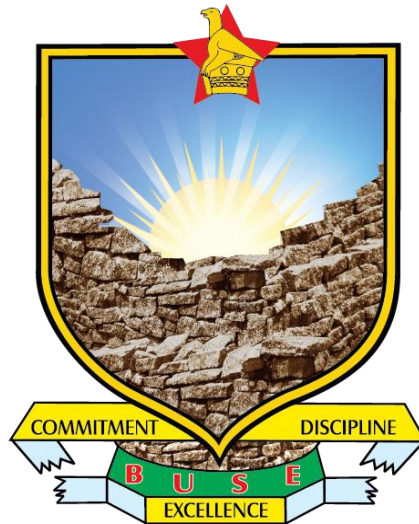


BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

***VISITOR PERCEPTIONS OF URBAN PARKS. A CASE STUDY OF THE
GREEN PARK AND CHERUTOMBO PARK IN MARONDERA.***



BY

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DEDICATION

I devote this effort to my family and friends (Prisca and Selma), who's unwavering support has been my strength. To my mother Vhaillet, thank you for your love and encouragement you have always believed in me. This is for you.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined visitor perceptions of urban parks in Marondera, Zimbabwe, comparing The Green Park and Cherutombo Park. The main aim was to explore how socio-demographic factors, park quality, and accessibility influence utilisation patterns. Using mixed methods, 40 park visitors (20 per park) were surveyed. There were differences between the two parks. The Green Park attracted higher-income, educated visitors (55% tertiary education, 45% earning >\$500 monthly) with superior satisfaction rates (65% vs. 40%). Safety perceptions were higher in Green Park (75% vs. 40% feeling safe), alongside better quality indicators: cleanliness (65% vs. 25% rating clean/very clean), facilities satisfaction (55% vs. 20%), and green space quality (75% vs. 35% rating excellent/good). Despite lower quality ratings, Cherutombo Park served immediate community needs with 40% of visitors living within 1 km and 25% visiting daily, compared to 15% and 10% for The Green Park. Transportation patterns also differed: 50% of Cherutombo visitors walked versus 30% at The Green Park, while private vehicle use was 30% versus 5% respectively. Green Park emphasized relaxation (80%) and nature appreciation (70%), while Cherutombo Park focused on socializing (75%) and exercise (55%). Universal recognition of parks' community value was high (92.5%). The study recommends improving facilities in underserved parks to enhance accessibility and visitor satisfaction.

Keywords: urban parks, visitor perceptions, Zimbabwe, park quality, community engagement, green space access

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CHAPTER 1

1.1 Research Background

The quality of urban environment has declined due to increased urbanisation, especially in larger towns and cities, which has an impact on people's quality of life (Saldiva, 2018). Green cover is rapidly disappearing as a result of increased urbanisation. Urban parks can lessen urbanization-related vulnerabilities and boost resilience. Urban parks support mental and physical health (Strum and Cohen, 2014), social cohesion interactions (Peters et al., 2010), resilience against natural disasters (Jayakody et al., 2018), microclimate regulation (Finaeva, 2017), soil fertility (Setala et al., 2017) and social inclusion (Kazmierczak and James, 2007).

However, not all social groups have equitable access to urban green spaces. Due to differences in factors including park size, quality, safety and closeness to green space, not all urban dwellers have equal access to green spaces (Rigolon, 2016). Urban green space is less accessible to vulnerable groups, including the elderly (Kabisch and Haase, 2014). Access to parks is significantly influenced by gender as well. Harvey (1973) asserts that disadvantaged individuals' access to public services is especially important, making it a central priority for urban design from an environmental justice standpoint (Hughey et al., 2016). For example, urban green spaces are especially lacking in low-income neighbourhoods (You, 2016).

In modern cities, parks serve as models for new public areas that are fenced in, guarded and equipped with cafes and food courts (Kohn, 2004). The imposition of admission fees limits some types of prior use of these areas and draws in white-collar workers and affluent locals. The landscape changes from having utilitarian use to having recreational and artistic value as a result, and the concept of "commons" is lost (Monbiot, 1994). When considered collectively, it is clear that every city has difficulties in providing its citizens with aesthetically pleasing and easily accessible green areas.

1.2 Problem Statement

Having parks in cities can make a big difference in people's lives. In Marondera for example, parks seem to bring people together, promoting a sense of community and well-being. However, there is limited information on visitor perceptions and experiences within these parks. Factors such as facility quality, safety, accessibility, and cleanliness influence visitor satisfaction and usage patterns. Yet without a clear understanding of these factors, park managers may struggle to

implement effective strategies to enhance visitor experiences and optimize resource allocation. This research aimed to address this knowledge gap by examining visitor perceptions of urban parks.

1.3 Aim of the Study

This study aimed to explore visitors' perceptions of urban parks in Marondera, with a specific focus on The Green Park and Cherutombo Park.

1.4 Specific Objectives

1. To assess the socio-demographic profile of respondents.
2. To evaluate visitors' overall satisfaction with The Green Park and Cherutombo Park.
3. To identify the factors that influenced visitors' decisions to utilize the parks.

1.5 Research Questions

1. What is the socio-demographic profile of the respondents?
2. How satisfied were visitors with The Green Park and Cherutombo Park?
3. What factors influenced visitors' decisions to utilize the parks?

1.6 Significance of the Study

It provided information on visitor perceptions of The Green Park and Cherutombo Park in Marondera town.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

1. Financial limitations restricted the study which could have had an impact on the research's scope, sample size and data collection techniques.
2. The study's focus on just two Marondera parks may limit how broadly the results may be applied to other urban parks.
3. The data was based on self-reported information, which could have led to biases or inaccurate conclusions.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Urban Parks in Zimbabwe: Case Studies

The Harare Botanic Gardens, for instance, offer spaces for physical activity, socialising, and relaxation that are vital for meeting physiological and safety needs; they also promote environmental education and awareness, encouraging sustainable lifestyles and environmental stewardship; and they host community events, festivals, and picnics that strengthen social connections and community engagement. For example, the Green Park in Marondera facilitates collective activities like community gardening and volunteer work that contribute to social capital and community involvement. Urban parks which offer recreational areas for social interaction and physical activity, are recognised as crucial elements of urban design in Zimbabwe (Mupemba, 2015). Furthermore, urban parks play an important role in promoting environmental sustainability. The Bulawayo National Botanic Gardens, for example, provide green areas that improve biodiversity, lower air pollution, and lessen the urban heat island effect.

