

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION



**CRIMINAL PROFILING AND ITS ROLE IN REDUCING CASES OF UNLAWFUL
ENTRY AND THEFT: A CASE OF Z.R.P GWERU DISTRICT**

BY

WISDOM MUJONI

B1748583

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
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Approval Form

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Release Form

Name of author : Mujoni Wisdom

Title of project : Criminal Profiling and its role in reducing cases of unlawful entry and theft. A case of Zimbabwe Republic Police Gweru District

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Permanent address : 2486 Woodlands Park
Gweru

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Dedication

This research project is dedicated to my lovely wife, Tendai Hodhera who has always been my source of inspiration.

Abstract

Zimbabwe Republic Police, Gweru District is haunted by the crime of unlawful entry and theft that are committed within its policing area. The Z.R.P has since adopted the criminal profiling investigation strategy to try and combat the phenomenon. Criminal profiling refers to the practice of predicting the personality, behaviour and demographic characteristics of a criminal based on the evidence at the crime scene (Gallagher and Holmes (2008)).The study aims to survey the effectiveness of criminal profiling in reducing cases of unlawful entry and theft in Z.R.P Gweru District. It covered the period between 01 January 2017 and 31 December 2018. Theoretical and empirical literature review was done in line with the research objectives. The study population size was hundred fiftyelements. A sample size of thirty participants was drawn using simple random sampling. The researcher used questionnaires and interviews to gather data from the respondents. The study findings were that criminal profiling plays a major role in the investigation of cases of unlawful entry and theft through narrowing down suspects list, indicating lead suspects as well as encouraging pro-active policing. The study also found out that the effectiveness of criminal profiling was impeded by the shortage of qualified profilers. From the findings it can be concluded that criminal profiling was effective in investigating cases of unlawful entry and theft. It is recommended that criminal profiling must continue to be used by the ZRP as it is still relevant in the investigation of cases of unlawful entry and theft. Resources must be allocated to the Criminal Intelligence Unit to enable it to handle effectively and efficiently all criminal profiling issues.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter forms the foundation upon which the research on criminal profiling is based on. It focuses on the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, and significance of the study, assumptions, delimitations and limitations of the study. Definition of terms and summary are also a focus of this chapter.

1.1 Background of the study

Vorpagel (2012), avers that criminal profiling is a collection of leads, and has been described as an educated attempt to provide specific information about a certain type of a suspect. Profiling narrows the field of investigation by indicating the kind of person most likely to have committed a crime by focusing on certain behavioural and personality characteristics (Gerberth, 2011). Profiling does not solve crime but provides a means of narrowing the range of potential suspects (Holmes, 1996). Gerberth (2011), farther points out that criminal profiling is a biographic sketch of trend and tendencies of a suspect.

In the comparative years 2017, and, 2018, Los Angeles Police Department recorded (1687) cases of burglary and using the offender profiling technique(s) 56 cases were solved. This, represented 3.3% total cases cleared. These statistics undoubtedly brought about a major question on whether criminal profiling as an investigation tool particularly in cases of unlawful entry and theft was effective (Bloom, 2013).

In the United Kingdom (UK) profiling began with Professor David Canter and his approach was to look for ways in which the crime might mirror the everyday behaviour of the offender (Angel and Weaver, 2012).Thirty nine percent of serious crimes in the UK such as murder, rape and robbery were cracked through criminal profiling (ibid).

Today countries across the African continent, criminal profiling is now being used but at a slow pace (Edo, 2014). The Nigerian criminal justice system for example is not entirely ignorant or unaware of the use and the merits of the application of

criminal profiling as a tool in crime investigation (<https://projectchampionz.com.ng/2019/12/20>). However according to Edo (2014), criminal profiling in Nigeria has not reached the level of recognition, functionality or institutionalisation that has been attained in other jurisdictions. In the year 2013, (174) cases were referred for investigation through criminal profiling but not a single case was cracked (Edo, 2014).

