

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

FACULTY OF COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES



**AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF DRUG ABUSE BY CHILDREN. A
CASE OF MAZOWE DISTRICT FROM JANUARY 2023 TO MARCH 2024.**

BY

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I, **DESIRE DINHA**, do hereby declare that this dissertation is the result of my own investigation and research, except to the extent indicated in the Acknowledgement, References and by comments indicated in the body of the report and that it has not been submitted in part or in full for any other degree to any university.

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DEDICATION

This research is dedicated to my parents Mr and Mrs Dinha, my young brothers Deploy and Hamadziripi for their priceless efforts and contributions during the study.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The researcher extends profound gratitude to the research supervisor Ms Tatenda Chitiyo, for the tireless efforts made in supervising the researcher throughout the research. In addition, the researcher acknowledges the support, love and care from his parents Mr and Mrs Dinha and his two brothers Deploy and Hamadziripi.

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ABSTRACT

The study analyses the causes of drug abuse by children in Mazowe District, Mashonaland Central Province in Zimbabwe. The study was guided by the following objectives; to determine the factors causing the increase in drug abuse among children in Mazowe District, to assess the impact of drug abuse on children in Mazowe District and to offer recommendations on ways through which drug abuse may be reduced among children in Mazowe District. This study used a descriptive survey design to find out the impact of drug abuse on children. Questionnaire and interviews were the instruments used to collect data. The target population in this study were 250 respondents drawn from the children, members of the ZRP and agents of socialisation. The sample was derived using Judgemental and Convenient sampling techniques. The mean and the standard deviation were used to see the trends in the data. The results of the study reviewed that Marijuana was frequently abused by children in Mazowe District and that factors such as peer pressure, low self-esteem, and availability of drugs contributed to the abuse of drugs. The abuse of these drugs has led to criminal behaviour, poor performance, absenteeism, and low concentration in class.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

The study sought to determine the impact of drug abuse by children in Mazowe District from 2023 to 2024. This chapter focuses on the background information to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions and significance of the study, study assumptions, delimitations and limitations of the study, definition of terms, abbreviations and organisation of the whole study. The chapter ended with a summary.

1.1 Background to the study

Drug abuse has become a global challenge that affects people's everyday lives. According to Salagaev (2003) the problem of drug abuse has become universal and more complicated and it affects every part of the world. He highlighted that statistical data indicate that with the exception of the United States of America, all parts of the world rate of child crime rose in the 1990s. In Western Europe, arrests of juvenile delinquents and other young offenders has increased by an average of around 50% during the period between mid-1990s and late 1990s. Since 1995, those countries in transition such as Zimbabwe and Kenya also witnessed a dramatic increase in child drug abuse rates. Salagaev (2003), further highlighted that the level of child crimes in many countries in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States has also increased by 30%. Many of the criminal offences were related to drug abuse and excessive use of alcohol.

Smith (2013) postulate that, countries such as the United Kingdom and mostly in the city of London experienced a rise in the number of children being sentenced in the Metropolitan juvenile Courts and the Magistrate courts. Smith (2013) further highlighted that, in the United States juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice are influenced by a variety of factors within political economy, communities, families, schools, peer groups and other important social institutions.

Odongo (2012) gave an overview of trends and nature of juvenile delinquencies in some parts of Southern African Development Community (SADC) region as well as Central African region. He states that while it is recognised that each of the 15 countries in the SADC region has different challenges and opportunities, it is also worth noting that this region share many commonalities. The region has been characterised by youth violence which occurred between the period between 2000 and 2008 and normally resulted in conflict and peace disturbances among the citizens. Odongo further indicated that in some parts of Central Africa, Kenya recorded a total number of 109 625 sentenced prisoners in 2014. Amongst them 3455 were in mates below the age of 18 years. However, during the same year, 52, 3% of the total prison population were comprised of the youth age 25 and below.

In Zimbabwe child criminality is increasing everyday particularly in Mazowe District. It is claiming more space within the society and the media fraternity as compared to crime perpetrated by adults. Some children are even involved in serious crimes like rape and murder as a result of drug abuse. The media has been awash with incidents of drug abuse involving children. The Sunday Mail 2023, revealed that more than 200 children were arrested in March only for drug abuse. Guranungo (2017) reported that drug abuse is one of the harmful practices affecting children in Zimbabwe. He reported that 65% of the youth suffered from mental problem due to drug abuse as revealed by the Zimbabwe United Nations Association statistics. According to ZRP Mazowe statistics 59 cases of child drug abuse were reported in 2022. The district experienced a high increase in these cases between 2022 and 2023 were 154 cases were recorded in 2023. The statistics reflected a 100% increase showing a high increase in drug abuse in the youth in Mazowe District.

Children's conduct in Zimbabwe is regulated by statutory provisions such as the Guardianship of Minors Act (Chapter 5:08) and the Children Protection Act (chapter 5:06). The Acts make provision for the protection, welfare and supervision of juveniles. It also provides for the establishment, recognition and registration of institutions and institutes for the reception and custody of juveniles.

There are a variety of institutions in Zimbabwe which plays different roles in a bid to maintain order and instil unity as well as controlling individual behaviour in the Society. The social institutions include the government and legal institutions such as the Legal Aid Society in Zimbabwe, educational institutions, religious organisations, social welfare, community groups and families. Families take responsibility in moulding children's behaviour as they are accountable for every activity performed by children starting from birth until they are integrated in the society. Gove and Crutchfield (1982) echoed that, it is evident from studies of deviance that the family plays a critical role in juvenile delinquency.

The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) also plays a vital role to show its concern towards drug abuse. The ZRP came up with strategies which it applies as a measure to instil discipline in the young and the youth in an endeavour to alert them on the negative effects of crime especially drug abuse. The ZRP created a Victim Friendly Unit (VFU), the unit that specifically deals with handling children's cases to promote mutual understanding and build confidence on children. The ZRP, constantly does awareness campaigns through the public relations office. It also incorporates the Junior Call Scheme in community policing initiatives in order to educate the children and the youth on every aspects regarding criminal issues.

According to Mazowe District statistics 54 cases of drug abuse were recorded during the year 2022. The district experienced a high increase in these cases in 2023 where 154 cases showing an increase by 100 cases. These statistics reflect a high increase in drug abuse in Mazowe District.

1.2 Statement of the problem

There are several social institutions in Zimbabwe which play different roles to support the society's survival. These institutions includes the government and the judiciary system, educational institution, religious organisations, social welfare, community groups and families. Social institutions perform different tasks and responsibilities that contributes to the overall functioning and stability of the society. One of the major reasons for the existence of social institutions is to control individual behaviour and curb delinquency. This helps to increase and shape the structure of the society and eliminate misunderstanding amongst individuals.

There are certain measures undertaken by these institutions to curb delinquency and to deal with the present realities. The government takes the overall responsibility for the development and implementation of laws governing the behaviour of individuals and managing relations in the society. Children are educated to shun anti-social behaviour at educational and religious institutions as well as in their families. The Zimbabwe Republic Police as one of the agent of the social institutions engages a variety of crime prevention strategies which includes crime awareness campaign. These campaigns are physically provided and also accessible through media and other social platforms.

Despite the existence of these institutions in Mazowe District, drug abuse is on the rise. The increase in drug abuse bears social, economic and psychological effects which have negative impact on individuals, families and the country at large. The increase in drug abuse in Mazowe District has prompted the researcher to select this area to assess the impact of drug abuse by children

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study is to determine the impact of drug abuse by children in Mazowe District for the period January 2023 to March 2024. The study sought to explore and help in the understanding of factors that causes drug abuse in children. The study sought to recommend ways in which drug abuse can be reduced in Mazowe District.

1.4 Objectives of the study.

In carrying out this study, the researcher was guided by the following objectives:

1. To determine the factors causing the increase in drug abuse among children in Mazowe District.
2. To assess the impact of drug abuse on children in Mazowe District.
3. To offer recommendations on ways through which drug abuse may be reduced among children in Mazowe District.

1.5 Research questions

1. What factors are contributing to the rise in drug abuse among the children in Mazowe District?
2. What effects does drug abuse have on the children and the youth in Mazowe District?
3. How can drug abuse be reduced on children and the youth in Mazowe District?

1.6 Significant of the study

- **To the government**

In the formulation of government policies to reduce drug abuse, the government of Zimbabwe stands to gain more options from the findings of the research. These findings provide a wider scope of options to choose from.

- **To the social institutions**

The research provides the social institutions with relevant alternative means to apply when dealing with children on drug abuse. The research findings help clarify the role of these social institutions and hence providing a platform to refine their contributions in handling issues of drug abuse. These findings also enable social institutions to make relevant adjustments on their previous practices towards drug abuse.

- **To policing agents**

Policing agents dealing with drug abuse have the option to utilise the new findings to develop strategies that they were already implementing. This research provides some findings which have some potential to eventually reduce the burden on policing agents in finding possible ways in which drug abuse may be reduced. The policing agents may now refine their strategies to address the root cause of the problem and be proactive.

- **To the researcher**

The researcher benefits by improving his technical skills in realistic settings in this field. He gained an in-depth appreciation of the impact of drug abuse on children and youth delinquencies. The researcher's confidence and communication skills were also boosted through the interviews which he facilitated during the study.

1.7 Assumption of the study

The study was undertaken with the assumption that:

- The researcher was granted authority by the relevant authorities to carry out the study.
- The researcher obtained maximum co-operation from the respondents during the study.
- The relevant data and statistics gathered were reliable and accurate.
- The information collected from primary data sources is true and accurate.
- The sample will be the true representation of the whole.

1.8 Delimitations

The area of the study is the Mazowe District situated in Mashonaland Central Province. There are four police stations which fall under Mazowe District namely Mazowe, Concession, Glendale, Chombira, and other police bases. The targeted area is 4 354 square kilometres with a populations size of 293 363 basing on the 2022 population census. The targeted population comprised of the ZRP members, teachers, pastors, nurses residence and children within the same area.

1.9 Limitations of the study

1.9.1 Financial constraints.

Since the research is self-sponsored, the researcher faced some financial predicaments in travelling in and around Mazowe District in pursuit of the study. The researcher also had limited stationary and other resources required for the success of the project. The researcher needed funds to conduct some interviews and prepare other data gathering instruments such as questionnaires.

The researcher, however had some means to mobilise funds in order to overcome the limitation. The researcher had to approach his immediate friends and family members who also rendered their support and assist with funds towards the success of this study.

1.9.2 Social demands

It was very challenging to the researcher being a bread winner in the family and carrying

out the research project. This was due to the simultaneous obligation to run the family. The researcher needed some time to attend social demands at home. Such demands include guardianship to the siblings, church activities as well as other family matters that were arising during the period of study.

In order to overcome this limitation the researcher had to strike a balance between family commitments and the success of this project. The researcher delegated some of the family responsibilities to family members who had to carry the burden of solving problems and other matters that could deserve some attention. This allows him to concentrate much toward the success of the research.

1.9.3 Access to information

The researcher had limited time to follow the necessary procedures in obtaining information relevant to the study. Some of the information required by the researcher to be utilised in this study was restricted and hence it could not be easily obtained.

