study design of 15 participants who included local leaders, social workers and persons with alcohol addiction were interviewed. Data was collected from participants using interview method. This chapter presents the findings of the study and it is divided into two parts. Part one presents demographic characteristics of participants and part two (2) is the interpretations of the findings.

#### 4.2 Demographic characteristics of participants

**Table 4.1 showing demographic information of participants**

S/No	Pseudo Name	Age	Educational level	Gender
01	Local leaders (LL 1-5)	34	Diploma	Female
02	Local leaders (LL 1-5)	39	S3	Male
03	Local leaders (LL 1-5)	27	S4	Male
04	Local leader four (LL4)	29	S6	Male
05	Local leader four (LL4)	38	S5	Female
06	Local people (LP 1-5)	36	S3	Male
07	Local people (LP 1-5)	25	S4	Female
08	Local people (LP 1-5)	43	P4	Female
09	Local people (LP 1-5)	32	S3	Male

10	Local people (LP 1-5)	43	S3	Male
11	Division staffs (DS 1-5)	40	diploma	Female
12	Division staffs (DS 1-5)	19	diploma	Male
13	Division staffs (DS 1-5)	39	diploma	Male
14	Division staffs (DS 1-5)	38	Diploma	Male
15	Division staffs (DS 1-5)	30	S4	Female

*Table 4.2: Distribution of participants by their selected demographic characteristics*

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Female	6	40
Male	9	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
18-25	2	13
26-33	3	20
34 above	10	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Education level</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Primary	2	13
Secondary	9	66
Post-Secondary	4	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Married	11	88%
Un married	4	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Primary Data, 2024**

**Age of participants**

The general and demographic information indicate that participants belonged to different age groups. The difference in the age was an important component of selecting respondents for the study, which helped in obtaining different information and also shows maturity in the collected information. In this regard, the selected and interviewed participants were from 18-25, 26-33 and 34 above. Here, the purpose was to find out the average age of participants in the study and it was discovered that majority of the participants (10) were in the age bracket of 34 and above. The above view indicated that participant’s added value to the responses given that mature participants are more trustable as they take time to think about a particular aspect of life before giving reliable responses.

**Gender of participants**

According to the findings of the findings of the study, Nine (09) participants were males and females were Six (6). This implies that the male participants were the majority hence most of the data was collected from male participants.

**Educational level of participants**

Data showed that majority of the participants (09) had acquired secondary education. This meant that they easily understood questions in the interview guide and their views were well informed. Uma (2017) asserted that it is important in social investigation research to involve people that have attained an acceptable level of literacy and numeracy in order to be in position to understand and interpret contents of the interviews.

For purposes of anonymity, the following codes were used:

Local leaders (LL 1-5)
Local leaders (LL 1-5)
Local leaders (LL 1-5)
Local leader four (LL4)
Local leader four (LL4)
Local people (LP 1-5)
Local people (LP 1-5)
Local people (LP 1-5)
Local people (LP 1-5)
Local people (LP 1-5)
Division staffs (DS 1-5)
Division staffs (DS 1-5)
Division staffs (DS 1-5)
Division staffs (DS 1-5)
Division staffs (DS 1-5)

## **PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS**

Presentation and interpretation of the findings was done according to study objectives as below:

### **4.2.1 THEME I: The various forms of child abuse**

Study participants were asked to mention the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and their responses were: Physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, nutritional abuse

#### **Physical abuse**

This is the intentional use of physical force against the child that results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in harm for the child's health, education, survival, development or dignity.

Participants of the study mentioned that physical abuse is a form of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“physical abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Another participant (LP1) said that *“physical abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants (LP2) added that *“physical abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participant (DS1) mentioned that *“physical abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“physical abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that physical abuse is a form of child abuse

#### **Sexual abuse**

Sexual abuse occurs when an adult or another child asks or pressures a child for sexual contact. The abuser may use physical abuse, bribery, threats, tricks, or take advantage of the child's limited knowledge of sexual matters.