2.2 Urban Parks and Human Well-being

The understanding that urban parks are not just physical spaces but also social and emotional hubs that support community engagement, social cohesion, and individual well-being is fundamental to this understanding. Urban parks offer a variety of benefits that improve the quality of life for city dwellers, including recreational, social, environmental, and economic aspects. These benefits include opportunities for physical activities like walking, jogging, or playing sports, which are important for physical health, as well as social interactions like community events, festivals, and picnics, which are important for fostering social bonds. Finally, they provide a peaceful haven from the stresses of the city, creating a tranquil setting that reduces stress and improves mood. The value of urban parks for mental health is highlighted by research by Sullivan et al. (2001), which shows that exposure to natural settings can reduce stress, elevate mood, and increase general well-being. Additionally, by offering green areas that lessen air pollution, support biodiversity, and lessen the urban heat island effect, urban parks support environmental sustainability. They also act as locations for environmental awareness and education.

2.3 Meeting Human Needs through Urban Parks

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (Maslow, 1943) serves as the foundation for the significance of urban parks in meeting human needs. According to this view, people have different needs, ranging from self-actualization to fundamental physiological necessities. By providing areas for social connection, physical activity, and relaxation—all of which are critical for meeting physiological and safety needs—urban parks can satisfy these demands. Additionally, they offer chances for community involvement and social relationships, both of which are essential for meeting demands for love and belonging. For example, social gatherings like picnics, festivals, and community activities can be held in urban parks. They can also help organise group projects like volunteer labour or community gardening, which will increase social capital and community involvement. Additionally, urban parks foster personal development, which is essential for self-actualization and self-esteem. For instance, they can offer chances for environmental education and awareness, encouraging stewardship and sustainable lifestyles. Additionally, they provide locations for artistic expression, including performance spaces or public art installations, which can inspire self-expression and creativity.

2.4 Urban Parks and Stress Reduction

Urban parks are essential for lowering stress and improving mental health. The importance of natural settings in reducing stress and enhancing mental health is emphasised by the Stress Reduction Theory (Kaplan, 1995). Urban parks offer a tranquil haven from the bustle of the city, fostering a soothing ambiance that elevates mood and lowers stress levels. According to research by Sullivan et al. (2001), spending time in natural settings might reduce stress and enhance general wellbeing. Zimbabwe's urban parks, like the Harare Gardens, include a variety of natural settings, such as green areas, water features, and wildlife, all of which can reduce stress. Additionally, they offer chances for rest via reading, strolling, and meditation, all of which can lessen stress and enhance mental well-being. The Green Park in Marondera, which has picnic spaces, gardens, and walking routes, provides a peaceful setting for rest.

2.5 Benefits of Urban Parks

Urban parks provide a variety of advantages that enhance human well-being in four key domains: economic, social, recreational, and environmental. Opportunities for physical activity, socialising, and relaxing are all part of the recreational benefits. For example, urban parks offer areas for

jogging, walking, and sports, all of which are vital for good physical health. Social benefits include chances for social interaction, group activities, and community involvement. In order to strengthen social links, urban parks host festivals, farmers' markets, and other community gatherings. Last but not least, economic benefits include higher property values, tourism, and job creation. Urban parks can boost property values by providing desirable amenities for businesses and residents and by creating jobs. Environmental benefits include green spaces that help mitigate the urban heat island effect, reduce air pollution, and promote biodiversity.

2.6 Challenges and Inequalities in Access to Urban Parks

Urban parks have many benefits, but access to them is sometimes uneven, with major obstacles for marginalised people (Rigolon, 2016). For instance, Rigolon (2016) discovered that, in contrast to parks in more affluent communities, urban parks in low-income neighbourhoods are typically smaller, less well-maintained, and furnished with fewer facilities. Urban parks in low-income communities in Zimbabwe, like the Epworth Local Board Park, usually lack basic facilities like electricity, water, and restrooms, which makes them less accessible and desirable to locals.

2.7 Urban Parks and Community Engagement

Urban parks are essential for promoting social cohesiveness and community involvement. According to research, they offer venues for social gatherings, festivals, and other events that bring people together and improve relationships (Peters et al., 2010). Urban parks can support community-led projects like park clean-up days and community gardening, which can boost social capital and encourage community involvement, according to research by Pretty et al. (2007).

CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodology

Questionnaires were used in the study to investigate how visitors view urban parks. This method made it possible to quantify visitor happiness and pinpoint the variables affecting park usage. The study sought to give a thorough grasp of how urban parks benefited the community by collecting both organised and open-ended replies.

3.2 Study Area

The study concentrated on two urban parks, The Green Park and Cherutombo Park in Marondera, Zimbabwe. Due to the city's extreme urbanisation, green spaces are vanishing (Saldiva, 2018). These parks are vital recreational areas that enhance the local population's quality of life by fostering social cohesion and offering a break from urban stressors; therefore, their selection is particularly worth noting.

3.3 Population Size and Sample Size

The study's target subjects included those who visited Cherutombo Park and The Green Park. A total of 40 questionnaires were delivered, 20 to each park (10 males and 10 females each park), ensuring equal representation of male and female responses. The study used purposive sampling, a non-probability sampling technique, focussing on people who were in the parks at the time of data collection. Purposive sampling is helpful for getting in-depth data from specific groups, claim Teddlie and Yu (2007). Participants with first-hand experience of the parks were chosen using this manner, yielding valuable insights into how they are used and perceived.

3.4 Data Collection

Data collection techniques were carefully selected to support the study's objectives. Both closed-ended and open-ended questions from structured questionnaires were used to collect primary data. While enabling respondents to express their opinions and experiences, this design made it possible to gather quantifiable data on visitor demographics, satisfaction levels, and usage patterns. Certain time periods were used for data collection; for example, Cherutombo Park collected data over three days (February 21, 22, and 24 2025) and The Green Park collected data over five days (February 14, 15, 17, 19, and 24 2025). Lewis-Beck et al. (2012) note that pre-testing the questionnaire with

ten respondents helped standardise interviewing techniques and modify questions, which enhanced the study's reliability. The questionnaires were given in-person to ensure clarity and promote participation.

3.5 Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to evaluate quantitative data from the surveys in order to summarise visitor demographics and satisfaction levels. Means, frequencies, and cross-tabulations were among the techniques used to look for trends and correlations in the data. Important themes and insights regarding visitor experiences and suggestions for park improvements were extracted from the qualitative responses using thematic analysis. This dual investigative technique, which blends numerical trends with personal accounts, allows for a deeper understanding of the facts.