The researcher had no alternative serve to follow the required procedures in acquiring the required information. The researcher had to put maximum effort in consulting the relevant offices and also make some follow ups in order to ensure relevant, accurate and reliable information was obtained.

1.9.4 Non-cooperation of the respondents

The researcher encountered some difficulties on some of the respondents who resisted cooperating in this study. Some of the respondents refused to give their responses towards the questions that were directed to them during interviews. The respondents could not consider the significance of the study and they could not see any benefit in attending interviews and responding to the questions.

The researcher however had to fully explain to the respondents that this was an academic study in which they were relevant participants. The researcher advised the participants that he could obtain the required information from them only and no one else. The researcher assured the respondents that their response shall be treated as confidential and the information sought would be solely for academic purposes. Emphasis was given to the effect that this information was going to be used for the

purposes of this study only. After being convinced, the respondents submitted their views freely leading to the success of the study.

1.10 Definition of terms

- Impact - a powerful effect that something has on a situation or person, (Webster, 1999)
- Drug -a medicine or other substance which has a physiological effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body. Drugs are substances that change a person's mental or physical state. They can affect the way brain works, how a person feels and behaves, he/she's understanding and senses. This makes them unpredictable and dangerous, especially for young people (Hannah; 2016).
- Child - a person below the age of 18 unless the laws of a particular country the age for adulthood younger, (Anon, 2017)
- Drug abuse -Drug abuse or substance abuse refers to the use of certain chemicals for the purpose of creating pleasurable effects on the brain. There are over 190 million drug users around the world and the problem has been increasing at alarming rates, especially among young adults under the age of 30 (Hannah; 2016).
- Juvenile delinquency - crimes committed by minors aged between 7 and 18 who committed some acts which violets the law.
- Community - a group of people living together with shared values and interests, (Haralambos, 1996)

1.11_Abbreviations

CPA	-Children's Protection and Adoption
GMA	-Guardianship of Minors Act
SADC	-Southern African Development Community
UN	-United Nations
USA	-United Nations of America
VFU	-Victim Friendly unit
ZRP	- Zimbabwe Republic Police

1.12 Organisation of the whole study

The study was organised under five chapters. Chapter one focused on background information to the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, significant of the study, study assumptions, delimitation, limitations to the study, definition of terms and abbreviation.

Chapter two dealt with the review of the related literature to study the problem. Theoretical and conceptual framework to the study was covered where variables were explained. The review of related literature revealed investigations and studies that are similar to the study indicating how collateral research handled the situations.

Chapter three handled research methodology. The research was centred on research design, population, sample size, and sampling techniques, data collection instruments and data collection procedure. The target population comprised juveniles, the police and adult residence of Mazowe District. Systematic and convenient sampling techniques were adopted to select sample size. The researcher conducted some interviews and questionnaires were used during the process.

Chapter four dealt with data presentation, analysis and interpretation. The data was presented in statistics, tables and graphs.

Chapter five covered the survey of the study, summary of major findings, conclusion and recommendations.

1.13 Summary

This chapter looked at background information to the study, statement of the problem and the purpose of the study. The research objectives, research questions and assumptions were also outlined as well as significant of the study. The scope was described and limitations of the study were also stated. Basic terms and abbreviations to be used under this study were defined according to their contextual meanings. The next chapter will deal with related literature review.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter consist of literature review and theoretical framework. Relevant literature was reviewed from different scholars. The chapter outlines what has been done by other scholars in terms of methodology and theoretical framework. It also outlines the gaps that the research aims at filling.

2.1 Meaning of literature review

Literature review is a summary of findings of recognised authorities who provide evidence of investigated issues which might have gaps that require further investigation, (Best and Khan 1998). According to Big and Gall (1989), the review of literature involves locating, reading and evaluating reports of research as well as reports of casual observations and opinions that are related to individual research project.

Koul (1984) concurs with Best and Khan in their view that literature review is a brief review of related studies found in journals, magazines, abstracts and reports. Literature review therefore refers to the locating and gathering relevant information related to one's problem area of study.

2.1.1 Purpose of literature review

According to Saunders et al (2007), literature review is done in order for the researcher to generate and refine his research ideas. Thus it will become the foundation for research process in that the researcher will be producing and will be expanding his knowledge basing on the ideas that have been brought by other researchers.

Literature review is also done in order to establish theoretical framework for the researcher's area of study, to define key terms, identifying models that support the researcher's topic and to establish the area of one's study (Maxwell, 2005). The

researcher will therefore be able to determine relevant theories that are relevant to that are applicable to his field of study and get the actual meanings of key issues which are essential in the particular study.

2.1.2 Importance of literature review

Saunders (2007) posits that, literature review helps the researcher to "develop good understanding and insight into relevant previous research and the trends that emerged". He further stated that literature review in any field forms the foundation upon which all future work must be built. This entails that the researcher may be able to identify approaches applicable to the research as well as getting ideas that yield better results. The researcher may also come up with other different attractiveness methods and ideas other than those used by earlier researchers. Kerry (2010), supported this view by saying that literature review can provide the researcher with new ideas and approaches that may not have occurred to the researchers.

Literature review helps the researcher to avoid fruitless approach. Saunders et al, (2007) posited that it will assist the researcher in discovering research approaches, strategies and techniques that may be appropriate to his research questions and objectives. Thus literature review may provide information which help the researcher to note whether the topic is researchable or not. Giddens (2001) supported this by saying, the researcher will need to swift through whatever related literature and see how useful it is. Have previous researcher spotted the same puzzle? And what aspects of the problems has their research left unanalysed.

Saunders et al (2007) states that literature review may help one another discover explicitly recommendations for further research. Through recommendations done by others, the researcher may be able to identify some gaps which will assist him in his new studies. Recommendations by other researchers are usually the gaps left out which should be filled by the current study. When one knows what others have think and done, it is better prepared to attack with deeper insight and into more complete knowledge of the problem he might have chosen to investigate (Leery 2010). Leedy (2010) further stated that literature review can help one to see her own study in historical and associational perspective and to earlier approaches to the same problem. Thus literature review may enable one to analyse the background to the problem of study and therefore

may identify mistakes that were done by other researchers and avoid falling in the same pitfalls.

Koul (1984), posits that, through review of related literature, the researcher can avoid unintentional duplication of well-established findings. It is of no use to replicate a study when reliability and validity of its results have been clearly established. Literature review can therefore minimise duplication since the researcher will have a clear outcome over research that were done by others. To this end, Borg and Gall (1989), highlighted that if one fails to build this foundation through knowledge provided by the review, his work will be shallow and naïve and will often duplicate what has already been done by someone else.

Literature review helps to identify research methodology and helps to select best instruments to be used in the research process. Koul (1984), propounded that the review of related literature gives the researcher an understanding of the research methodology which refers to the way the study is going to be conducted. It helps the researcher to go about the tools and instruments which proved to be useful and promising in the previous studies.

In this study the researcher was guided by literature review in the selection of a researchable topic. Relevant sources of data were also identified through literature review. The researcher managed to make some comparison of his work and that of others and came up with clear objectives. The researchers also managed to define the limits of his field after reviewing related literature.

2.1.3 Literature Review Analysis

This study was concerned about the impact of drug abuse by children. The concept of drug abuse and child delinquency encompasses factors such as families, schools and peers, neighbourhoods and other agents of social institutions. These factors have been discussed where the researcher fully explained how they relate and influences each other.

2.1.4 Child delinquency

Different approaches are used to define and explain juvenile involvement in criminal activities (UN 2003). Criminologists view juvenile delinquency as it encompasses all public wrongs committed by young people between the age 12 and 20. Acts committed by these minors are not labelled as crime but are rather delinquent acts.

Children sometimes they are engaging themselves in delinquency to meet their basic need for survival. However some children commit more serious crimes due to their exposure in unpleasant circumstances in their childhood. Offences committed by children range from petty theft to more serious crimes such as rape and robbery (UN, 2003). Just like any other country in the world, Zimbabwe developed laws that regulate human limitations to safeguard individual human rights and also to protect the society in general. According to DCI (1979), this country has more than 20 laws relating to children's rights. In cases of deviant behaviour, these societal laws tend to emphasise more on protection of the society than protecting the rights of individual children who violates the societal norms.

Zimbabwe justice system uses the adversarial system of law which is not friendly to children and therefore remains unsuitable. The adversarial system silences children in court thereby denying their rights to be heard.

IOL news on 7 August 2006 by Janine du Plessis reported an increase on the trend of juvenile delinquency in South Africa. She noted that the country has no concrete laws to deal with child offenders. Child offenders in Zimbabwe are dealt with in terms of Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act (CPEA). The CPEA which is accused of lacking adequate procedural protection measures to young offenders. Children's rights are however protected by the constitution.

2.1.4.1 Causes of child delinquency

There are several causes of anti-social behaviour amongst children; they range from social, economic and cultural causes. According to UN (2003), the causes of conditions for social delinquency are usually found at each level of social structure. Some of the major causes are identified as a result from death of parents, poor living and abusive home conditions, overcrowding, poverty and family breakdowns. Orphans who

normally grew up without parents are at high risk of falling into juvenile delinquency. This is because they normally grew up without subsistence means, housing and other necessities. UN (2003) stipulated that young people who are at risk of becoming delinquent often live in difficult circumstances.

2.1.4.2 Relationship between drug abuse and child delinquency

There are many variables that influence young people's social environment. According to UN (2003), home, family, neighbourhood, peers are some of the variables that together or separately can influence the formation of young people's social environment. As the rate of adolescent substance use increases so does the rate of youth who commit crimes, or juvenile delinquency. It is also believed that substance abuse, or the excessive use of drugs and/or alcohol, contributes to delinquent behavior, while others question if it's the delinquent behavior that encourages substance abuse.

2.1.4.3 Families

In families parents are often blamed for delinquent behaviour of their children and some are even punished for anti-social behaviour of their children. Lack of parental supervision, parental rejection and parent-child involvement has been identified as predictors of delinquency and any problem behaviour by various studies. Patterson and Dishion (1985) argued that certain behaviours in children also affect disciplinary strategies. Thus sometimes parents may impose harsh and inconsistent punishment which leads to less involvement of parents in the socialisation process.

The family is the foundation of human society (Wright and Wright, 1994). Families therefore are found to be one of the strongest socialising forces in people's lives. Families can teach children to both shun and promote unacceptable behaviour in the society. Children are not born delinquents hence it is the responsibility of parents and guardian to teach children what is right or wrong. Parents are therefore encouraged to spend most of their time with their children in order to instil in them the behaviour that is socially acceptable.

Families cater for troubles which are encountered by their children in everyday life. Parents are therefore encouraged not to overlook some of the issues that affect their children. As such they should take some necessary precautions to ensure a child do not

jump into delinquent actions. Parents can have time to do recreational projects with their children and give room for their children to express their thoughts. All these can be done by families as their role to prevent child delinquency. The ability for any child to engage in delinquency may therefore be determined by family background and values. As suggested by Wright and Wright (1994), positive parenting practices during early years and later adolescence may prevent delinquency and as well as assist adolescence to desist from delinquency.