Participants mentioned that sexual abuse is a form of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“sexual abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Another participant (LL2) said that *“sexual abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants (LP1) added that *“sexual abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participant (DS1) mentioned that *“sexual abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Other participants LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“sexual abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that sexual abuse is a form of child abuse

### **Neglect**

Child neglect is the failure of a parent or other person with responsibility for the child, to provide needed food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision to the degree that the child's health, safety or well-being may be threatened with harm.

Participants mentioned that child neglect is a form of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (DS1) who said that *“child neglect is a form of child abuse”*

Another participant (LP2) said that *“child neglect is a form of child abuse”*

Participants (LL1) added that *“child neglect abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participant (LL2) mentioned that *“child neglect is a form of child abuse”*

Other participants LL3, LL4, LL5, LP1, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child neglect is a form of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child neglect is a form of child abuse

### **Emotional Abuse**

This is the violation of emotional, psychological, cognitive and personality of a child.

Study participants mentioned that emotional abuse is a form of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“emotional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Study participant (LP1) said that *“emotional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants (LP2) added that *“emotional abuse abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Other participant (DS1) mentioned that *“emotional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“emotional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that emotional abuse is a form of child abuse

### **Nutritional abuse**

This is failure to provide adequate and balanced food diets to children

Study participants mentioned that nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Study participant (DS1) said that *“nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants of the study (LL1) added that *“nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Other participant (DS1) mentioned that *“nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse

### **4.3.2 THEME 2: This theme two therefore, rhymes with the study objective two which seeks to investigate the effect of child abuse on children raised in abusive homes**

Participants of the study were asked to mention the effect of child abuse on children and their responses: Child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems, child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children, child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems and child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems

#### **Child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems**

Participants of the research study mentioned that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems”*

Study participant (LL1) said that *“child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems”*

Participants of the study (LP1) added that *“child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems”*

Even participant (DS1) mentioned that *“child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems

### **Child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children**

Further participants mentioned that child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children. This was affirmed by participant (DS1) who said that *“child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children”*

Study participant (LL1) said that *“child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children”*

Participants of the study (LP1) added that *“child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children”*

Even study participant (LP2) mentioned that *“child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children

### **Child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use**

Participants of the study mentioned that child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use”*

Additionally, study participant (LP1) said that *“child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use”*

Participants of the study (DS1) added that *“child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use”*

Study participant (DS2) mentioned that *“child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child*

*abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use

### **Child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems**

Participants of the study mentioned that child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems”*

Study participant (LP2) said that *“child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems”*

Participants of the study (DS1) added that *“child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems”*

Study participant (DS2) mentioned that *“child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems”*

Participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems

### **Child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems**

Participants of the study mentioned that child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems. This was affirmed by participant (DS1) who said that *“child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems”*

Study participant (DS2) said that *“child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems”*

Participants of the study (LP1) added that *“child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems”*

Study participant (LL2) mentioned that *“child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems”*

Additionally, participants LL1, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems

#### **4.2 THEME 3: this theme intends to explain the Interventions that can be employed so as to prevent child abuse.**

Participants of the research study were identify interventions to prevent child abuse and their responses included; Involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse, involving the media, improving household incomes and reduce poverty, addressing domestic violence, giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment, strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations

##### **Involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse**

Participants of the study mentioned that involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Participant (DS1) said that *“involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Another participant of the study (LP1) added that *“involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Study participant (LP2) mentioned that *“involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Additionally, participants LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is a good intervention

##### **Involving the media in preventing child abuse**

During the study, participants of the study mentioned that involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Study participant (DS1) said that *“involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Another participant of the study (DS1) added that *“involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Study participant (DS3) mentioned that *“involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Participants LL1, LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that involving the media in preventing child abuse is a good intervention