In South African, criminal profiling is heavily depended upon (Madani 2015). Madani (2015) avers that 8.5% of serious cases such as murder and robbery are solved through the use of criminal profiling annually in South Africa. Madani (2015) postulates that despite the employability of criminal profiling by the police, statistically South Africa has a huge numbers of serial murderers, armed robbers and rapists roaming the streets. The cases solved through criminal profiling are too few compared to the envisaged potential thus, there is need to investigate factors militating against the effectiveness of criminal profiling in reducing unlawful entry and theft cases.

In Zimbabwe the Zimbabwe Republic Police's Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) is with the duty of criminal profiling among other in its criminal investigation. The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) serves as the databank for captured, analysed and disseminated information on criminal activities (CIU Manual, 2004). The CIU is responsible for profiling of suspects and known accused persons as well as carrying out crime pattern(s) analysis ([source](#)). Though criminal profiling is not taught as a course at the initial police training institution, those attached to CIU are seconded for criminal profiling in India and the ZRP Staff College. Despite these efforts, crimes of unlawful entry and theft are on the rise in Zimbabwe's third largest city of Gweru as shown in Table 1.1 below:-

Table 1.1: Unlawful entry and Theft annual crime statistics for Gweru District.

	2016	2017	2018
Number reported	200	318	500
Number solved through criminal profiling	18	15	10
Number where criminal profiling failed	182	293	490

Source: *Gweru Crime Register*

Table 1.1 shows that crimes of unlawful entry and theft are on the increase in Gweru District. There were (200), (318) and, (500) cases of unlawful entry and theft in the years 2016, 2017, and, 2018, respectively. On the contrary, the number of cases solved through the use of criminal profiling reduced to (18) in 2016, from (15) in 2017. The number went down to (10) in 2018. This was against the background that efforts by the organisation to make use of criminal profiling were put in place. It is against this background that the researcher sought to survey criminal profiling and measure qualitatively and quantitatively its effectiveness in reducing specifically the crime of unlawful entry and theft with the view of coming up with solutions to the problem.

1.2 Statement of the problem

The increase in the crime of unlawful entry and theft in the face of efforts by the ZRP to invest in the criminal profiling training for police officers since 1995 is increasingly worrying to the Gweru community and Zimbabwe in General. This has prompted the researcher to want to investigate criminal profiling and its effectiveness in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft and in the final sought to proffer security risk prevention solutions that will help in improving the impact crime detection, prevention and investigation.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this research study was to investigate the role of criminal profiling in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft cases in Gweru District of Zimbabwe and in the final try to come up with recommendations to effective policing and investigation in the Z.R.P.

1.4 Research objectives

The study was guided by the following objectives:-

- To investigate the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting the crime of unlawful entry and theft in the Gweru District from January 2017-December 2018.
- To establish challenges affecting the practice of criminal profiling in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft in Z.R.P Gweru District.
- To recommend best practice of criminal profiling for adoption by Zimbabwe Police Gweru and Z.R.P in general to deal with the crime of unlawful entry and theft.

1.5 Research questions

The research sought to answer the following research questions:-

- What is the role of criminal profiling in detecting unlawful entry and theft cases?
- What are the challenges hindering the effectiveness of criminal profiling in Z.R.P Gweru District Policing Area in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft?
- What are the strategies Z.R.P Police can employ to improve criminal profiling as a crime investigation best practise tool to reduce the crime of unlawful entry and theft in Gweru District in particular and Zimbabwe in General.

1.6 Proposition.

The researcher held the following propositions:-

- Criminal profiling is not being fully implemented in some cases in crime investigations.
- Corruption is the major impediment in the effectiveness of criminal profiling.

1.7 Significance of the study

It is envisaged that the study will be of significance to the following stakeholders in the following manner.

(a)To the community

The community will be relieved from the social, economic and mobility impacts of unlawful entry and theft and start to enjoy a crime free society. The arrest of perpetrators of unlawful entry and theft will reduce fear crime in the country in general and Gweru residence in particular.