2.1.4.4 The role of schools in socialisation and child delinquency prevention

According to Solent (2006), the school plays a vital role of identifying early behaviour patterns which could show that the child is not well or emotionally disturbed. The school provides a follow up to identify problems that interfere with the normal development and learning and thereby providing remedy. The school provides counselling services on those children who failed to achieve and offer realistic curriculum for students who lack academic ability for competing.

The school also conducts some researches on delinquency and find best ways on how it can be prevented. It can engage suitable relationships with other agencies of the community through communication for the services required for the children.

2.1.4.5 Culture

Culture shapes experiences and influence children's development. Children therefore learn socially acceptable behaviours through their culture. Delinquent behaviour often occurs in social settings in which the norms for acceptable behaviour are broken down. Social structures are broken down by new technology which influence perceptions and reality in children (UN 2003).

2.1.4.6 Neighbourhood

Urban sociologists assert that there are neighbourhood environmental factors that affect and influence juvenile delinquency (MacDonald et al 2009). The influence of neighbourhood on crime is coming through their impact on community level disorder, residential cohesion and informal social control.

According to Shaw and Mckay (1942), the neighbourhood environmental factors such as family break- down and poverty will affect people such that they fail to identify and establish common values thereby fail to establish neighbourhood social control. The stability of neighbourhoods therefore shapes the behaviour of children in the society and such neighbourhood disorder is also associated with crimes such as drug abuse and violence which affect young people.

2.1.5 The role and positive effects of social control in the society.

Social controls is very important in the society for various reasons. According to Blackshaw and Crabbe (2004), social control is important for the following reasons: To maintain order in the society and as such elders within the families enforces their ideas over the children. It establishes social unit in the society. Thus it establishes norms, norms which brings uniformity of behaviour and leads to unity among individuals. Families also maintain unity because its members behave in a similar manner in accordance with family norms.

Social controls are also responsible for controlling individual behaviours. Due to different attitudes, habits and interest among individuals, there are always possibility of clashes between themselves due to their ways of living. Social control is therefore important to protect social interest and satisfies common needs. Social control also provides sanctions to social norms such that individuals will be compelled to observe these social norms.

It is also the role of social controls to check for cultural maladjustment. Due to societal changes, individuals have to adjust their behaviours according to changes that occurring in the society. People adapt to changes in different ways and levels hence it is the role of social control to control these behaviours.

Social control builds relationships and commitment to up hold good behaviour amongst people. Thus social control theory argues that relationships, commitments, values and beliefs encourages conformity.

Social controls provides both internal and external means that controls individual's behaviour (Nye, 1958). Internal means of social control such as an individual's sense of right and wrong deduce the likelihood that one can deviate from social norms.

Through external means of control individuals may conform because of fear of punishment that may be imposed through authority.

According to Toby (1957), individuals felt that they might encounter some losses through joining delinquency groups in the community hence therefore they engage themselves in non-delinquent activities and had a stake in conformity.

Nye (1958), argued that the youth may be directly through constraints imposed by parents who provide parental reward and punishment which therefore may limit the opportunity for delinquent.

Carmichael (2012), highlighted that social control helps the society to maintain social order and cohesion. Goode (2008), argues that there are formal and informal means that can be employed to maintain order in the society. Formal means such as police, law and punishment are employed to ban deviance and crime, prevent and sanction behaviour that violate norms.

2.1.6 Methods of dealing with child delinquency

Prevention is one of the methods of dealing with child delinquency. The foundation of preventing the development of disruptive behaviour and delinquency in children is found in pre-school period (Keenan, 2001). According to him, many developmental skills such as language development begin during this period. Thus failure in developing these skills may contribute to disruptive behaviour which finally leads to child delinquency.

Pre-school period usually involves children under the age of five years who are groomed and taught good behaviour both at their homes and at schools. Pre-schools help in understanding the early emergence of problematic behaviours and therefore creating earlier effective intervention for the prevention of child delinquency, (Kazdin and Kendall, 1998). Thus engaging children into pre-school activities is considered one of the most effective ways to prevent child delinquency.

Young people can develop non-criminogenic attitudes through adopting a humanistic orientation towards society and engage themselves in lawful socially useful activities (UN, 1990). Young people should not therefore be considered as mere objects of socialisation but should have an active role and partnership in society.

Rehabilitation sets the foundation for living a healthy lifestyle in the community and thus it is essential to juvenile delinquency. Bradshaw and Roseborough (2005) argues that rehabilitation model focus on the treatment of the offender. Interventions such as probation supervision, cognitive skills training and behaviour therapy will change behaviour and reduce the frequency of juvenile offences.

Rehabilitation employs some methods such as group housing and family therapy. Group housing creates a safe environment for the children as they can get a lot of services which meet their needs. Sometimes family support encourages good behaviour or change in children. Mincey et al (2008) posits that, the family may support the offender to overcome difficulties which he/she may encounter during rehabilitation. It also help in the formation of social bond and builds strong foundational relationships such that juvenile delinquency is less likely to be repeated.

2.2 Theoretical framework

2.2.1 Cultural deviance theory

The theory was developed by Shaw and Mckay (1969). It states that individuals are not responsible for their deviance as much as the community in which they reside. According to this theory, people are influenced by places and social structure of the community in which they reside. People are also influenced by other people whom they associate with.

According to Bartollas (2011), it is a theory in which delinquent behaviour will be viewed as an expression of conformity to values and norms that are in opposition to those of the larger society. These delinquency values are normally found in some lower class cultures where a child conforms to their sub culture values and mimics the delinquent behaviour of their culture. This kind of behaviour may be best prevented by giving children resources. Children after being made to be aware of several options will therefore make some options out of them.

Majority of children who often spend their time in Mazowe District particularly Glendale and Jumbo Mining area, have no fixed abode. Other resources, societal values and norms which these children are supposed to benefit from social institutions such as families will not be installed on them. These children will therefore lose self-control

due to their poor knowledge to value these values and norms. They finally resort to criminal activities like drug abuse.

2.2.2 Subculture theory

This theory was developed by Cohen (1955). According to this theory juvenile who fail to meet their social standards will seek validation from a subculture. They will eventually form subculture groups which therefore practice such manners that are not socially acceptable and hence rebel against acceptable standards. In order to fit their acts into the subcultures, juveniles will commit crimes such as theft assaults and violence.

Juveniles in Mazowe District spend most of their time mingling with people of different characters. The pressure that these children face sometimes influence them to form subcultures and finally engage into criminal activities.

2.2.3 Strain Theory

The strain theory was developed by Merton (1938). The theory stated that individuals can achieve socially accepted goals as a result of the pressure which is instilled on them by the society though they may lack the means to achieve these goals.

The theory proposes that delinquency result from frustration on individuals which they experience after their inability to achieve certain goals (Bartollas, 2011). People may develop strain in striving to attain some wealth in trying to reach certain status in an endeavour to achieve certain goals.

Strain theory maybe either structural or individual. Thus the pressure may be experienced at societal level or an individual may suffer some pains which cause him to find ways to satisfy his needs. Due to the punishment which juveniles receive after breaching the law, they however recognise that breaking the law is not a good measure to achieve the goals. Children are being taught socially acceptable ways to achieve goals through rehabilitation.

After formulating this theory, Cloward and Ohlin (1960), came up with what was termed the 'other side of strain'. It entails that young persons who decided to pursue an

illegitimate route to success could select from those illegal activities available in the community.

The strain theory describes the situation in Mazowe District. The area is overcrowded as compared to other districts in Mashonaland Central Province. This is because most of the people of different ages prefer to situate themselves in Mazowe District where there is a largest market and a variety of products that attract individuals. Almost everyone will be seeking means of survival which therefore result in competition. It is obvious that in any struggle there is always a winning and a losing side. People in Mazowe are seen competing over scarce resources including clients of specific products. Due to competition that exist, young people fail to find means to satisfy themselves, actually they will resort to criminal activities.

2.2.4 Differential Opportunity Theory

This theory was developed by Cloward and Ohlin (1960). It is in contrast with the subculture theory by Albert Cohen (1955). The theory states that opportunity plays a role in juvenile delinquency in that they have more opportunity to succeed. It argue that opportunities for young people may be expanded through offering jobs and training for jobs. Young people would therefore turn their backs on gangs, crime and drugs. Due to those opportunities to them to succeed, juveniles are less likely to turn into subculture groups for validation.

Differential opportunity theory believes in other circumstances other than social factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency. This theory also believes that juvenile may succeed in school but however get better employment which as well can contribute child delinquency. The unavailability of jobs in Mazowe district often affect children and youths. As a means to get survival children are taking this opportunity to create their own employment through illegal dealings in drugs.

2.2.5 Labelling theory

It encompasses the view that the society creates delinquents by labelling those who are apprehended as different from other youths when in reality they are different primarily because they have been tagged with deviant label, (Bartollas, 2011). A child can be labelled as a bad person for doing bad habits then he/she will be considered as bad and

everyone will expect that child to behave badly thereby making him bad because of his treatment due to label. This type of behaviour can be best prevented by avoiding the labelling of children in this fashion.

Mazowe District has been labelled an area for criminal breeding. The people therefore are blind to see any good especially from the people who reside in this area.

2.3 Empirical findings

In this study the researcher summarised empirical findings in other studies of juvenile delinquency and drug abuse. The researcher highlighted different methodologies used by other scholars, purposes of their studies and their major findings. The researcher also highlighted how these studies are related to his field of study. The empirical findings were also used by the researcher in trying to cover knowledge gap in the current study.

Angela D. Mullens (2004) carried out a research on the relationship between juvenile delinquency and family unit structure. This was carried out at Marshal University in the United States. The purpose of this of this study was to investigate the relationship between parental absence and juvenile delinquency as well as to determine if there is a link between the two.

Her findings were that it has been confirmed that male juveniles who resides with both biological parents, those who live with mother household only and those who reside in non-parental house hold does not produce statistically significant on the level of criminal activities.

In line with the first objective which seeks to determine the factors causing the increase in drug abuse on children, Mullen's study revealed that absence of a biological mother in the family set up can cause a child to fall into delinquency. Her study also addressed the second objective of this study which seeks to assess the impact of drug abuse on children where families have been identified to be one of the strongest socialising forces in people's lives and the most affected units. Mullens' study is related to the researcher's area of study as he looked on the area of family structure to see how it relates to drug abuse. This also revealed that child delinquency is determined by family structure and family background.

Kelie Darbouze (2008), At the University of Maryland, College Park in the United States also carried out a related study. The type of research conducted was an evaluation research on Rehabilitation methods and effects on juvenile delinquency. The purpose of inquiry was to examine current rehabilitative Programs and therapeutic methods employed to assist juvenile delinquents with re-entering the mainstream society.

Major findings were that, the process of rehabilitation allows juvenile delinquents to have an array of feelings. All these feelings will be experienced during the process of rehabilitation. The rehabilitation model have been most frequently used in child delinquency since it helps to reduce recidivism in these delinquencies. Juveniles have better chance to make some improvements in the society after obtaining educational and vocational training offered by rehabilitation. This promotes a change in them disassociating with delinquency.

As one of its objectives, this research sought to device possible ways through which child delinquency may be reduced. Darbouze's research is however related to this study as it identifies rehabilitation to be one of the most effective ways of dealing with child delinquency.