3.6 Validity and Reliability

Verifying the validity and reliability of research tools is essential to the study's integrity.

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

4.1.1 Age Distribution of Respondents

Table 4.1 Age distribution of respondents across both parks.

Table 4.1 Age Distribution of Respondents

Age Group (years)	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Under 20	10.0	20.0
20-30	35.0	40.0
31-40	30.0	25.0
41-50	15.0	10.0
51-60	5.0	5.0
61 and above	5.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

The results in Table 4.1 show that the majority of respondents from both parks fell within the 20-30 years age group (37.5%). The data suggests that younger adults constitute the largest proportion of park visitors. The Green Park had slightly more middle-aged visitors (31-60 years) at 50% compared to Cherutombo Park at 40%, while Cherutombo Park had more visitors under 30 years (60%) compared to The Green Park (45%).

4.1.2 Gender Distribution of Respondents

Table 4.2: Gender Distribution of Respondents.

Gender	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Male	55.0	60.0
Female	45.0	40.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.2 shows that males constituted a slightly higher proportion of respondents (57.5%) compared to females (42.5%) across both parks. This gender disparity was more pronounced in Cherutombo Park (60% male) than in The Green Park (55% male).

4.1.3 Marital Status of Respondents

Table 4.3: Marital Status of Respondents

Marital Status	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Single	40.0	50.0
Married	50.0	40.0
Divorced	5.0	5.0
Widowed	5.0	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0

The Green Park had a higher proportion of married visitors (50%) compared to Cherutombo Park (40%), while Cherutombo Park had a higher proportion of single visitors (50%) compared to The Green Park (40%).

4.1.4 Occupation of Respondents

Table 4.4: Occupation of Respondents

Occupation	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Student	15.0	30.0
Employed (Formal)	40.0	25.0
Self-employed	30.0	35.0
Unemployed	10.0	10.0
Retired	5.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.4 indicates that formally employed and self-employed individuals constituted the largest categories at 32.5% each. The Green Park had a higher proportion of formally employed visitors

(40%) compared to Cherutombo Park (25%), while Cherutombo Park had a higher proportion of students (30%) compared to The Green Park (15%).

4.1.5 Educational Level of Respondents

Table 4.5: Educational Level of Respondents

Educational Level	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Primary School	5.0	10.0
Secondary School	40.0	60.0
Tertiary Education	55.0	30.0
Total	100.0	100.0

According to Table 4.5 half of the respondents (50%) had attained secondary education. The Green Park had a significantly higher proportion of visitors with tertiary education (55%) compared to Cherutombo Park (30%), suggesting that The Green Park attracts more educated visitors.

4.1.6 Monthly Income of Respondents

Table 4.6: Monthly Income Distribution of Respondents

Monthly Income (USD)	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Below \$100	15.0	35.0
\$100-\$500	40.0	50.0
\$501-\$1000	35.0	15.0
Above \$1000	10.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.6 shows that the majority of respondents (45%) earned between \$100-\$500 per month. The Green Park had a higher proportion of visitors with monthly incomes above \$500 (45%) compared to Cherutombo Park (15%), which aligns with the higher education levels observed among Green Park visitors.

4.2 Park Visitation Patterns

4.2.1 Frequency of Park Visits

Table 4.7: Frequency of Park Visits

Frequency of Visits	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Daily	10.0	25.0
Weekly	35.0	40.0
Monthly	30.0	20.0
Occasionally	25.0	15.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.7 indicates that weekly visits were the most common frequency for both parks (35% for The Green Park and 40% for Cherutombo Park). Daily visits were more common for Cherutombo Park (25%) compared to The Green Park (10%), suggesting that Cherutombo Park serves more regular, everyday recreational needs of the local community.

4.2.2 Time of Park Visits

Table 4.8: Preferred Time of Park Visits

Time of Visit	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Morning	35.0	20.0
Afternoon	40.0	45.0
Evening	25.0	35.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.8 shows that afternoon was the most preferred time for park visits across both parks (40% for The Green Park and 45% for Cherutombo Park). The Green Park had more morning visitors (35%) compared to Cherutombo Park (20%), while Cherutombo Park had more evening visitors (35%) compared to The Green Park (25%).

4.2.3 Distance from Residence to Park

Table 4.9: Distance from Residence to Park

Distance	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Less than 1 km	15.0	40.0
1-5 km	60.0	50.0
More than 5 km	25.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0

According to Table 4.9, the majority of respondents lived within 1-5 km of the parks (60% for The Green Park and 50% for Cherutombo Park). Cherutombo Park had a higher proportion of visitors living within 1 km (40%) compared to The Green Park (15%), indicating that Cherutombo Park serves more immediate local residents.

4.2.4 Mode of Transportation to Park

Table 4.10: Mode of Transportation to Park

Mode of Transportation	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
On foot (Walk)	30.0	50.0
Bicycle	5.0	15.0
Public transport	35.0	30.0
Private vehicle	30.0	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.10 shows variations in transportation modes between the two parks. Walking was the most common mode for Cherutombo Park visitors (50%), while public transport was most common for The Green Park visitors (35%). The Green Park had a significantly higher proportion of visitors using private vehicles (30%) compared to Cherutombo Park (5%), which aligns with the higher income levels of Green Park visitors.

4.3.5 Travel Time to Park

Table 4.11: Travel Time to Park

Travel Time	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Less than 15 minutes	25.0	45.0
15-30 minutes	50.0	40.0
30-60 minutes	20.0	15.0
More than 1 hour	5.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.11 indicates that most visitors spent 15-30 minutes traveling to The Green Park (50%), while most Cherutombo Park visitors spent less than 15 minutes (45%). This is consistent with the finding that Cherutombo Park visitors generally lived closer to the park.

4.2.6 Accompaniment During Park Visits

Table 4.12: Accompaniment During Park Visits

Accompaniment	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Alone	15.0	20.0
Family	45.0	30.0
Friends	35.0	40.0
Community group	5.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0

As shown in Table 4.12 family accompaniment was most common for The Green Park visitors (45%), while friend accompaniment was most common for Cherutombo Park visitors (40%). This suggests that The Green Park may be more family-oriented, while Cherutombo Park may be more popular for social gatherings among friends.