(b)To the researcher

The study is thought will enrich the researcher's knowledge on criminal profiling and criminal investigation, and the factors that work against its effectiveness as an investigation tool in the police.

(c)To the ZRP

Criminal profiling as one of the contemporary methods of criminal investigations tools, makes it very pertinent to the ZRP as a law enforcement agency charged with the duty of crime prevention and investigation. The success of any organisation is in its ability to contain and control crime to minimum levels thus knowledge on criminal profiling can produce effective results for the ZRP leading to a better image.

1.8 Assumptions of the study

- This study was guided by the following assumption:
- Criminal profiling can be effective in identifying suspects in crimes of unlawful entry and theft if the practice is professionally implemented by police on crime investigations.

1.9 Scope Of The Study

1.9.1 Delimitations

The research study covered the effectiveness of criminal profiling in the reduction of unlawful entry and theft cases only. The target population was 150 comprising detectives from the district who depend on criminal intelligence from Criminal Intelligence Unit in their crime investigations. Data that was used in this study was sourced from Gweru District crime records through the use of questionnaires and interviews. A sample of 30 envisaged to participate in the study as a sample. The study covered a two year period from 1st of January 2017 to 31st December 2018.

1.9.2 Limitations

A number of constraints encountered during the course of the study include:-

Monetary constraints

The researcher incurred costs of transport and stationery. There was need to travel to Gweru to undertake interviews, administer questionnaires in a bid to gather data. This means that transport costs were incurred. To overcome this challenge, the researcher mobilised sufficient funds from friends and relatives.

Concern on access to information

Police officer sign an oath of secrecy that prohibits him or her from divulging information. As a way of circumventing this obstacle of accessing information, the researcher sought permission to undertake the study from the Commissioner General of Police.

1.10 Definition of key terms

The following terms were obtained from statutes, dictionary and authors and defined in context to their use in the study.

Criminal profiling- According to Gallagher and Holmes (2008), and for the purpose of this study criminal profiling refers to the practice of predicting the personality, behaviour and demographic characteristics of a criminal based on the evidence at the crime scene. In this study criminal profiling refers to the act of gathering relevant information and attributes about criminals so as to be in a position to predict whether they are the ones who would have committed an offence.

Detective- Is a police officer investigating crime and usually refers to a member of the Criminal Investigations Department operating in plain clothes (Canter, 2015).

Policing- According to the Oxford Dictionary of English, and for purpose of this study policing means keeping a place or people in order by means of a police or a similar body.

Unlawful entry- In terms of Criminal Law Codification and Reform Act Chapter 9:23, and for the purpose of this study unlawful entry is committed by any person

who intentionally enters the premises without permission or authority from the lawful occupier of the premises concerned .

Theft- According to the Criminal Law Codification and Reform Act Chapter 9:23 and for the purpose of this study theft refers to any person who takes property capable of being stolen knowing that another person is entitled to own, possess or control the property or realising that there is a real risk or possibility that another person maybe so entitled intending to deprive the other person permanently of his ownership, possession or control.

1.11 List of abbreviations

ZRP- Zimbabwe Republic Police

CIU- Criminal Intelligence Unit

CID- Criminal Investigations Department

1.12 Organisation of the study

The study was organised into five chapters. The first Chapter covered the problem and its setting. Chapter two focused on review of related literature whilst Chapter three presented research methodology. Chapter four dealt with data presentation, interpretation and discussion and lastly Chapter five unveiled summary, conclusion and recommendations.

1.13 Summary

The Chapter espoused the problem and its setting focusing on the background to the study, research problem, purpose of the study, research questions, significance of the study, underlying assumptions, delimitation of the study, limitations as well as definition of terms. The next Chapter will look at literature review.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW, CONCEPTS AND PERSPECTIVES.