### **Improving household incomes and reducing poverty**

During the study, participants of the study mentioned that improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (DS1) who said that *“improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse”*

Participant (DS2) said that *“improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse”*

Another participant of the study (LP1) added that *“improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse”*

Study participant (LL1) mentioned that *“improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse”*

Other participants who included LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that improving household incomes and reducing poverty is a good intervention in the prevention of child abuse

### **Addressing domestic violence**

Participants of the study also mentioned that addressing domestic violence help to prevention of child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LL1) who said that *“addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse.”*

Another study participant (LP1) said that *“addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse”*

Participant of the study (LP2) added that *“addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse”*

Even participant (DS1) mentioned that *“addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse”*

Other participants who included LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS2, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that addressing domestic violence helps to prevention of child abuse

### **Giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment**

Participants of the study also mentioned that giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse.”*

Study participant (LL1) said that *“giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Additionally, participant of the study (DS1) added that *“giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Even participant (DS2) mentioned that *“giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Other participants who included LL2, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment is a good intervention of preventing child abuse

### **Strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations**

Participants of the study also mentioned that strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse. This was affirmed by participant (LP1) who said that *“strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse.”*

Participant of the study (DS1) said that *“strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Additionally, participant of the study (DS2) added that *“strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Even participant (LL2) mentioned that *“strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Other participants who included LL1, LL3, LL4, LL5, LP2, LP3, LP4, LP5, DS3, DS4 and DS5 also said that *“strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations is a good intervention of preventing child abuse”*

Therefore, the expressions above show that strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations

## CHAPTER FIVE

### DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

#### 5.1 Introduction

This study sought to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study was guided by three specific objectives which included; explore the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and to determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study discovered that there are various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and nutritional abuse. Further the study found that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems, child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children, child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems and child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems. The study also found several interventions of preventing child abuse and these included involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse, involving the media, improving household incomes and reduce poverty, addressing domestic violence, giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment, strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations.

These findings are in line with a range of past studies (see chapter Two) where authors presented an extended exposition of historical antecedents of the present situation regarding teenage pregnancies and its relationship to girl's education. Although some authors (eg., Ojangole et al., 2022 and Davis, 2021) failed to address the issue in an increasingly exploited range, the findings of this study matches the subtlety and rigor of the subject matter (the role of family support in the rehabilitation of persons with alcohol addiction).

This chapter presents the discussions of the study findings in line with the study findings identified earlier in chapter four and the discussions have been done in line with the three specific objectives of the study. The purpose of this chapter is to present the findings of data analysis in a systematic way and to give all evidence related to research objectives and questions as seen below:

## **5.2 Discussion**

The discussion of the findings is presented as below

### **The various forms of child abuse**

Participants of the study were asked to mention the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and their responses included physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and nutritional abuse

The finding of the study shows that physical abuse is a form of child abuse. This is line with the findings of UNICEF (2021) where it was reported that physical abuse is a form of child abuse

The findings of the study also show that sexual abuse is a form of child abuse. This finding is in line with the findings of the study by Mwiria et al., (2019) who also argued that sexual abuse is a form of child abuse.

Findings also revealed that neglect is a form of child abuse. Esearch by Kisan et al., (2017) supports these findings where was discovered that neglect is a form of child abuse

Additionally another form of child abuse is emotional abuse and nutritional abuse. Even WHO (2020) found that emotional abuse and nutritional abuse is a serious form of child abuse.

Further, findings revealed that nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse witnessed by children. This finding is in line with the findings of the study by UNICEF (2021) it was discovered that found nutritional abuse is a form of child abuse witnessed by children.

### **Effect of child abuse on children**

Participants of the study were asked to mention the effect of child abuse on children and their responses: Child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems, child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children, child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems and child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems

The study findings show that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems. This is in line with the finding of the study by Onyango et al., (2020) who also reported that child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems.