4.3 Overall Satisfaction with Urban Parks

4.3.1 Satisfaction Levels with Parks

Table 4.13: Overall Satisfaction with Parks

Satisfaction Level	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very Satisfied	15.0	5.0
Satisfied	50.0	35.0
Neutral	25.0	30.0
Dissatisfied	10.0	20.0
Very Dissatisfied	0.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.13 shows that overall satisfaction was higher for The Green Park, with 65% of respondents expressing satisfaction (very satisfied or satisfied) compared to 40% for Cherutombo Park. Dissatisfaction was higher for Cherutombo Park, with 30% of respondents expressing dissatisfaction (dissatisfied or very dissatisfied) compared to 10% for The Green Park.

4.3.2 Cleanliness Rating of Parks

Table 4.14: Cleanliness Rating of Parks

Cleanliness Rating	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very clean	10.0	0.0
Clean	55.0	25.0
Average	25.0	40.0
Dirty	10.0	25.0
Very dirty	0.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.14 indicates that The Green Park was perceived as cleaner, with 65% of respondents rating it as clean or very clean, compared to only 25% for Cherutombo Park. Conversely, 35% of

respondents rated Cherutombo Park as dirty or very dirty, compared to only 10% for The Green Park.

4.3.3 Satisfaction with Park Facilities

Table 4.15: Satisfaction with Park Facilities

Satisfaction Level	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very Satisfied	10.0	0.0
Satisfied	45.0	20.0
Neutral	30.0	25.0
Dissatisfied	15.0	40.0
Very Dissatisfied	0.0	15.0
Total	100.0	100.0

According to Table 4.15, satisfaction with park facilities was higher for The Green Park, with 55% of respondents expressing satisfaction compared to 20% for Cherutombo Park. More than half of Cherutombo Park visitors (55%) expressed dissatisfaction with park facilities.

4.3.4 Rating of Green Spaces Availability

Table 4.16: Rating of Green Spaces Availability

Rating	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Excellent	25.0	5.0
Good	50.0	30.0
Average	20.0	40.0
Poor	5.0	20.0
Very poor	0.0	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.16 shows that The Green Park was rated higher for green spaces availability, with 75% of respondents rating it as excellent or good, compared to 35% for Cherutombo Park. This significant

difference suggests that The Green Park may have more abundant and well-maintained green spaces.

4.4 Factors Influencing Park Usage

4.4.1 Motivations for Park Visits

Table 4.17: Motivations for Park Visits (Multiple Responses)

Motivation	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Relaxation	80.0	60.0
Exercise	45.0	55.0
Socialising	60.0	75.0
Nature appreciation	70.0	35.0
Family activities	55.0	40.0

Note: Percentages are based on the number of respondents (n=20 for each park) who selected each motivation. Multiple responses were allowed.

Table 4.17 shows that relaxation was the primary motivation for visitors to The Green Park (80%), while socialising was the primary motivation for Cherutombo Park visitors (75%). Nature appreciation showed the most significant difference between the parks, with 70% of The Green Park visitors citing it as a motivation compared to only 35% of Cherutombo Park visitors.

4.4.2 Activities Engaged in at Parks

Table 4.18: Activities Engaged in at Parks (Multiple Responses)

Activity	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Walking	75.0	65.0
Jogging	35.0	50.0
Picnicking	65.0	30.0
Sports	25.0	60.0
Reading	40.0	15.0

Socialising	70.0	75.0
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Note: Percentages are based on the number of respondents (n=20 for each park) who selected each activity. Multiple responses were allowed.

Table 4.18 indicates that walking was the most common activity in The Green Park (75%), while socialising was the most common in Cherutombo Park (75%). Notable differences include picnicking (65% in The Green Park vs. 30% in Cherutombo Park) and sports (25% in The Green Park vs. 60% in Cherutombo Park).

4.4.3 Safety Perception of Parks

Table 4.19: Safety Perception of Parks

Safety Perception	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very safe	15.0	5.0
Safe	60.0	35.0
Neutral	20.0	30.0
Unsafe	5.0	25.0
Very unsafe	0.0	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0

According to Table 4.19, safety perception was higher for The Green Park, with 75% of respondents perceiving it as safe or very safe, compared to 40% for Cherutombo Park. Conversely, 30% of respondents perceived Cherutombo Park as unsafe or very unsafe, compared to only 5% for The Green Park.

4.4.4 Importance of Park Location

Table 4.20: Importance of Park Location

Importance Level	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very important	40.0	50.0
Important	45.0	35.0

Neutral	10.0	10.0
Unimportant	5.0	5.0
Very unimportant	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.20 indicates that the overwhelming majority of respondents (85% for Cherutombo Park and 85% for The Green Park) thought that the parks' locations were important or extremely important. This implies that two important elements affecting park usage are accessibility and closeness.

4.4.5 Role of Accessibility in Park Visitation

Table 4.21: Role of Accessibility in Park Visitation

Significance Level	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very significant	35.0	45.0
Significant	40.0	40.0
Neutral	15.0	10.0
Minor	10.0	5.0
Not at all	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

The majority of respondents (75% for The Green Park and 85% for Cherutombo Park) rated accessibility as significant or very significant for both parks, according to table 4.21. This emphasises how crucial infrastructure and transit alternatives are to enabling park visits easier.

4.5 Economic Aspects and Willingness to Pay

4.5.1 Willingness to Pay for Park Entry

Table 4.22: Willingness to Pay for Park Entry

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Yes	60.0	40.0

No	25.0	45.0
Maybe	15.0	15.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.22 shows that more visitors to The Green Park (60%) than those to Cherutombo (40%) Park were willing to pay for admission. The Green Park patrons' higher income levels and increased satisfaction with the park's amenities and cleanliness could be the cause of this discrepancy.

4.6.2 Amount Willing to Pay for Park Entry

Table 4.23: Amount Willing to Pay for Park Entry (Among Those Willing to Pay)

Amount (USD)	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
\$0.50	33.3	62.5
\$1.00	50.0	37.5
\$1.50	16.7	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 4.23 shows that among those willing to pay for park entry, most Green Park visitors were willing to pay \$1.00 (50%), while most Cherutombo Park visitors were willing to pay \$0.50 (62.5%). Green Park visitors were also willing to pay higher amounts, with 16.7% willing to pay \$1.50, compared to none for Cherutombo Park.

4.6.3 Perception of Parks' Value to Community

Table 4.23: Perception of Parks' Value to Community

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park	Total
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Yes	95.0	90.0	92.5
No	5.0	10.0	7.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.24 indicates that the vast majority of respondents (92.5%) believed that urban parks are valuable to their community. This high percentage was consistent across both parks, highlighting the recognized importance of urban parks regardless of specific park conditions.