Ugwuoke and Onyekachi (2015), carried out a related study in Nigeria. The research was family stability and juvenile delinquency in Nigeria. The purpose of inquiry was to examine the relationship between family instability and juvenile delinquency in Owerri Municipality. The result of the analysis have shown that children from unstable homes engage more on juvenile delinquency their counterparts in stable homes. As expected, inadequate parental supervision predicted delinquency.

Ugwuoke and Onyekachi's study also related to the researcher's area of study as it analyse family institutions which are also agents of social control. The research is sought to determine factors which cause increase in drug abuse as one of its objectives. They however identified unstable homes as one of the factors that contribute that contribute to child delinquency. Their findings reflected that parents have much responsibility in caring for their children who need guidance and love at intimate level of families. Thus strong parental bonds will subsequently decrease the chances that the child will get involved in delinquency.

Langalibalele Prince Mqadi carried out a related study in 1994 at the University of Zululand. The research was on drug abuse among secondary school children with

reference to the influence of family. The purpose of the study was to establish sex and age differences with regard to drug abuse as well as family influence on juvenile delinquency.

Major findings of the research indicated that there is a significant difference between male and female respondents in reference to self-reported delinquency as well as in application of family controls in respect of both female and male respondents. A significant difference was shown among the age groups categories and delinquency but however a positive relationship was shown between age and delinquency.

The research findings supported the hypothesis relating to the relationship between drug abuse and family control in respect of both females and males and those from intact and broken families. This research is related to the researcher's area of study since it looked at the rate of drug abuse among secondary schools. It also looked at family as agents of social institutions and how they influence child delinquency. Thus addressing the second objective which seeks to determine the effects of drug abuse on children.

Kavita Sahmey (2013), carried out a study on the factors underlying juvenile delinquency and positive youth development programs. This was carried out at the National Institute of Technology in India. The purpose of this study was aimed to understand the causes behind juvenile delinquency and the measures that are being taken for the positive deployment of children in conflict with the law. The study which sought to assess the impact of drug abuse on children is significant.

His findings were that the offences made by delinquents were primarily due to the combination of various individuals and environmental variables. These among others include negligence, ignorance of parents, peer influence, poor socio-economic status, family pressure and lack of proper socialisation. Direct impact of media was not however pronounced in the findings except a few cases of theft.

2.3.1 Knowledge gap

The above research mainly focuses on the relationship between families and juvenile delinquency not including other agents of social institutions such as government and religious institutions. Furthermore the researches were done outside Zimbabwe. Very few studies on impact of drug abuse on children were done in Zimbabwe. This researcher sought to cover drug abuse which was left uncovered by other researchers

as well as its impact and influence towards children. This study however helped in filling the gap and as well paved way for more intensive efforts to understand the complexities that surround the impact of drug abuse on children.

2.4 Summary

This chapter reviewed related literature to the study. Review of the related literature was discussed under the following topics; the meaning of literature review, its purpose and importance, meaning of child delinquency, its causes and how it relates to social control and drug abuse, the conceptual framework and theories in child delinquency were also discussed as well as relating child delinquency in Zimbabwe and other countries. This chapter also looks into different methods of dealing with child delinquency. The next chapter will focus on the research design and methodologies.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter is going to deal with the research methodology adopted in this study. The discussion is centred in research design, population, sample, and data collection instruments and data collection procedures. The chapter ended with a summary.

3.2 Research design

Research design is the process of creating empirical test to support or refute knowledge claim (Borg and Gall, 1989). According to Saunders et al (2007), a research design is an overall plan on how one will go about answering his research questions. Saunders (supra) further highlighted that, a research design contains clear objectives derived from ones research questions and specifies sources from which one intend to collect data. It considers constrains that one will inevitably encounter and discussing the ethical issues. Thus research design therefore can be viewed as an overall outline and structural framework within which the study is implemented.

Different designs are used by the researchers in the implementation of their studies. These include historical, descriptive survey and exploratory designs. In this study the researcher shall employ a descriptive survey design.

3.3 Descriptive survey design

It is a method of research that looks with intense accuracy at the phenomena of the moment and then describes precisely what the researcher sees (Leedy, 2010). According to Ghauri and Gronhaug (2005), a descriptive research is a research for which the purpose is to produce an accurate presentation of persons, events or situations.

3.3.1 Characteristics of a descriptive survey

A descriptive survey design deals with situation that demands the observation technique as the principle means of collecting data. Population of the study must be carefully chosen, clearly defined and specifically delimited to set precise parameters for ensuring disretches to the population (Leed, 2010). The descriptive survey design under this study reveals the situations in their natural position in various areas within the society.

3.3.2 Justification of selecting descriptive survey

The researcher selected descriptive survey due to its ability to describe phenomenon as it occurs. Surveys provide a quick inexpensive, efficient and accurate means of assessing information about a population (Zikmund, 2010). Thus the desired information was obtained well in time and without incurring much cost and hence it assisted the researcher in managing his finances and time during this research process.

The survey strategy gives the researcher more control over the research process. Through sampling, it is possible to generate findings that are representative of the whole population (Saunders et al 2016). Descriptive survey provide the researcher with accurate measurement of people's opinions, feeling, attitude and beliefs. This was done after the researched data was quantified and analysed. The design also helped in recuperating the validity and reliability of the researched data. This gives the researcher an opportunity to minimise errors during the research process.

Mitchel (2012) states that, descriptive research is a scientific method which involves observing and describing the behaviour of certain group or individual. The researcher used questionnaires and interviews to collect data in order to observe the behaviour of juveniles towards drug abuse and crime. The researcher also observed the behaviour of social institutions on their role towards drug abuse. Surveys were useful in gathering the present opinions and prevailing facts about the impact of drug abuse on child delinquency.

The descriptive survey was idea for this study as it was simple to design. The researcher had a total control over the research process where particular attention was given to

safeguard data from the influence of bias. The data was organised and presented systematically such that valid and accurate conclusion were made.

3.3.3 Demerits of the research design

Descriptive surveys can be used poorly when researchers do not follow the research principles (Zikmund et al 2003). The researcher was guided and followed the required principles of the research and hence avoided the occurrence of the mentioned disadvantage.

3.4 Population and sample

3.4.1 Population

Population is the entire set of objects and events or group of people which the researcher wants to determine some characteristics, (Bless and Smith, 1995). According to Cooper and Schindler (2003), population is ‘the total collection of elements about which we wish to make some inferences’. A population element is a subject in which the measurement is being taken. From the above definitions, a population can be defined as the total number of people or a group of people to which a sample can be drawn. In this study, the researcher’s target population was 250 people. It comprised of members of the community, social institution representatives, children and police officers in Mazowe District.

3.4.2 Sample and sample design

According to Zikmund et al (2010), a sample is a subset of a larger population. The purpose of a sample is to estimate unknown characteristics of a population. In this study, the researcher chose a sample which he regarded as sufficient depending on their accessibility in terms of distance and time. In this study 10% of the target population was calculated to give a representative of 250 people. The results obtained were generalised for the whole population.

The target group comprised of children above the age of seven and below the age of 18 years within the specified areas. Representatives of agents of socialisation such as families, schools and peers were also chosen. The researcher was targeting on crimes that are normally associated with children which fall under the specified ages.

The researcher employed both probability and non-probability sampling methods in selecting the sample that represented the target population. According to Zikmund (2010), probability sampling is a technique in which every member of the population has an equal chance of being selected whereas non-probability sampling is a technique in which units of the sample are selected on the basis of personal judgements or convenience.

The systematic sampling technique was used to select officers from ZRP Glendale, Mazowe and Chombira stations. Ten members were selected and eventually interviewed in the process.

Convenient sampling, a non-probability sampling was however used in selecting 200 children within Mazowe District and 40 people who include members of the community as well as representatives of social institutions.

3.4.3 Justification of selecting both convenient and systematic sampling

The researcher chose both systematic and convenient sampling due to the type of population which he dealt with. The population comprised of different groups of people with different ages and hence respondents could not be located at one point. Children and members of the community within Mazowe District could not be easily accessed and hence convenient sampling was applied. However members of the police could be accessed on their central positions at stations and hence systematic sampling was applied. This assisted the researcher to obtain relevant information well in time. Systematic sampling alone could not cover the whole population and hence convenient sampling was applied on respondents that were not easily accessed. Combining both systematic and convenient sampling enabled the researcher to obtain desired information.

Respondents were categorised as follows:-

Category A (Police officers from different stations in Mazowe District) – 10

Category B (Children between the age of 7 and 18 who reside in Mazowe District) – 200

Category C (Members of the community within Mazowe District) – 20

3.5 Data collection methods

The researcher used both qualitative and quantitative methods in collecting relevant data from respondents. The two methods were triangulated where data was presented in different statistical forms. This was done for easy analysis and interpretation such that the data will be meaningful to the reader and the researcher himself.

3.6 Data collection instruments.

In this study the researcher used research tools which include questionnaires and interviews to collect data for the study. The tools were very useful and essential in soliciting appropriate information for analysis.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

A questionnaire is a document prepared and distributed to secure responses to certain questions (Bryman, 2003). It is a list of research and survey questions asked to respondents and designed to extract specific information. A questionnaire serves to collect appropriate data, to make data comparable and amenable to analysis, to minimise bias in formulating and asking questions and it makes questions engaging and varied.

In this study, the researcher designed structured questionnaires for Category B respondents which are juveniles between the age of 7 and 18. The questionnaire guarantee anonymity such that the respondents were free to express their thoughts toward the questions without any fear.

3.6.2 Merits of a questionnaire

Large amounts of information can be collected from large number of people in a short period of time and in a relatively cost effective way. It can be carried out by the researcher or by a number of people with limited effect to its validity and reliability. The results of the questionnaire usually can be easily quantified by either the researcher or through the use of software package. A questionnaire thus has the advantage of low

cost, bias minimisation, greater anonymity and accessibility (Bryman, 2003). In this study the researcher managed to collect large amount of information after covering a wide scope within a short period of time.

The researcher also collected large amounts of information without incurring much cost.

3.6.3 Demerits of a questionnaire

The questionnaire does not give room for probing, may have a low response rate and is not appropriate for illiterate people (Leedy, 2010). Some form of information such as changes of emotions, behaviour and feelings may be inadequate to understand as they may be not reflected on the questionnaire. A questionnaire may lack validity as it cannot measure how truthful the respondent will be. The way in which the people read the questions may differ and therefore response to the questions will be biased on their own interpretation of the question. What is good to one person may not be good to another person. Therefore it may not be easy for the researcher to obtain accurate information.

In this study, the researcher crafted straight forward questions in simple English. The respondents however could not encounter any difficulties in understanding the contents of the questionnaire as well as responding to the questions. The information from the respondents was therefore easily obtained. The researcher had to adopt the use of both questionnaires and interviews. The researcher explained and keeps on reminding the respondents about the significant of this research.

3.6.4 The interview

An interview involves the collection of secondary data through direct verbal interaction between individuals, (Borg and Gall, 1989). It involves a conversation where the interviewer will be asking questions from the interviewee who will give the response to the questions. In this study, the researcher conducted structured interviews to gather relevant data from the members of the police, members of the community and representatives of agents of social institutions.