2.0 Introduction

The previous Chapter sought to inform the problem and its settings, this Chapter will cover a review of literature related to the study of theoretical, conceptual framework, and, empirical evidence in line with the research objectives.

2.1 Definition and purpose of literature review

According to Khothari (2009), literature review is the examination of historical or recent significant research studies that act as a basis for the proposed study. Saunders et al (2016), aver that literature review allows the researcher to approach the research problems knowledgeably through reading around the proposed area of research to provide a theoretical framework to the study. Literature review in this study is meant to explore different studies posited by various schools of thought leading to the establishment of a knowledge gap which the researcher in this study intends to fill. A deeper insight on the use of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft will be gained through reviewing literature .

2.2 Conceptual framework

Saunders (2003), states that conceptual literature is a type of literature of intermediate theory that attempts to connect all aspects of inquiry for example problem definition, purpose, methodology and analysis. It acts like a road map that gives coherence to empirical inquiry.

2.2.1 Criminal profiling defined

“According to Canter (2015), Criminal profiling is defined as an investigative tool used by law enforcement agencies to identify likely suspects (descriptive offender profiling) and analyse patterns that may predict future offences and victims (predictive offender profiling)”. According to Hicks and Sales (2006), criminal profiling refers to the practice of predicting the personality, behavioural and demographic characteristics of a criminal based on the evidence at the crime scene. “It involves the analysis of all obtainable information at the scene of the crime in

order to compile a psychosomatic representation (Hicks and Sales, 2006). This practice is usually common in the case that the identity of the offender is unknown to the authorities and is commonly used in crimes that are thought to have been committed by the same offender. Offender profiling dates back to 1888 and the spree of Jack the Ripper and the profiling theory describes how profiling will ideally work (Holmes and Holmes, 2008)”.

“Skinner and Evans (2013), defined offender profiling is a method of identifying the most likely type of person that could have committed a crime based on evidence and information found at the crime scene along with specific characteristics of the crime itself. Criminal profiling is not a method for identifying the actual person who committed the crime; instead it describes the type of person that most likely committed the crime. Attributes of the criminal’s personality makeup are determined from his or her choices before, during and after the crime. Skinner and Evans (2013), asserted that information of criminal profiling is combined with other relevant details and physical evidence and then compared with characteristics of known personality types and mental abnormalities to develop a practical working description of the offender.”

2.2.2 Psychological profiling

“Skinner and Evans (2013), defined psychological profiling as a method of suspect identification which seeks to identify a person’s mental, emotional and personality characteristics as manifested in things done or left at the crime scene. There are two major assumptions made when it comes to offender profiling that is behavioural consistency and homology. Behaviour consistency is the use of linkage analysis in order to find similar cases that have little evidence and link them to one offender because of the similarities that are present. Homology is the idea that similar crimes are committed by similar offenders that possess similar characteristics (Simmons, 2015).”

“Offender profiling is also known as criminal profiling, criminal personality profiling, criminological profiling, behavioural profiling or criminal investigative analysis.”

2.2.3 Aims of criminal profiling

“Goals of criminal profiling include providing law enforcement with a social psychological assessment of the offender, providing a “psychological evaluation of belongings found in the possession of the offender” (Brent,2011). Criminal profiling also offers suggestions and strategies for the interviewing process. Ainsworth (2001) points out that four main approaches to offender profiling are geographical, investigative psychology, typological and clinical profiling.”

2.2.4 Steps in profiling

“Berg (2008), postulated that there are five steps in profiling include analysing the criminal act and comparing it to similar crimes in the past, an in-depth analysis of the actual crime scene considering the victim’s background and activities for possible motives and connections, considering other possible motives and developing a description of the possible offender that can be compared with previous cases.”