Additionally, findings show that child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children. In support of this finding, Ocholo (2020) reported that child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children

Study findings further revealed that child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use. In support of this finding, Robson & Stevens (2020) also found that child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use

The study found that child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems. Even UNICEF (2021) also found that child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems

Participants during the study also found that child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems. This was in line with the findings of the study by Kenya Institute of Health & Welfare. (2020) where it was revealed that child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems.

### **Interventions to prevent child abuse**

Participants of the research study were identify interventions to prevent child abuse and their responses included; Involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse, involving the media, improving household incomes and reduce poverty, addressing domestic violence, giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment, strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations

The findings of the study show that involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is good intervention measure. In line with finding, Ocholo (2020) reported that involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is good intervention measure

Other findings of the study indicate that involving the media in prevention of child abuse yields positive results. Even Bloomfield et al. 2016) and Kuntsche et al. (2016) also found that involving the media in prevention of child abuse yields positive results.

Study findings further revealed that interventions such as improving household incomes and reduce poverty can help prevent child abuse. Robson & Stevens(2020) in their study also found that interventions such as improving household incomes and reduce poverty can help prevent child abuse.

It was also revealed during the study that addressing domestic violence is also part of interventions aimed at preventing child abuse. This finding is in line with the findings of the study by Child Welfare Information Gateway (2018) where it was also found that addressing domestic violence is also part of interventions aimed at preventing child abuse

Study findings further revealed that giving families' welfare support to lower child maltreatment helps to prevent child abuse. Barnes & Pearson et al. (2021) in their study also found that giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment helps to prevent child abuse

Study findings further revealed that strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations helps to prevent child abuse. Patta, & Persson et al., (2021) in their study also found that strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations helps to prevent child abuse.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

To convey the meaning of the findings, this chapter has systematically presented the discussion of the findings. These findings are in line with the literature review and the conceptual framework. The next chapter presents information on the conclusions and recommendations of the research study.

## CHAPTER SIX

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Introduction

This study sought to determine interventions for children raised in abusive homes in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. The study was guided by three specific objectives which included; explore the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City, to determine the effect of child abuse on children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City and to determine interventions that can be implemented to prevent child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City. This chapter looks at the summary and recommendation about the research study. In this chapter, the researcher has the opportunity to summarize, conclude and make recommendations based on the study findings.

#### **6.2 Conclusions: Conclusions shall be made according to the study objectives and in the context of this study only**

From the findings of the study, the following conclusions are made:

From the findings of the study, the following conclusions are made:

As revealed in the findings, physical abuse is a form of child abuse.

The findings of the study also show that sexual abuse is a form of child abuse.

Neglect is a form of child abuse and this was revealed in study findings

Another form of child abuse is emotional abuse and nutritional abuse as study findings shows

As results revealed, child abuse leads to attachment and interpersonal relationship problems.

Additionally, child abuse leads to suicide of the affected children and this was indicated in the findings

As the study findings shows, child abuse leads to alcohol and other drug use.

As the study found, child and adolescent abuse leads to behavioral problems as revealed in the findings

It is true and found the findings that child abuse leads to learning and developmental problems.

As noted in the findings, involving religious institutions in preventing child abuse is good intervention measure.

Involving the media in prevention of child abuse yields positive results and this was revealed in the findings of the study

Study findings further revealed that interventions such as improving household incomes and reduce poverty can help prevent child abuse.

As mentioned by study participants during the study, addressing domestic violence is also part of interventions aimed at preventing child abuse.

Giving families welfare support to lower child maltreatment helps to prevent child abuse and this is in line with study findings

Strengthening criminal sanctions and legislations helps to prevent child abuse as study findings reveals

### **6.3 Recommendations**

From the study findings and conclusions of the research study, the following recommendations have been drawn:

Government and stakeholders should sensitize the community of the dangers of child abuse to children

Government in conjunction with local leaders should implement child-related laws to help prevent child abuse

There is need to strengthen family relationships. This will go a long way in mitigating problems related to alcohol addiction

Government and stakeholders should strengthen the capacity of law enforcement institutions involved in child rights protection.