Two separate interview guide were crafted, one for police officers in Mazowe District and the other for representatives of social institutions together with the members of the community of Mazowe District.

3.6.5 Merits of the interview

Interviews enable the researcher to gather visuals such as nods or smiles which are valuable tools in promoting responses (Leedy, 2010). A face to face interview method allows an accurate screening where the person being interviewed will not be able to provide fake information when screening questions such as sex gender and age. Out of all interviews done in this study, most of them were done face to face and hence the researcher was confident enough that the respondents gave true information.

Flexibility of interviews is worthy as they enable appraisals to be done on the validity of the responses (Doodle, 2000). Through face to face interviews, the participants were studied in real life atmosphere where the researcher had much flexibility to explore unforeseen issues as they arose in the discussion.

In this study the researcher had direct interaction with the respondents and hence managed to get as much information as required because there was much room for clarity on other issues. The interviews were also applicable to illiterate people and there were no delays in obtaining information.

3.6.6 Demerits of the interview

According to Dooley (2000), there is room for bias on the side of the researcher which can be influenced by his presents. There is need to ensure safety of personal information of candidates to ensure it will not be misused. It is also expensive to employ interviewers and trainers. Certain skills are also required in carrying out an interview.

In this study the researcher encouraged the respondents to be objective on whatever they contributed. The researcher was therefore confident enough to believe that the information submitted was free of bias.

3.7 Validity and reliability

Validity is ‘the extent to which a test or procedure produces similar results under constant conditions on an occasion’, (Bowling, 2009). Validity of a data gathering instrument will be focusing on the extent to which it measures what it meant to measure. According to Kobus (2016), reliability "is the extent to which a measuring instrument is repeatable and consistent". Thus if the same instrument is used at different times, or

administered to different respondents and from the same population the findings should be the same.

Prior to the use of questionnaires to collect data, the researcher conducted a pilot study to test for the validity, and reliability. The purpose of pilot study was to refine them and select questions in which respondents would not have difficulties to attempt. This helped the researcher to correct mistakes on questionnaires and eliminate ambiguities. Corrections were made following comments and suggestions from respondents. Pre-test results also guided the researcher to determine methods planned by him to use for summarising and quantifying the data.

The researcher as well pre-conducted his respondents through telephone call in order to see if they are ready for the interview. The respondents were alerted on the imminent arrival of questionnaires thereby reducing a chance of being thrown away.

3.8 Ethical considerations

The researcher sought authority to conduct interviews on members of the police as well as accessing the police records which was officially granted. Prior to conduct interviews on the part on the members of the public, they were assured that their responses would be strictly used for academic purposes only. Members were also informed that their participation was voluntary and were advised not to endorse names and any identification information on the questionnaires for confidentiality.

During the research, there was informed consent with the participant. A consent form was also signed by the parents of children under the age of 18. Another consent form for police officers and other participants was also provided.

3.9 Data presentation and analysis

In analysing data, the researcher makes use of tables and graphs. The data was analysed under the objectives for which they were collected to refute the assumption of the study.

3.10 Summary

This chapter outlined and explained the research design, population and sampling techniques. Data collection procedures adopted under the study were also explained, data gathering instruments, their merits and demerits, validity and reliability. The next chapter will deal with data presentation, analysis and interpretation.

CHAPTER IV

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter dealt with the data presentation, analysis and interpretation of the research findings. This was done for the researcher to give a well-informed conclusion and recommendations for the research topic.

Data is presented using tables, graphs and charts under specific headings. Questionnaires and interviews were used to collect data from the selected respondents.

In carrying out this study, the researcher was guided by the following objectives;

- 1 To determine factors causing increase an in drug abuse among children in Mazowe District.
- 2 To assess the impact of drug abuse on children in Mazowe District.
- 3 To offer recommendations on ways through which drug abuse may be reduced among children in Mazowe District.

4.1 Response Rate

A total of 200 questionnaires were distributed randomly on children in Mazowe District and 50 interviews were conducted. Out of the interview conducted, 10 were for members of the ZRP, 20 for members of the Mazowe community and the other 20 on representatives of social institutions.

It is worth noting that, out of two hundred distributed questionnaires, 196 were returned. However, all the interviews that were conducted on both members of the ZRP and members of the community were successful. In addition to the participants the researcher, first sought the consent from guardian of minors to complete the questionnaire.

Table 4.1 below depicts the response rate of both questionnaires and interviews conducted in this study.

Table 4. 1: Response rate of questionnaires used in juveniles and interviews conducted on police officers and members of the community.

N=250

	Sent	Received	Shortfalls	% Response Rate	Total
Children	200	196	4	98%	196
Police offices	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
Members of the community	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20
Agents of socialisation	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20
Totals	200	196	4	98%	246

Source: Primary Data

The above indicates 200 questionnaires distributed on children/juveniles in which 196 (98%), were returned. There were a total of four questionnaires which were not returned. No questionnaires were distributed to the police officers and however 10 successful interviews were done indicating a 100% response rate. Other 40 interviews were conducted on members of the community and agents of socialisation were also successful. This brings to a 100% response rate.

A high response rate shows that the participants were interested in participating in the study. The response rate was very good and hence the responses were valid. This was supported by Colton and Covrt (2007) as cited in Mukotekwa (2013) when he recommended that the response rate above 50% in any research is considered valid. However, a good response rate was relevant as it produces accurate and useful results.

4.2 Section A: Demographic Data

4.2.1 Demographic data of Juveniles in Mazowe District

Section A of the questionnaire sought to establish personal data of juveniles in Mazowe District. The section asked questions pertaining to their age, sex, level of education and

family status. These attributes helped the researcher to understand which age group are mainly involved in drug abuse as well as determining where the problem of juvenile delinquency is rooted in. Age groups of respondents are shown in the table below.

Table 4. 2: (Question No:1) Age distribution of juveniles in Mazowe District.

Age group	No of respondents	Percentage
7-11	27	14
12-15	112	57
16-18	57	29
Total	196	100%

Source: Primary data

As shown in the above statistics, 14% of the respondents are aged between 7-11, whilst 12-15 has got the highest frequency of 57%. On the other hand, 29% were aged 16-18. Analysis revealed that all age groups participated and hence the sample was fairly represented.

Table 4. 3: (Question No: 2) Sex distribution of children in Mazowe District.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	128	65
Female	68	35
Totals	196	100

Source: Primary data

Table 4.3 above shows the distribution of respondents where male respondents shows a higher frequency of 65% against their female counterparts who had a frequency of 35%. The dominance of male respondents also showed that male juveniles have much interest in participating to the research. However, the statistics also depicts that the sample was equally represented given the fact that a lot of activities that are engaged in Mazowe District attract male juveniles and hence the district is dominated by males.

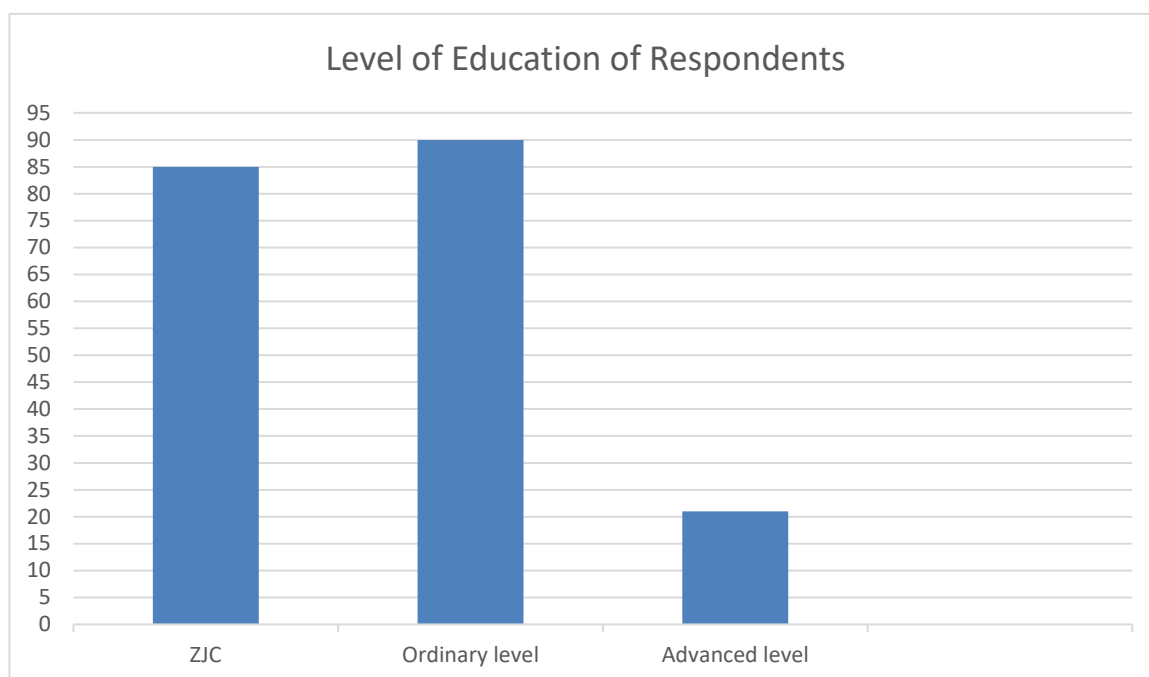


Figure 4. 1: (Question No:3) Distribution of respondents by education

Source: Primary Data.

The figure 4.1 above shows the respondents' distribution by their level of education. This question was provided for the researcher to understand the educational background of the respondents he was dealing with. The level of education also helped the respondents in understanding and appreciating the concepts of juvenile delinquency and drugs.

According to the above statistics, 85 (43%), had reached at least ZJC and 90 (46%), had ordinary levels whilst only 5 (2.6%), have reached up to advanced level. The rest have reached primary school level. The information above shows that most of respondents have reached their education up-to ZJC and Ordinary Level. This could be a result of the age groups which the researcher dealt with. The researcher administered questionnaires to juveniles aged between 7 and 18 years. Thus the majority of these children are still at school and hence the percentage of higher educational qualification is very low.

This information can also be to the effect that, some of the children did not get an opportunity to complete their education particularly their ordinary level. This could be as a result of various reasons which chief amongst them is lack of financial support.

This view was supported by WPAY (2000), who highlighted that people experience low educational attainment due to socio-economic environment. This environment is usually characterised by poverty and unemployment.