4.6 General Feedback on Parks

4.6.1 Recommendation of Parks to Others

Respondents were asked whether they would recommend The Green Park and Cherutombo Park to others. Table 4.6.1 presents the distribution of responses.

Table 4.24: Distribution of respondents' willingness to recommend parks to others

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Yes	80	60
No	5	20
Maybe	15	20
Total	100	100

Table 4.6.1 shows that a large majority (80%) of The Green Park visitors would recommend the park to others, while only 5% would not. For Cherutombo Park, 60% of respondents would recommend it to others, while 20% would not and another 20% might recommend it. This suggests higher overall satisfaction with The Green Park compared to Cherutombo Park.

4.6.2 Additional Comments and Suggestions

Respondents provided various comments and suggestions for improving both parks. The most frequent suggestions for The Green Park included:

- "More regular maintenance of playground equipment" (Respondent 3)
- "Addition of food vendors or a small café would make longer visits more enjoyable" (Respondent 7)
- "Better lighting for evening visitors" (Respondents 12 and 17)

- "More cultural events and community programs" (Respondent 9)
- "Installation of water fountains throughout the park" (Respondents 5 and 14)

For Cherutombo Park, common suggestions included:

- "Improved security measures, especially in the evening hours" (Respondents 23, 28, and 33)
- "Better waste management systems and more garbage bins" (Respondents 21, 27, and 38)
- "Renovation of existing facilities, particularly restrooms" (Respondents 25 and 35)
- "More regular landscaping and maintenance" (Respondents 24, 31, and 39)
- "Addition of children's play areas" (Respondents 22 and 36)

4.6.3 Likelihood of Returning to Parks

Respondents indicated their likelihood of returning to the parks in the future. The results are presented in Table 4.25

Table 4.25: Distribution of respondents' likelihood of returning to parks

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very likely	60	35
Likely	30	40
Neutral	5	15
Unlikely	5	5
Very unlikely	0	5
Total	100	100

The data in Table 4.25 reveals that 90% of The Green Park visitors were either very likely or likely to return to the park, compared to 75% for Cherutombo Park. These findings align with the recommendation patterns observed in Table 4.7.1, indicating higher satisfaction and loyalty among The Green Park visitors.

4.7.4 Satisfaction with Signage and Information

Respondents rated their satisfaction with the signage and information available in both parks. The results are presented in Table 4.26

Table 4.26: Distribution of respondents' satisfaction with signage and information

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Very satisfied	25	10
Satisfied	50	30
Neutral	15	25
Dissatisfied	10	25
Very dissatisfied	0	10
Total	100	100

Table 4.26 shows that 75% of The Green Park visitors were either very satisfied or satisfied with the signage and information available in the park, compared to only 40% for Cherutombo Park. Furthermore, 35% of Cherutombo Park visitors were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the signage and information, compared to only 10% for The Green Park. This suggests a significant disparity in the quality and availability of informational resources between the two parks.

4.7.5 Desired Additional Features

When asked about features they would like to see added to the parks, respondents provided a variety of suggestions.

For The Green Park, the most frequently requested features included:

1. Water features (fountains, splash pads) - mentioned by 9 respondents
2. Improved sports facilities - mentioned by 7 respondents
3. Food vendors/cafés - mentioned by 6 respondents
4. More organised events and programmes - mentioned by 5 respondents
5. Better lighting for evening use - mentioned by 4 respondents

For Cherutombo Park, the most commonly requested features were:

1. Enhanced security measures - mentioned by 12 respondents
2. Children's playground equipment - mentioned by 8 respondents
3. Improved restroom facilities - mentioned by 7 respondents
4. More seating areas and benches - mentioned by 6 respondents
5. Better waste management systems - mentioned by 5 respondents

One respondent (Respondent 29) commented: "Cherutombo Park needs basic amenities before considering luxury additions. Functional restrooms, adequate security, and proper waste management should be prioritized."

4.7.6 Ideal Park Experience

Respondents were asked to describe their ideal park experience. Common themes emerged from their responses, with notable differences between visitors of the two parks.

For The Green Park visitors, ideal experiences often emphasised:

- "A clean, well-maintained environment with abundant green spaces where I can relax with a book under a shady tree." (Respondent 6)
- "Family-friendly amenities with safe play areas for children and comfortable seating for adults to socialise." (Respondent 11)
- "A balance of natural beauty and recreational opportunities, with walking paths, sports facilities, and quiet areas." (Respondent 8)
- "Regular cultural events and community activities that bring people together." (Respondent 15)
- "A place where I can exercise, socialise, and connect with nature, all within a safe environment." (Respondent 2)

For Cherutombo Park visitors, ideal experiences focused more on basic improvements:

- "A clean park with functional facilities, particularly clean restrooms and drinking water." (Respondent 26)

- "A safe environment where I can bring my family without concerns about security issues." (Respondent 32)
- "More shade trees and seating areas to escape the heat during hot days." (Respondent 37)
- "Better maintenance of existing facilities and more regular cleaning." (Respondent 30)
- "Accessible paths and facilities that accommodate all visitors, including those with disabilities." (Respondent 40)

4.7.7 Event Attendance

When asked about attendance at events in the parks, 13 out of 20 respondents (65%) from The Green Park reported attending at least one event, compared to only 7 out of 20 respondents (35%) from Cherutombo Park.

Events attended at The Green Park included:

- Community festivals (mentioned by 7 respondents)
- Fitness classes and sports tournaments (mentioned by 5 respondents)
- Cultural performances and concerts (mentioned by 4 respondents)
- Environmental awareness programs (mentioned by 3 respondents)
- Children's activities and educational programs (mentioned by 2 respondents)

Events attended at Cherutombo Park included:

- Community clean-up initiatives (mentioned by 4 respondents)
- Small local celebrations (mentioned by 3 respondents)
- Religious gatherings (mentioned by 2 respondents)
- Health awareness campaigns (mentioned by 1 respondent)

A respondent who attended a cultural festival at The Green Park shared: "The annual cultural festival was well-organized with diverse performances, food stalls, and activities for all ages. It fostered a beautiful spirit of celebration and community." (Respondent 16)

On the other hand, a respondent who took part in a community clean-up at Cherutombo Park observed: "the clean-up effort was significant, but also brought attention to the park's continuous

maintenance issues. Such significant community activities would be less necessary with better routine maintenance.” (Respondent 34)

4.7.8 Availability of Shade and Sitting Areas

Regarding the presence of seating areas and shade in both parks, respondents offered their opinions. Seventy percent of visitors to The Green Park were satisfied with the shade and seating options, calling them “adequate” or “good.” Common comments included:

- "There are plenty of benches strategically placed throughout the park, especially near play areas and along walking paths." (Respondent 4)
- "The mature trees provide excellent natural shade, and the covered pavilions offer additional protection from sun and rain." (Respondent 10)
- "Seating areas are well-distributed, though more benches could be added near the sports facilities." (Respondent 18)

In contrast, only 30% of Cherutombo Park visitors expressed satisfaction with shade and seating availability. The majority (70%) described it as "insufficient" or "poor." Typical comments included:

- "There are very few benches, and those that exist are often damaged or uncomfortable." (Respondent 27)
- "The lack of mature trees means there's little natural shade, making the park unusable during hot afternoons." (Respondent 31)
- "More covered seating areas are desperately needed, especially near children's play areas." (Respondent 39)

4.7.9 Accessibility for People with Disabilities

Regarding the accessibility of parks for people with disabilities, significant differences emerged between the two parks. For The Green Park, 60% of respondents felt the park was "accessible" or "somewhat accessible," while 40% believed improvements were needed. Specific comments included:

- "The main pathways are wide and paved, making them suitable for wheelchair users." (Respondent 1)
- "Some areas remain challenging to access, particularly some of the recreational facilities." (Respondent 13)
- "The park has made efforts to improve accessibility with ramps and accessible restrooms, but more could be done." (Respondent 19)

For Cherutombo Park, only 25% of respondents considered the park accessible for people with disabilities, while 75% described it as "poorly accessible" or "inaccessible." Common concerns included:

- "Unpaved and uneven pathways make navigation difficult for wheelchair users and those with mobility challenges." (Respondent 22)
- "There are no accessible restroom facilities or accommodations for visitors with disabilities." (Respondent 28)
- "The park design did not consider accessibility needs, creating barriers for many potential visitors." (Respondent 36)

A respondent who uses mobility aids commented: "Cherutombo Park is effectively inaccessible to me due to its uneven terrain and lack of paved pathways. It's a shame because public parks should be accessible to all community members." (Respondent 40)

4.7.10 Willingness for Follow-up Participation

Respondents were asked about their willingness to be contacted for follow-up questions. Table 4.27 presents their responses.

Table 4.27: Distribution of respondents' willingness for follow-up participation

Response	The Green Park	Cherutombo Park
	Percentage (%)	Percentage (%)
Yes	70	55
No	30	45
Total	100	100

Table 4.27 shows that 70% of The Green Park visitors were willing to participate in follow-up discussions, compared to 55% of Cherutombo Park visitors. This higher willingness among The Green Park visitors might reflect greater engagement and investment in the park's development and improvement.

CHAPTER 5: DISCUSSION

5.1 Socio-Demographic Patterns and Park Usage

5.1.1 Age and Gender Demographics

The study revealed that younger adults (20–30 years) constituted the largest proportion of park visitors (37.5%), which aligns with previous research by Giles-Corti et al. (2005) who found that younger people demonstrate a higher propensity for active recreation in urban green spaces. The environmental justice argument put forth by Wolch et al. (2014), which contends that patterns of park use mirror changes in urban leisure-seeking behaviours, is supported by these data. An intriguing contrast to the findings of Kaczynski & Henderson (2007), who reported more balanced gender engagement in urban parks, is the gender disparity that was noted with men accounting for 57.5% of visits. Rishbeth's (2001) investigation of cultural influences on park usage patterns is consistent with the male preponderance, which is especially noticeable in Cherutombo Park (60%). According to Byrne & Wolch (2009), this highlights how important it is to place urban parks within regional cultural frameworks.

5.1.2 Educational and Income Disparities

The study also revealed notable differences in education among park visitors. The Green Park had more tertiary-educated individuals (55%) compared to Cherutombo Park (30%). Higher levels of education were associated with a desire for The Green Park, which is consistent with Bourdieu's (1986) theory of cultural capital, which holds that educational achievement affects spatial and recreational choices. With only 15% of visitors to Cherutombo Park earning more than \$500 a month, compared to 45% of visitors to The Green Park, income differences were also observed.

5.2 Park Visitation Patterns and Accessibility

5.2.1 Frequency and Temporal Patterns

The higher frequency of daily visits to Cherutombo Park (25% vs. 10%) aligns with the proximity factor, as 40% of Cherutombo Park visitors live within 1km compared to 15% for The Green Park. This finding supports the distance-decay theory in urban geography, as articulated by Jim & Chen (2006), which posits that park usage intensity is inversely related to distance from residence.

The temporal usage trends indicate that afternoon visits are most common in both parks, consistent with earlier research by McCormack et al. (2010), which found that afternoons are when urban parks globally see the highest usage. However, the higher percentage of evening visitors (35% vs.

25%) may reflect safety concerns, particularly as indicated by the park's lower safety perception scores. This suggests that while more visitors attend in the evening, their presence may be driven by a lack of alternative safe recreational options during those hours.

5.2.2 Transportation and Accessibility

The stark differences in transportation modes between the parks provide crucial insights into urban mobility and park accessibility. The higher proportion of walking to Cherutombo Park (50% vs. 30%) reflects both proximity and economic constraints, while the greater use of private vehicles for The Green Park (30% vs. 5%) demonstrates the influence of socio-economic status on mobility options. This finding supports the work of Wen et al. (2013), who identified transportation mode as a critical determinant of park accessibility and usage patterns.

The accessibility implications extend beyond mere transportation to encompass the broader concept of environmental justice. The finding that 75% of Cherutombo Park visitors consider it poorly accessible for people with disabilities, compared to 40% for The Green Park, highlights the unequal distribution of inclusive infrastructure, supporting the arguments made by Bedimo-Rung et al. (2005) regarding accessibility barriers in urban recreation.

5.3 Satisfaction Levels and Quality Perceptions

5.3.1 Overall Satisfaction Disparities

The substantial satisfaction gap between the parks (65% satisfaction for The Green Park vs. 40% for Cherutombo Park) reflects broader urban service delivery inequalities. This finding aligns with the urban environmental management literature, particularly the work of Swanwick et al. (2003), who demonstrated strong correlations between park maintenance levels and user satisfaction.

The dissatisfaction patterns, with 30% of Cherutombo Park visitors expressing dissatisfaction compared to 10% for The Green Park, support the service quality framework proposed by Parasuraman et al. (1988), which emphasizes the role of tangible elements in shaping user perceptions. According to Gobster (2002), the crucial necessity of maintenance standards in urban park management is demonstrated by Cherutombo Park's much lower ratings for cleanliness (35% rating it dirty compared to 10% rating The Green Park).