### **6.3 Areas for further research**

However, there are areas that need further studies because many scholars have not explored them comprehensively. Although there are useful bits and pieces here and there but covering a large subject of child abuse in small volumes, is often repeating familiar (and often specious generalizations). These include the following:

- a) Demographic factors associated with child abuse
- b) Effect of divorce on child abuse
- c) Economic factors contributing to child abuse.

### **6.4 Chapter summary**

This chapter looked at the conclusions and recommendations of the research study. In this chapter, the researcher has the opportunity to summarize, conclude and make recommendations based on the study findings.

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**APPENDIX 1**

**CONSENT LETTER**

*Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration (Candidate)*

**RESEARCH PROJECT-UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, MBALE**

I am **KWAGA DOREEN** a student of Uganda Christian University, currently undertaking a research on a topic ‘interventions for children raised in abusive homes, a case study of industrial division in Mbale City. You are privileged to participate in this research and your selection has been based on random sampling. Please feel free as you respond because the information you give will only be used for academics purposes, treated confidential and will be held anonymous before publication.

Thank you

.....

**(Researcher)**

## **APPENDIX 11**

### **INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LOCAL LEADERS, LOCAL PEOPLE AND CHILDREN**

- 1) What is your occupation?
- 2) What is your level of education?
- 3) Explain the challenges that children face.
- 4) What factors contribute to child abuse?
- 5) What are the various forms of child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?
- 6) How are the forms of child abuse identified in 5a) above related to children raised in abusive homes?
- 7) How can child abuse affects children in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?
- 8) What is the rationale for implementing child rights protection laws?
- 9) What interventions can be taken to combat child abuse in Industrial City Division of Mbale City?