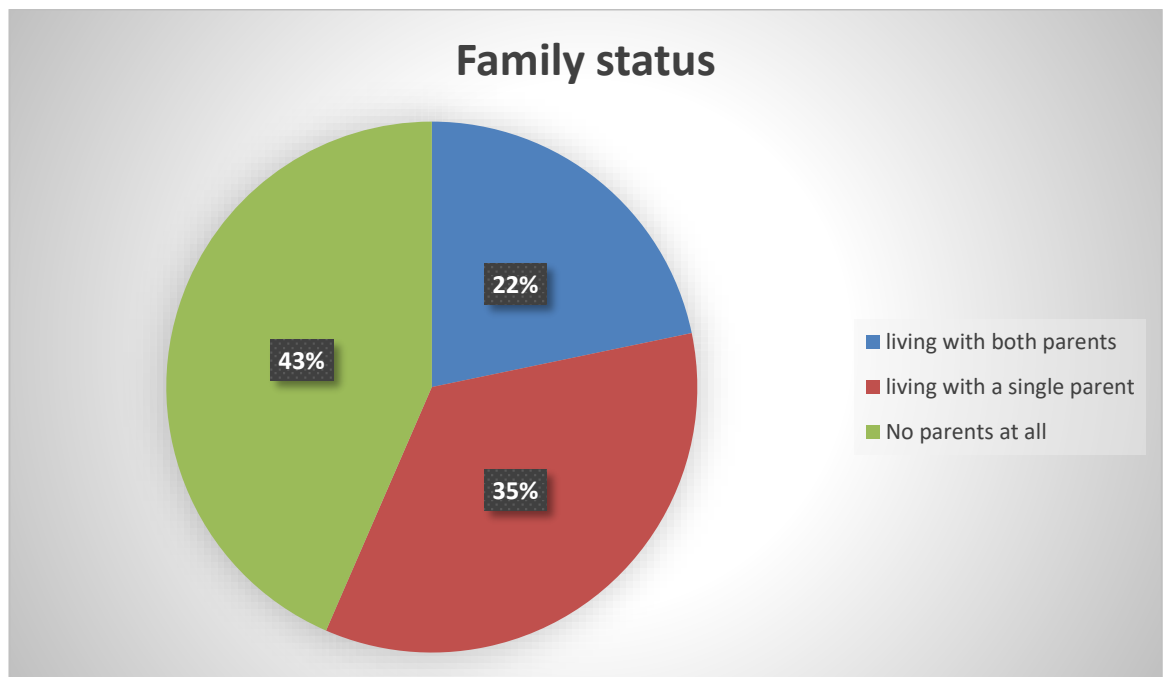


Figure 4. 2: (Question No: 4) Respondents family status.

Source: Primary Data

Figure 4.2 above shows respondents' family status. From the information presented above, 43 respondents, a percentage of 22% are living with both parents. 68 respondents with a percentage of 35% stay with single parents whilst 85 (44%) have no parents. The information shows that the majority of families in Mazowe District are child headed families followed by single parent headed families.

The above information shows that drug abuse in Mazowe District is also affected by family structures. Children from unstable homes engage more in drug abuse than their counterparts in stable homes (Uguoke and Onyekachi 2015). Orphans who normally grew up without parental care are at high risk of falling into juvenile delinquency (UN2003). On a different view, Angella D Mullens (2004) discovered that non-parental households did not engage in delinquency. The criminal activities affect juveniles living with fathers only and step parents.

SECTION B (Knowledge of drugs being abused)

Table 4. 4: (Question No:1) Responses on types of drugs which are commonly used in the community.

Type of drug	Frequency	Percentage
Alcohol	20	10.2
Cigarettes	10	5.1
Glue	10	5.1
Mbanje (Marijuana)	140	71.4
Others	16	8.16
Totals	196	100

Source: Primary Data

Most children abuse mbanje than any other substance (71.4%). Children are also abusing other addictive substance although at a lesser degree. According to Burning (2017), marijuana is the first-most prevalent drug of choice to children because of its ready accessibility.

Table 4. 5: (Question No: 2) Responses on the children who are most likely to abuse drugs between boys and girls.

Drug abuse by sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	176	89.8
Female	20	10.2
Totals	196	100

Source: Primary Data

The majority of respondents showed that boys were more likely to abuse drugs than girls in the community (males 89.8%, females 10.2%). Toby (1957) noted that boys are more likely than girls to use almost all types of illicit drugs and illicit drug use is more likely to result in emergency department visits or overdose deaths for male than for female.

Table 4. 6: (Question No: 3) Responses on where they think those who use drugs get them.

Sources of drugs	Frequency	Percentage
Buy	111	56
Get from peers	55	29
Get from school	28	14
Grow at home	2	1
Totals	196	100

Source: Primary Data

Most children who abuse drugs buy them using cash (56 %). Some get drugs from peers (29%) and the rest are given by school leavers. A few grow drugs at home (1%). Toby (1997), also posited that many young people access drugs in their own neighbourhoods where they buy them.

4.2.2 (Question No: 4) Responses on the behaviour exhibited by children who take drugs.

This question sought to find out the behaviours that are associated with children who take drugs. The majority of the respondents said that those who take drugs usually have depression, conduct problems, personality disorders, suicidal thoughts, attempted suicide, and suicide which affect their families. This was supported by Burning (2017), who postulated that mental health problems such as depression, developmental lags, apathy, withdrawal, and other psychosocial dysfunctions frequently are linked to substance abuse among adolescents.

At school the respondents indicated that children who take drugs are usually associated with lack of respect to prefects and teachers, fighting with other children, they do not do written work, coming late after break and lunch time to school, they have red eyes, they sleep in class and they steal money from other children and parents. Burning (2017) also reported that declining grades, absenteeism from school and other activities, and increased potential for dropping out of school are problems associated with adolescent substance abuse.

In the community the respondents indicated that children who take drug commit crimes like drug selling, serious assault, burglary, theft, robbery and sexual assaults. Some of these crime are also committed in order for children to obtain drugs. Altschuler and Brounstein (1991) posited that heavy drug users are more likely to commit property crimes than nonusers, and youth who use drugs reported higher rates of crimes against persons.

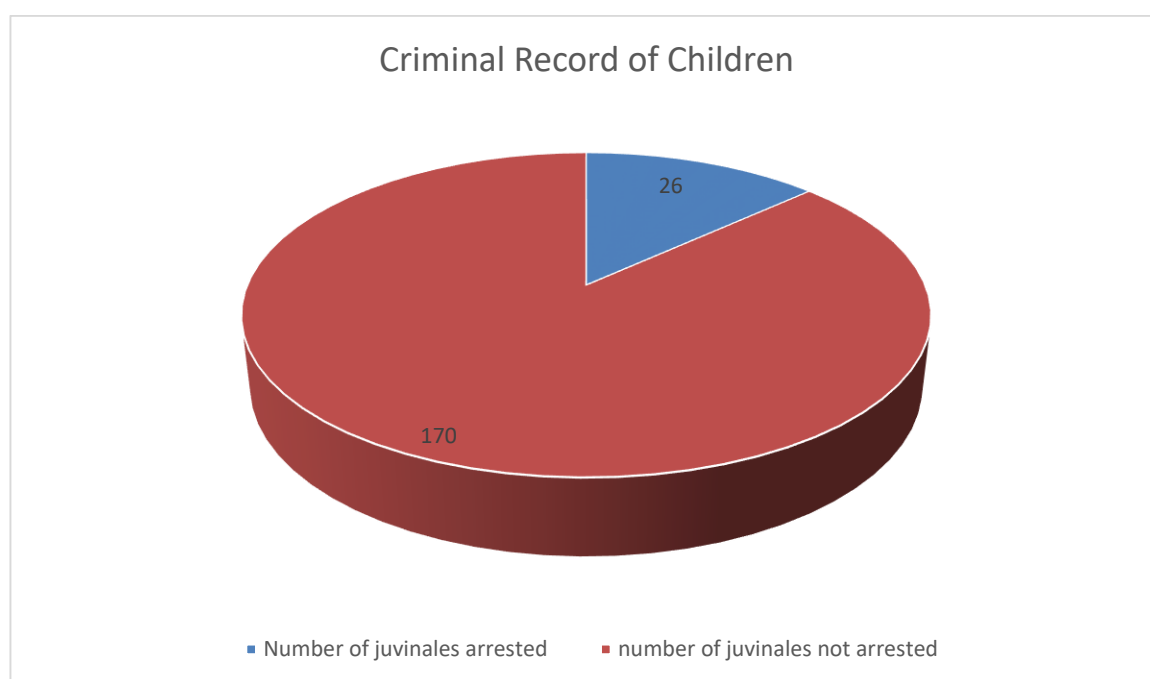


Figure4. 3: (Question No:5) Arrested juveniles.

Source: Primary Data

Out of 196 juveniles, 26 of them, a percentage of 13% indicated that they have been previously arrested. The respondents fell within the age group of 16 and 18 years. Fifteen indicated that they have been arrested for assault, five for sexual abuse, and two on shop lifting and the other four for criminal insult. However, the remaining the remaining 170 (87%) indicated that they have never been arrested. Given the statistics in Mazowe district which shows that drug abuse is at increase, it has however been noted that the Police as the agent of social institutions is controlling drug abuse through making arrest on juvenile offenders.

Out of the 26 cases in which the respondents have been previously arrested for, 19 of them were said to be finalised at station level where the accused had not been taken to court. Only one accused of sexual abuse that occurred in 2022, has a pending case where

the complainant in this matter is said to have been relocated. Due to the current laws which prohibit juvenile first offenders to be punished, many of the juvenile offences are being finalised before they are taken to court. Thus it reflects that juvenile offenders are treated with lenience as compared to adults who are sent to court for trial despite gravity of the offence will be.

Since there are no further measures taken against juvenile first offenders, children in Mazowe District could not understand the significant of crime. The measures taken against them cannot deter them from delinquency. Thus according to Rational Choice Theory, juveniles basically make choice after weighing the repercussions involved in committing crimes (Bartollas, 2011). This entails that if a juvenile realises that he will not receive punishment after committing an offense, he/she may obviously not hesitate to reengage in delinquency.

4.3 Section C: Knowledge of the problem

4.3.1 (Question No: 1) Responses on the major causes of drug abuse in Mazowe District.

Out of all the respondents, 119 (61%), indicated that peer pressure is the major factor that is contributing to juvenile delinquency in Mazowe District. Other 77 (39%), of the respondents highlighted that most people including juveniles and adults spend their time in Glendale, Nzvimbo and Jumbo areas yet they are not actually the residents of Mazowe District. However they move from various locations and get in Mazowe where they influence one another leading to delinquency. It has been however observed that adults who associate with children can also influence their behaviour.

4.3.2 (Question No: 2) Responses on crimes which juvenile are most vulnerable to.

All the 196 respondents indicated that assaults, sexual assaults as a result of drug abuse to be the most vulnerable to juveniles due to drugs. This was also discovered by Albeit Cohesion (1995), when he states that juveniles who fails to meet their social standards will eventually form subculture of groups. In order to fit their acts the subculture group, juveniles will commit crimes such as thefts, assaults and violence and drug abuse. Many of the criminal offences committed by juveniles are related to drug abuse and excessive

use of alcohol, (Slagaev, 2003). Burning (2017), also reported drug abuse as one of the practices criminally affecting children in Zimbabwe.

As already been demonstrated in fig 4.3 of section A, juveniles in Mazowe District also confirmed that they have been previously arrested, for those offences. This also tallies on the major causes of drug abuse as mentioned by the respondents.