5.3.2 Facility Quality and Infrastructure

The infrastructure differences across the parks are emphasised by the differences in facility satisfaction (55% at The Green Park versus 20% at Cherutombo Park). This research backs up the environmental management literature, especially Chiesura's (2004) assertion that park usage and community benefits are greatly impacted by facility quality.

These differences are further highlighted by the green space availability ratings, which show that 75% of visitors to The Green Park thought the green spaces were outstanding or good, whereas just 35% thought the same of Cherutombo Park. This is consistent with Dwyer et al.'s (1992) urban forestry study, which showed a link between community contentment and the quality of green spaces.

5.4 Motivational Factors and Activity Patterns

5.4.1 Recreational Motivations

Important insights into urban recreation patterns can be gained from examining the varying motivations of park visitors. The importance placed on socialising at Cherutombo Park (75% versus 60%) and relaxation at The Green Park (80% versus 60%) illustrates how park quality and design affect visitor behaviour. The environmental psychology study by Kaplan & Kaplan (1989), which highlighted the importance of environmental quality in fostering various forms of leisure activities, is supported by this finding.

The restorative environments idea put forth by Ulrich (1984) contends that higher-quality natural surroundings offer more psychological benefits, which is consistent with the notable difference in nature appreciation motivation (70% for The Green Park versus 35% for Cherutombo Park). This research strengthens the claim by Hartig et al. (2003) that urban parks that are kept up provide vital mental health services to the city's residents.

5.4.2 Activity Engagement Patterns

Different usage cultures within the parks are revealed by the activity patterns. Despite lower overall satisfaction, Cherutombo Park had higher sports involvement (60% versus 25%), which supports Floyd et al. (2008)'s work on community resilience in urban recreation and implies that community needs drive usage regardless of facility quality.

The increased focus on reading at The Green Park (40% versus 15%) reveals the influence of environmental quality on contemplative activities, aligning with attention restoration theory proposed by Kaplan (1995). This finding supports the argument that higher-quality urban parks provide broader ranges of recreational opportunities, as suggested by Gobster & Westphal (2004).

5.5 Safety Perceptions and Security Concerns

The substantial safety perception gap between the parks (75% feeling safe at The Green Park vs. 40% at Cherutombo Park) represents one of the most significant findings of this study. This disparity supports the environmental criminology literature, particularly the work of Newman (1972) on defensible space theory, which links environmental design to crime prevention and safety perceptions.

The higher perception of unsafety at Cherutombo Park (30% vs. 5%) aligns with the broken windows theory proposed by Wilson & Kelling (1982), which suggests that visible signs of neglect contribute to perceptions of insecurity. This finding has significant implications for urban park management, as safety concerns can create barriers to park usage, particularly for vulnerable populations, as noted by Loukaitou-Sideris & Stieglitz (2002).

The qualitative feedback emphasizing security improvements at Cherutombo Park supports the work of Iqbal & Ceccato (2016), who identified security as a fundamental prerequisite for equitable park access. The gendered and age-specific impacts of safety concerns, while not fully explored in this study, align with research by Whitzman (2007) on the differential impacts of urban safety on various demographic groups.

5.6 Economic Dimensions and Willingness to Pay

5.6.1 Payment Willingness Patterns

The higher willingness to pay among The Green Park visitors (60% vs. 40%) reflects the complex relationship between service quality and payment willingness, supporting the economic valuation literature in urban recreation. This finding aligns with the work of Tyrväinen & Väänänen (1998), who demonstrated positive correlations between park quality and willingness to pay for access.

The differential payment amounts (\$1.00 vs. \$0.50) reflect not only income disparities but also perceived value differences, supporting the contingent valuation framework proposed by Mitchell

& Carson (1989). However, the finding that 16.7% of The Green Park visitors were willing to pay \$1.50 compared to none at Cherutombo Park suggests that quality improvements could generate revenue for park maintenance, supporting the sustainable financing arguments made by Crompton (2007).

5.6.2 Community Value Perceptions

The consistently high perception of community value across both parks (92.5%) despite quality differences demonstrates the fundamental importance of urban green spaces for community well-being. This finding supports the ecosystem services literature, particularly the work of Gómez-Baggethun & Barton (2013), who emphasized the universal recognition of urban parks' social and environmental benefits.

The universal recognition of parks' community value, regardless of their condition, supports the argument made by Konijnendijk et al. (2013) that urban green spaces provide irreplaceable community functions. This finding has important implications for urban planning policy, suggesting that even underperforming parks retain significant community support and improvement potential.

CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.4 Recommendations

6.4.1 Immediate Priority Actions

For Cherutombo Park:

Emergency Safety and Security Improvements: Install lighting, emergency systems, and security patrols within six months to address pressing community safety concerns.

Basic Infrastructure Repairs: Complete comprehensive repairs of restrooms, seating areas, and playground equipment, prioritizing safety-critical fixes within the current fiscal year.

Accessibility Audit and Improvements: Conduct accessibility audit with certified consultants and implement phased improvements starting with pathway repairs and accessible restrooms.

Improved Waste Management: Install trash cans in key locations, double the number of collections and carry out community education initiatives to ensure appropriate waste disposal.

For Both Parks:

Community Engagement Program: to get input, rank improvements and foster a sense of community ownership over park upkeep, schedule monthly community meetings with a range of attendees.

Standardised Maintenance Protocols: create and put into effect standardised maintenance plans and quality requirements that are accessible to the public and subject to community oversight.

6.4.2 Medium-Term Development Strategies

Equitable Resource Allocation Framework:

Differential Investment Strategy: Put into practice a system for allocating resources giving underserved parks priority and allocating specific funding sources for equity enhancements and catch-up investments.

Programming Tailored to the Community: create programming that is specifically tailored to each park's needs with a focus on sports and kid-friendly activities for Cherutombo Park and cultural events and outdoor activities for The Green Park.

Enhancements to Public Transportation and Connectivity: Collaborate with transportation authorities to create safe pathways for bicyclists and pedestrians that connect to nearby communities.

Revenue Generation and Sustainability:

Graduated Fee Structure: Establish a voluntary fee structure that permits park upkeep contributions from visitors while guaranteeing that those who are unable to pay do not obstruct access and that revenue is used transparently.

Partnership Development: Through resource pooling, volunteer programs and sponsorship, form alliances with nearby companies, academic institutions and neighbourhood associations to fund park programming and upkeep.