## APPENDIX 111

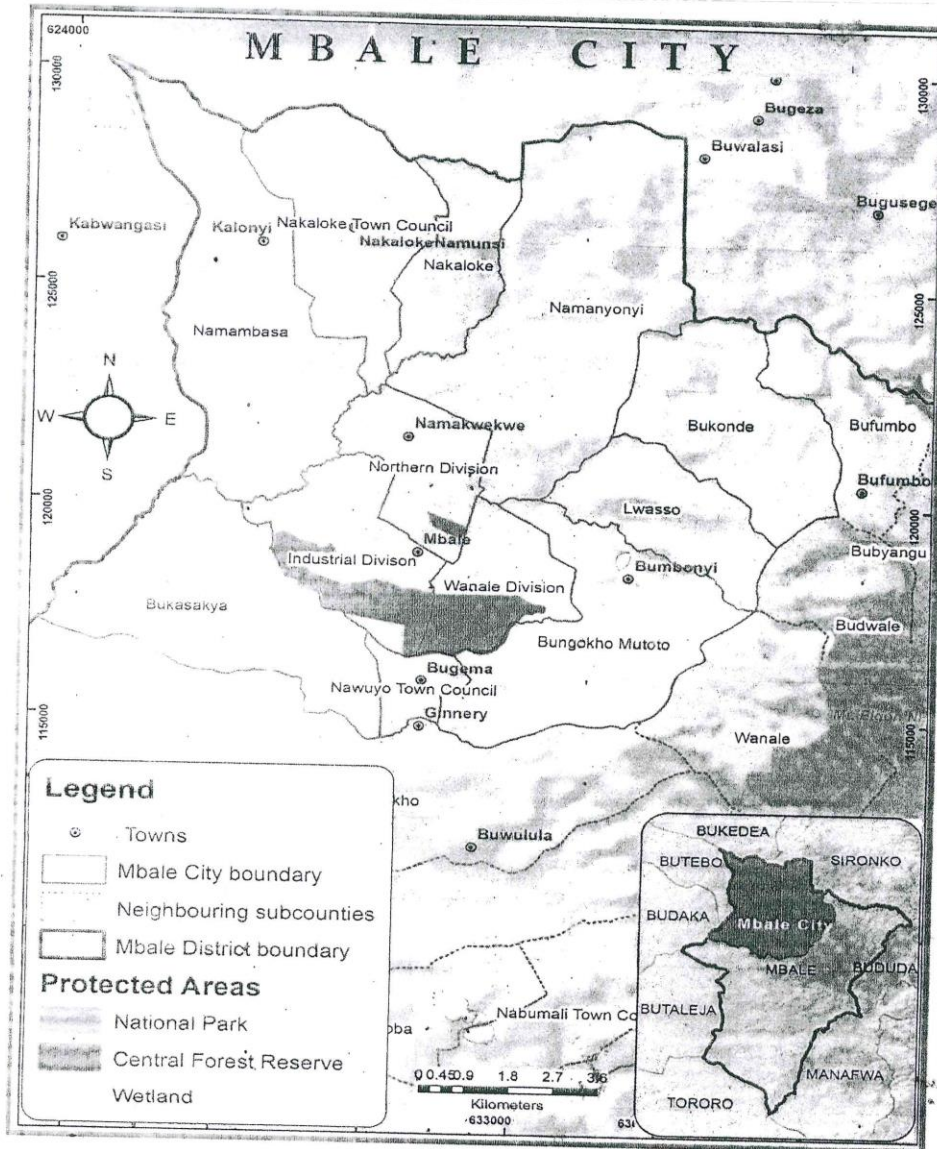
### Work plan schedule

<b>S/No</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DURATION</b>
01	Developing questionnaires	2 weeks
02	Data collection	1 week
03	Data processing and analysis	1 week
04	Writing draft and final report	1week
05	Submission of the report	1 week
	<b>Total Duration</b>	<b>2 (Two Months)</b>

**APPENDICE 1V**  
**BUDGETARY ESTIMATES**

<b>S/No</b>	<b>ITEM ( S)</b>	<b>Quantity (qty)</b>	<b>Unit cost (Ugshs)</b>	<b>Total Coast (Ugshs)</b>
01	Printing/ photo copying papers	1 ream	20,000	20,000
02	Ruled papers	1 raem	16,000	16,000
03	Flash disk	1 (2GB)	40,000	40,000
04	Pens, pencil and note book	Assorted	10,000	10,000
05	Photocopying expenses	45 PAGES	@ 100	4500
06	Word typesetting expenses	45 PAGES	@ 1000	45,000
07	Spiral binding expenses	3 BOOKS	@ 5000	15,000
08	Airtime		10,000	10,000
09	Transport expenses		50,000	50,000
10	Contingency		50,000	50,000
<b>11</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>366,000</b>

# MAP OF MBALE CITY SHOWING AREA OF STUDY



**ACCEPTANCE/DATA COLLECTION LETTER**



UGANDA CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY  
A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa  
MBALE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Office of the Academic Registrar -

To TOWN CLARK  
INDUSTRIAL CITY DIVISION

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Academic Research

Christian greetings!

We are honored to introduce to you Mr. Mrs./Miss KIAGA DOREEN

Of Registration Number; 223/MUC/BSW/008 pursuing a Masters' Degree/Postgraduate Diploma / Bachelor's Degree IN SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

He/ she is required to carry out an academic research on the topic

INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILDREN RAISED IN ABUSIVE HOMES IN INDUSTRIAL CITY DIVISION, MBALE CITY

and thereafter produce a well bound hard cover research report (MAROON) in color for undergraduate and three (BLACK) copies for Postgraduate students as a University requirement for the award of a degree/diploma in the academic discipline that he / she is pursuing.

We shall be grateful for the help you may offer to him or her accordingly.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Akampurira Timothy

Academic Registrar

28 FEB 2024