4.3.3 (Question No: 3) Respondents on the effectiveness and adequacy systems in dealing with drug abuse

All the respondents highlighted that the systems available in Mazowe district are adequate enough to deal with drug abuse. The systems include the role participated by the police and other social institutions in, controlling crime. However, others indicated that systems need to be checked regularly on their service delivery and financially supported in order to improve their efficiency. The respondents also indicated that there is need for education on juvenile to react seriously on the negative impacts of crime. Juveniles has better chance to make impact in society after obtaining educational and vocational training (Kelie Darbouze, 2008).

4.3.4 (Question No: 4) Response on the meaning of drug abuse

Out all the interviewed respondents 156 (78%), explained the meaning of drug abuse where amongst their definitions included the use of mbanje and alcohol. The respondents showed that they have an idea of what drug abuse is about and hence could be able to give and highlight its impact in the society. The respondents could also be able to give an evaluation on all means provided by the social institutions in controlling drug abuse. The respondents could be able to give strengths and weaknesses surrounding these social institutions that, as well can assist in compelling crime.

4.3.5 (Question No: 5) Respondents on the role of social institutions towards drug abuse.

The majority of respondents were mainly focusing on families and schools in which they outlined their role as to instil orderliness, especially amongst children in the society. The respondents indicated that schools provide knowledge in order for one to know

what is wrong or right. Families interact with children every time, and as such can easily notice their deficiency and weakness more than everybody else. Families also teach, their children socially accepted norms that can mould their behaviour. Children can however be able to identify what is wrong and what is right and thereby avoiding drugs and crime. According to Judith (2018), parents must educate their children about the negative consequences of drug use in order to diffuse the mystique and their children's curiosity

4.3.6 (Question No: 6) Respondents on the best ways to reduce drug abuse in Mazowe District.

Majority of the respondents indicated that children should be kept occupied with different activities which will keep them busy and at the same time enhancing their skills. Respondents also indicated that juveniles should receive support from families, schools and any other organisation which meant to deal with their welfare.

It has been highlighted that parents should also identify their children's talents and render necessary support when needed. These activities may build the future lives of their children. This was supported by UN (1990) when stating that young people should not be considered as mere objects of socialisation but also have an active role and partnership in the society. Juveniles who have completed their ordinary levels were mostly mentioned to be supported as many of these cannot afford to proceed to advanced level due to lack of funds.

The idea by the respondents can enable young people to disassociate from criminals who might incite and influence bad behaviour amongst them.

4.3.7 (Question No: 7) Responses on the methods that should be employed to deal with drug related crime on children.

Responses indicated that the government should review family background especially for those involved in drug related crimes. This will assist to address the root cause of juvenile offences and bring solutions. The family background was cited as one of the most important ways which can allow people to decide which measure to be taken against juvenile offenders. This will as well avoid those children who take unnecessary advantage of indulging in crime by virtue of just being orphans. It has been also

observed that other orphans actually have better living conditions as compared to others with both parents.

4.4 An analysis for the interview questions for police officers in Mazowe District

The researcher has obtained several responses after carrying out interviews on 10 police officers in Mazowe District. The responses are outlined against the questions asked to the respondents.

4.4.1 (Question No: 1) Fig 4.4 Responses on the length of service in the ZRP for police officers in Mazowe District

n=10

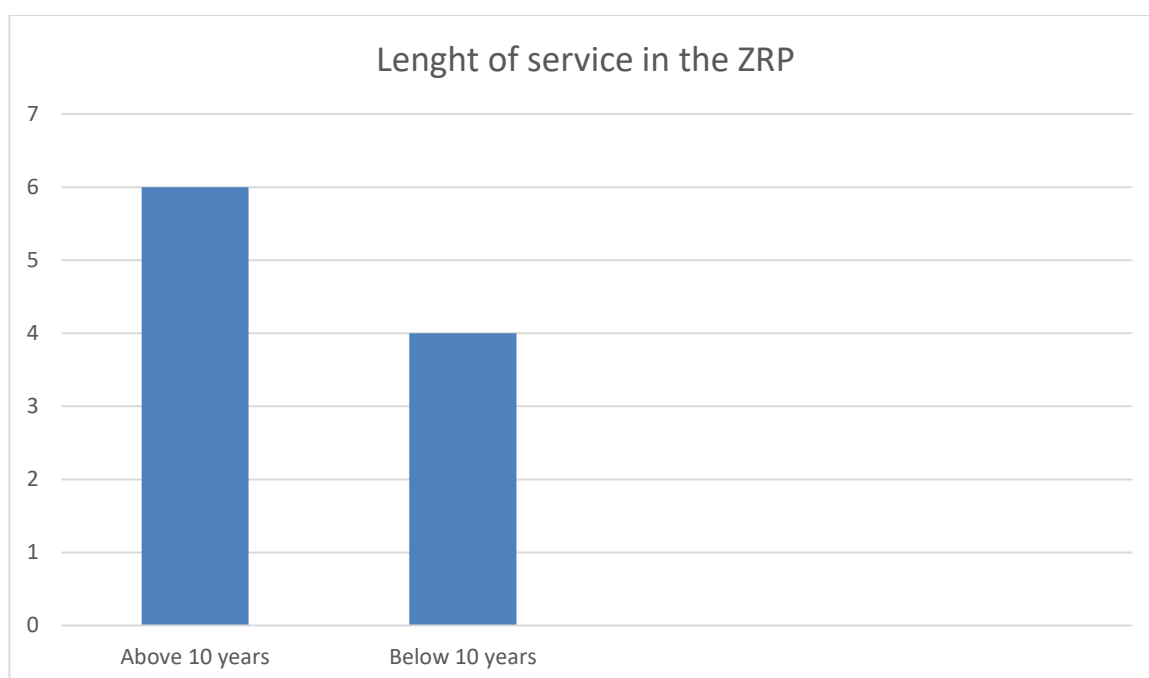


Figure 4. 4: (Question No: 1) Responses on the length of service in the ZRP for police officers in Mazowe District.

Source: Primary Data, 2024.

Out of 10 officers interviewed, 6 of them had their length of service above 10 years whilst the remaining was below 10 years. This reflects that the district had a pool of experienced members who are much familiar with policing. The information obtained from these members is however much essential to respond to the objectives of the study.

4.4.2 (Question No: 2) Response on the length of service of police officers in Mazowe District

Out of 10 members interviewed, 8 have served in the district for more than a year whilst only two have served for less than a year. This implies that police officers in Mazowe District are more conversant with the work environment and also they have experience in policing Mazowe District.

4.4.3 (Question No: 3) Responses on the rate of drug abuse in Mazowe District

All members interviewed revealed that juvenile cases particularly drug abuse are being reported regularly. Police officers highlighted that at least one case of drug abuse against children is received every month which shows that the rate is at an increase. Members also indicated that juvenile cases mostly occur during school holidays where there will be a high concentration of juveniles from various locations in the Mazowe District where they are exposed to drugs.

4.4.4 (Question No: 4) Responses on the prevalent crimes for juveniles in Mazowe District

All members indicated that juveniles in Mazowe District mostly commit crimes associated with drug abuse and sexual assaults. This response also tallies with that in response 4.2.2 where some juveniles actually admitted that they commit such crimes and once been arrested for these offences.

4.4.5 (Question No: 5) Responses on the major reasons for increase in juvenile delinquency

Respondents indicated that juveniles influenced by drug abuse will eventually be forced and driven to commit other crimes. Poverty was highlighted as one of the causes of other offenses such as drug abuse. This view was supported by Shaw and McKay (1942) when they state that poverty affects people such that they fail to establish neighbourhood social control. The UN (2003) also highlighted that juvenile delinquency is caused by poverty, overcrowding and family background.

4.4.6 (Question No: 6) Responses on the role of social institutions in reducing drug abuse among children in Mazowe District

Respondents highlighted different social institutions with their vital roles they play in the society. These include families, churches, schools and the police itself. Respondents highlighted contributions by social institutions makes their job become easier as law enforcement agents. They agreed that most of the contributions done by social institutions assist juveniles to follow the right path and make good decisions. These institutions are important for socialising members into socially acceptable standards (Messner and Rosenfeld, 2004). Respondents also indicated that they noticed a gap in behaviour of different children of the same ages in Mazowe District. Thus they pointed out that these behaviours can be determined by family background and level of education. Respondents also indicated that those children who normally receive advice and teachings from social institutions are not problematic.

4.4.7 (Question No: 7) Respondents opinion on the effectiveness of these social institutions towards reduction in drug abuse among juveniles

Social institutions are very effective in reducing juvenile delinquency. This is because these institutions had direct interactions with both juveniles and adults in the society. It is believed that children may learn directly from social institutions and at the same time controlled by adults in the society. It has however that the challenges that these social institutions sometimes face emanate from children themselves. For the church to be effective, the child should have gone to the church service. Children should attend school lectures in order for them to receive education. This also apply to other social institutions.

Due to the situations that the children grew in, they fail to get access to the facilities rendered by social institutions. Some families are child headed families hence lack support and encouragement to partake on some of these activities. Other children are also neglected in the society and hence lack guidance. It is a pre-requisite for one to enrol at school and other learning institutions that he/she should pay school fees. 44% of children in Mazowe District live with no parents whilst 35% have single parents. This is a reflection that these children could at one point not alone afford to fund themselves to school. Economic decline and family background can cause juvenile delinquency (UN, 2003).

Government intervention was recommended to consider the above lifestyle categories during allocation resources and scholarships. If enough resources flows to the areas of need, people will commit fewer crimes and there will be less need for government to employ harsh measures to control crime (Cullen, 1994). Child headed families have found to be the most underprivileged during this analysis. It can also be emphasised that **discrimination** should be eliminated in every sector at all levels. This is to strictly ensure such resources benefit those that meant to benefit.

4.5 An analysis on the interview questions for agents of social institutions in Mazowe District

4.5.1 (Question No: 1) Responses on the residential areas of respondents

Out of 20 interviewed respondents, 16(80%) indicated that they resided in Mazowe District whilst others were from other locations. This shows that the researcher was dealing with the people who actually have knowledge of the activities associated in their area.

4.5.2 (Question No: 2) Responses on the rate of drug abuse among children perpetrated in Mazowe District.

Respondents indicated that they frequently witness and sometimes hear about drug related offences in Mazowe District such as vandalism of property, criminal insult, sexual assault, assaults and theft. This entails that drug abuse is one of the problems in Mazowe District.

4.5.3 (Question No: 3) Responses on the major causes of the above listed offences

The responses highlighted that some children are neglected by their families such that they end up causing disorder in the society. This is due to lack of guidance which children should get from parental care. Thus death of parents, poor living conditions and abusive home conditions may cause delinquency (Guranungo, 2017). Respondents highlighted that well guided children have slim chances to fall into delinquency. Another contribution to drug abuse as highlighted by respondents was found to emanate from lifestyles in which children are surviving in, thus they stated that the child

normally copy bad habits from their families. Family instabilities and domestic violence would cause children to become future criminals.

4.5.4 (Question No: 4) Responses on the role played by social institutions in order to curb drug abuse

Respondents as agents of social institutions highlighted that they always try to cope with the environment to ensure the safety of children. Respondents agreed that many children are attracted by different things almost on daily basis and thus they try to make some adjustments such that their services will suit the environment.

4.5.5 (Question No: 5) Responses on whether the above measures are sufficient enough to reduce drug abuse in children

The respondents highlighted that the measures are sufficient enough to reduce delinquency. Children however may not access such institutions thereby missing the teachings and awareness.