6.4.3 Long-Term Strategic Initiatives

System-Wide Policy Reforms:

Urban Park Equity Standards: Create and put into thorough equity standards that set basic service requirements for all facilities' upkeep, security, accessibility, programming and community involvement.

Participatory Planning Process: Create official channels for community involvement in park administration and planning choices, such as regular participatory budgeting procedures and community advisory boards with decision-making power.

Regional Coordination: Create regional strategies for designing urban parks that guarantee a fair distribution of excellent green spaces throughout cities and avoid concentrating high-quality amenities in rich communities.

Innovation and Best Practices:

Technology Integration: Examine technological options such as digital platforms for event planning and community involvement, IoT sensors for maintenance monitoring and smartphone apps for community input.

Climate Adaptation: For long-term sustainability, incorporate climate change adaptation strategies into park management and design, such as flood control systems, drought-resistant planting and cooling infrastructure.

Health and Wellness Integration: Develop comprehensive health and wellness programming leveraging parks' potential for promoting physical activity, mental health, and community well-being through targeted interventions and partnerships with health organizations.

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APPENDIX 1

Questionnaire for Visitor Perceptions of Urban Parks

My name is Nyasha Gonde, a Natural Resource Management student (B211207B) at Bindura University of Science Education. As part of fulfilment of my programmes, I am required to make meaningful research that contribute to societal improvement. Through this questionnaire, designed to capture data for research purposes, it is envisaged that the research will lead to a better understanding of visitors' perceptions of urban parks. This study is for academic purposes only, and participation in the survey is voluntary; participants do not expect to be paid for their involvement. Personal details of people interviewed during this study will be treated with utmost confidentiality, and they have fully understood the purpose of the interview.

Signature (of respondent); Date:
.....

Thank you for your valuable input.

Questionnaire Number:

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. What is your age?

Under 20 years	
20 - 30	
31 - 40	
41 - 50	
51 - 60	
61 and above	

2. What is your gender?

Male	
Female	

3. What is your marital status?

Single	
Married	
Divorced	
Widowed	
Other (Specify)	

4. What is your occupation?

.....
.

5. What is your highest level of education?

Primary school	
Secondary school	
Tertiary education (College/University)	
Other (please specify)	

6. What is your monthly income in US dollars?

Below \$100	
\$100 - \$500	

\$501 - \$1000	
Above \$1000	

7. How often do you visit urban parks?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark

8. What time of day do you usually visit the parks?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Morning		
Afternoon		
Evening		
Other (Specify)		

9. Where do you live? (Surburb).....

10. How far is your home from the Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Less than 1 km		

1-5 km		
More than 5 km		

11. How do you usually get to the parks?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
On foot (Walk)		
Bicycle		
Public transport		
Private vehicle		
Other (Specify)		

12. How long does it take you to reach the parks?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Less than 15 minutes		
15-30 minutes		
30-60 minutes		
More than 1 hour		

13. Who do you usually visit the parks with?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Alone		
Family		

Friends		
Community group		
Other (Specify)		

SECTION 2: OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH URBAN PARKS

1. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very Satisfied		
Satisfied		
Neutral		
Dissatisfied		
Very dissatisfied		

2. Please explain the reason for your answer to Question 1 above:

.....

3. What do you appreciate most about The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

TheGreenPark.....

CherutomboPark.....

4. What do you appreciate least about The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

TheGreenPark.....

CherutomboPark.....

5. How would you rate the cleanliness of The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very clean		
Clean		
Average		
Dirty		
Very dirty		

6. How satisfied are you with the facilities (e.g., restrooms, benches) in The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

Type of Facility		TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
	Very satisfied		
	Satisfied		
	Neutral		
	Dissatisfied		
	Very dissatisfied		

7. How would you rate the availability of green spaces in The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Excellent		
Good		
Average		

Poor		
Very poor		

SECTION 3: FACTORS INFLUENCING PARK USAGE

1. What motivates you to visit The Green Park/Cherutombo Park? (Select all that apply)

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Relaxation		
Exercise		
Socializing		
Nature appreciation		
Family activities		
Other (specify)		

2. What activities do you typically engage in at The Green Park/Cherutombo Park? (Select all that apply)

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Walking		
Jogging		
Picnicking		
Sports		
Reading		
Socializing		

Other(please specify)		
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3. How do you learn about events or activities in these parks? (Select all that apply)

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Social media		
Friends/Family		
Flyers/Advertisements		
Local news		
Other(please specify)		

4. How important is the location of the park to your decision to visit?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very important		
Important		
Neutral		
Unimportant		
Very unimportant		

5 How do you feel about the safety of The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very safe		
Safe		

Neutral		
Unsafe		
Very unsafe		

6. If you feel unsafe, what makes you feel unsafe?

.....

7. What role does accessibility (e.g., transportation) play in your decision to visit the parks?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very significant		
Significant		
Neutral		
Minor		
Not at all		

8. What improvements/changes would encourage you to visit the parks more frequently?

.....

SECTION 4: ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND WILLINGNESS TO PAY

1. Are you willing to pay for entry to The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Yes		
No		

Maybe		
-------	--	--

2. If yes, how much would you be willing to pay to enter The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
\$0.50		
\$1.00		
\$1.50		
Other(please specify)		

3. If No, why are you not prepared to pay?

.....

4. Do you think that urban parks are valuable to your community? Yes/No

.....

5. If yes, why do you think that urban parks are valuable to your community?

.....

SECTION 5: GENERAL FEEDBACK

1. Would you recommend The Green Park/Cherutombo Park to others?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Yes		
No		
Maybe		

2. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions regarding The Green Park/Cherutombo Park.

.....

3. How likely are you to return to The Green Park in the future/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very likely		
Likely		
Neutral		
Unlikely		
Very unlikely		

4. How satisfied are you with the signage and information available in The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Very satisfied		
Satisfied		
Neutral		
Dissatisfied		
Very dissatisfied		

5. What features would you like to be added to The Green Park/Cherutombo Park?

.....

6. Describe your ideal park experience.

.....

7. Have you attended any events in these parks? If yes, please state the event and describe your experience.

.....

8. How do you feel about the availability of shade and seating areas in the parks?

.....

9. What are your thoughts on the accessibility of the parks for people with disabilities?

.....

10. Would you like to be contacted for follow-up questions or discussions regarding this study?

	TheGreenPark	CherutomboPark
Yes		
No		

11. If yes, please provide your contact information (optional).

.....