4.5.6 (Question no: 6) Responses on suggested measures to be implemented by institutions towards children as a measure to minimise the rate of drug abuse.

Respondents urged that social awareness campaigns should continue and institutions should frequently carry out joint operations to improve their service delivery. This may give advantage to children who will receive knowledge from different experiences.

4.5.7 (Question No: 7) Responses on the effectiveness of social control in reducing drug abuse in Mazowe District

Respondents highlighted that social control is effective to some extent but however faces some challenges here and there. These institutions sometimes face resistance especially on the people who does not accept change. They state that those children who have already been corrupted are very difficult to control. This will however disturb the effectiveness of social control. Respondents also indicated that different lifestyles which juveniles are living will also affect the effectiveness of these social institutions.

Lifestyle in the urban set-up exposes children to various social platforms which sometimes my influence them to commit crime. The effect of technology also contributed in the commission of crime such as sexual harassment and drug abuse. The

social structures are affected by new technology which influence perceptions and reality in children (UN, 2003).

4.5.8 (Question No: 8) Respondents comments toward the role of social institutions in relation to drug abuse among children in Mazowe District

Respondents as agents of social institutions they actually outline the role of social institutions basing on their experiences. The first important social institution mentioned was the family. It has been highlighted that children spend most of the time at their homes before going to school hence observing social norms. At school children as well are taught good behaviour and thereby abstaining from criminal activities and bad habits. The school offers a variety of awareness campaigns through different social activities such as drama, music and other folk tales.

When these children are taught, different examples are cited where children could have a picture to see that anyone who commit crime and practices bad behaviour would consequentially suffered a punishment. Churches offer biblical teachings where children will be taught to observe 10 commandments as a way of building good behaviour. Children can also be able to refrain from crime as it is labelled a sin against God. The health sector offers awareness campaigns on the effects and dangers of drug abuse. This can also work as measure to deter children from using drugs and thereby avoiding delinquency.

It has been observed that all teachings that children receive no matter what institution is, are eventually the same. Thus their main purpose is to mould children's behaviour so that they will become better adults in the society.

4.5.9 (Question No: 9) Suggested areas that need improvement as to the role of these social institutions towards drug abuse.

Respondents highlighted that there should be a specific budget by the government for social institutions focused on those activities that help to reduce and to deter the abuse of drugs. The criminal justice system should be reviewed especially on the aspect of pre-trial diversion where the first offenders below the age of 21 are letting free without being prosecuted. Criminal justice system should provide stiffer penalties on juveniles

which tallies with the gravity if once committed. Corporal punishments should be administered in schools where children are taking advantage of the law to violate it knowingly that they will be left freely.

The government therefore as a social institution has the duty to allow policy makers to collate with other social institutions such as schools, families and religious organisations so that they come up with suitable effective measures that best suit and applicable in reducing drug abuse.

4.6 Summary

This chapter presented and analysed data from 246 respondents. The study focused on establishing and determining the cause of drug abuse, establish ways through which drug abuse could be reduced. Responses by the respondents create gap for future researches. The next chapter focuses on summary, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of drug abuse by children, a case of Mazowe District on the period of January 2023 and March 2024. Literature from various researchers who studied this field was reviewed. Literature assisted the researcher to study drug abuse and child crime in Mazowe District. The study unearthed various causes of drug abuse, the role of social control as well as various ways through which child drug related crime can be reduced. This chapter presented a summary of major findings where recommendation made basing on the research findings were made.

5.1 Summary of key findings

After determining the causes of drug abuse on children for the period January 2023 to March 2024 in Mazowe District, the researcher came up with the following findings;

- Drug abuse is the major cause of deviant behaviour among children.
- Drug abuse is also the major cause of crimes among children.
- ❖ Peer pressure affects juveniles in Mazowe District such that they end up adopting illegal means to satisfy their ambitions.
- ❖ Some juveniles will resort to drug abuse which will drive them to engage in various criminal activities.
- ❖ Most children are lacking parental care due to death of their parents thereby growing up without guidance and ending up indulging in drug abuse.
- ❖ Social institutions to a greater extent are considering their role to instil order in the society. However, Mazowe District is also affected by family structures. It has been discovered that children from unstable homes engage more on drugs

than their counterparts from stable homes. This was supported by the findings of Uguoke and Onyekachi (2015).

- ❖ Social systems need to be checked regularly on their service delivery and financially supported in order to improve their efficiency. There is also need for education on juveniles to react seriously on the negative implications of crime. Juveniles have better chance to make improvements in the society after obtaining educational and vocational training (Kelie Darbouze, 2008).

5.2 Conclusion

Basing on the relevant data collected from the respondents, there is increase in drug abuse in Mazowe District which results in high crime rate among children. Social institutions are seen being effective in solving the problem of drug abuse albeit with limited resources. There should be collective efforts and maximum co-operation from both social institutions, juveniles and other members of the general public to secure conducive and effective means that reduce drug abuse and drug related crime.

5.3 Recommendations

- ❖ Children in Mazowe District should be given opportunities such as educational opportunities so as to meet their varying needs as young persons. This will also serve as supportive framework for safeguarding the personal development of all young persons.
- ❖ The education system should promote the development of personality, talents, physical and mental abilities of young people to their fullest potential. Thus therefore the government will be left with an obligation to make accessible to all young people as a measure to prevent drug abuse in children.
- ❖ Awareness campaigns as well as community based programs should be continually developed for the prevention of drug abuse. The government should establish policies that are conducive for the upbringing of children in stable settled family environments. The government should also take some measures to discourage separation of children from their families and promote family cohesion and harmony.

- ❖ Zero tolerance to corruption should be effected so that there will be fairness in the distribution of resources. Scholarships and other beneficial programs should be directed specifically for those who are in need.
- ❖ Drug testing in probation agencies should be used with sufficient frequency and randomness to identify and deter continued substance abuse.
- ❖ Every use of drug identification measures should be followed by an intervention.
- ❖ Positive indicators of chemical use should be followed by enhanced supervision, more frequent testing, and/or treatment responses.
- ❖ Negative indicators of substance use should be followed by praise, rewards, and encouragement.
- ❖ Introducing interventions that are appropriate for the developmental stage of the children and tailored to individual case plans.
- ❖ Introducing drug rehabilitation programs for drug abusers.
- ❖ Staff involved in the anti-drug abuse program should receive ongoing training.
- ❖ Ongoing evaluation of the program should be undertaken, and the information obtained from the evaluation should be the basis for decisions about the future direction of the program.
- ❖ Criminalisation of drug abuse where drug abusers are treated as criminals and not as victims.

5.4 Areas of further study

The researcher recommends that further studies on the analysis of impact of drug abuse by children should be done on other areas other than Mazowe District in Zimbabwe. This will enable different place and age groups to compare statistics and formulate workable strategies thereby creating a crime free nation

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APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHILDREN INVOLVED IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF DRUG ABUSE BY CHILDREN. A CASE OF MAZOWE DISTRICT FROM JANUARY 2023 TO MARCH 2024.

INTRODUCTION

I, Desire Dinha being a student at Bindura University of Science Education studying for Bachelor of Business Administration in Police and Security Studies. It is a requirement to undertake a research in partial fulfilment of the above mentioned programme. This will only be successful depending on your cooperation in responding to this questionnaire. My research topic is entitled, “An analysis of the impact of drug abuse on children. A case Mazowe District for the periods January 2023 to March 2024. I therefore humbly request you to answer the below attached questions honestly without fear and diligently. I promise and assure you that the findings are for educational purposes and recommendations may benefit you and the society towards positive policy formulation. Anonymity and confidentiality will be observed on given information. The information gathered may be used to address future issues as well as assisting in future research. Your cooperation in supplying honest and sincere responses will be greatly appreciated.

- You do not have to put your name on the questionnaire.
- Answer the questions freely and to the best of your knowledge.
- Where boxes are provided, indicate your answer by ticking in the appropriate box.
- Fill in the blank spaces where provided

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Desire Dinha

SECTION A

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date...../...../.....

1. Indicate your age?

Between 7 and 11 ☐ between 12 and 15 ☐ Between 16 and 18 ☐

2. Indicate your sex

Female ☐ Male ☐

3. What is your level of education?

Up to Grade 7 ☐ ZJC ☐ “O” Level ☐ “A” Level ☐

4. What is your family status?

Both parents alive ☐ Single parent dead ☐ Both parents dead ☐

SECTION B (KNOWLEDGE OF DRUGS)

1. List the names of drugs which are commonly used in the community?

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

2. Which gender is likely to abuse drugs?

Boys Girls

3. Where do you think those who abuse drugs get them from? (Tick once)

Buy

Get from peers

Get from school

Get from home

Grow at home

4. Have you ever committed an offence under the influence of drugs

Yes

No

5. What are some of the behaviours associated with children who abuse drugs

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

6. Have you ever been arrested before?

Yes

No

If yes what offence?

How was the case finalised.....

SECTION C

KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROBLEM

1. What do you think are the major causes of juvenile delinquency in Mazowe District?.....

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

2. Which crimes do you think children are most vulnerable to?.....

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

3. Are the systems in place effective enough to deal with drug abuse?.....

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

4. What is drug abuse according to your understanding?

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

5. What role do social institutions in your area play toward juvenile drug abuse reduction (please specify the name of institute, that is, family, school, government, peers etc).....

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

6. What do you think could be the best way of reduce drug abuse in your area?.....

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

7. What other methods do you think should be employed to deal with juvenile delinquency?.....

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

Thank you for your co-operation.

APPENDIX B: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ZRP



My name is Desire Dinha and I am a third year student studying towards the completion of Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) Degree in Police and Security Studies at Bindura University of Science Education. I would like to ask for your co-operation and assistance in an interview on my research project which reads, The impact of drug abuse on children. A case of Mazowe District from January 2023 to March 2024.

1. For how long have you been serving as a police officer?
2. What is your length of service in Mazowe District?
3. What is the rate of drug abuse in your catchment area?
4. Are there any cases of drug related crimes among children in your area?
5. What are the major reasons for increase in drug abuse among children?
6. What is the role of social institutions in reducing drug abuse?
7. What is your opinion on the effectiveness of these social institutions towards reduction in drug abuse among juveniles?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

APPENDIX C: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR AGENTS OF SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS



My name is Desire Dinha and I am a third year student studying towards the completion of Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) Degree in Police and Security Studies at Bindura University of Science Education. I would like to ask for your corporation and assistance in an interview on my research project which reads, “the impact of drug abuse on children. A case of Mazowe District from January 2023 to March 2024.”

1. Where do you live?
2. What is the rate of crime perpetrated by child drug abusers?
3. In your opinion, what are the causes of drug abuse?
4. What is the role played by social institutions in order to curb drug abuse?
5. How effective is social control in reducing drug abuse?
6. What measures are put in place to minimise drug abuse? How sufficient are the above measures?
7. How sufficient are the above measures?
8. Any comments towards the role of social institutions in relation to drug abuse among children?
9. Are there any areas which need improvement as to the role of these social institutions towards reduction in drug abuse?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

dinha d

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