2.2.5. The role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft

Criminal profiling assist in the detection of unlawful entry and theft cases in the following ways:-

2.2.6 Pointing towards a lead suspect

“There are two operating words in offender profiling that is *modus operandi* (method of operation) and behaviour. The modus operandi leads to clues about the offender. There is the idea that an offender is likely to commit a particular type of crime in a particular or similar pattern. Thus offender profiling is based on the premise that the modus operandi may lead to clues about the perpetrator and that the crime scene characteristics may point to the personality of the perpetrator. Behaviour helps to predict the personality type or the motives for the crime. Therefore, the single most important thing that a profiler looks for at a scene of crime is anything that may point to the personality of the offender (Grubin, 1995).”

“The rationale behind this approach is that behaviour reflects personality and by examining behaviour, the investigator may be able to determine what type of person is responsible for the offense. When profiling, the profiler notes the physical description,

individual traits, any odd behaviour and remarks or records of anything that the offender said or did during the attack. Furthermore, the profiler notes information about the steps the offender used to avoid being detected, method of killing, or the way he approaches his victims, as well as notes about the offender's gender, age group, race, occupation and criminal records(Douglas and Olshacker, 2009).”

“Psychological evaluations of belongings found in possession of suspected offenders involves the evaluation of any items found at the suspect's home, such as souvenirs taken from the crime scenes, pictures, videos, books, magazines or other items that might point to the background and motives for the crimes, as well as link the suspect to the crime. Holmes and Holmes (2008) noted the case of Jerry Brudos a sadistic serial killer in the United States who had such a fetish about his victims' high heeled shoes. He took their shoes, wore and stored them at his home.”

2.2.7 Narrow down the suspect list

“Offender profiling is mainly used when the offender did not leave any physical trace at the crime scene. It is used to narrow down the suspects list. As Douglas and Olshaker (2009) have pointed out, “criminal profiling is used mostly by behavioural scientists and the police to narrow down an investigation to those who possess certain behavioural and personality features that are revealed by the way a crime was committed,(Ebiske, 2001). Continuing, Douglas and Olshaker (2009) also maintained that “the primary goal is to aid local police in limiting and refining their suspect list so that they can direct their resources where they might do the most good.”

“According to Holmes and Holmes (2008), social and psychological assessments of offenders involve an evaluation of the social and psychological characteristics of the offender. In fact, “a profile should contain basic and sound information concerning the social and psychological core variables of the offender's personality, including the offender's race, age, employment status and type, religion, marital status and level of education. This psychological information will help to focus the investigation by allowing police to narrow its range, which in turn will have a direct effect upon the number of days and weeks police must spent on the case” (Holmes and Holmes, 2008).”

2.2.8 To promote proactive policing

“Another key use of a profile, is when necessary, to go proactive, which means letting the public become a partner in crime solving. The unknown suspect may have displayed some sort of odd behaviour to those close to him that will indicate his involvement with the crime. Getting the public, and hopefully those people to be aware of what they have seen, telling them to corner forward may solve the case (Egger, 2006).”

“Egger (2006) maintained that the purpose of profiling is to develop a behavioural composite, combining sociological and psychological assessments of the offender. Profiling is generally based on the premise that an accurate analysis and interpretation of the crime scene and other locations related to the crime can indicate the type of person who committed the crime. Hence, because certain personality types exhibit similar behavioural patterns (in other words, behaviour that becomes routine), knowledge and an understanding of the patterns that can lead investigators to potential suspects. Similarly, Jackson and Bekerian (2009) maintained that a profile is based on the premise that the proper interpretation of crime scene evidence can indicate the personality type of the individual (s) who committed the offence. It is assumed that certain personality types exhibit similar behavioural patterns and that knowledge of these patterns can assist in the investigation of the crime and the assessment of potential suspects.”

2.2.9 Routine and criminal pattern

“Geographical profiling is typically used to identify the likely area of an offender’s residence from the location of the crime (Rossmo, 2001). Such an approach can be very useful in narrowing down a pool of suspects or enabling the police to prioritize an area for investigation or DNA sampling. Geographical profiling has its history in environmental criminologists to identify areas where criminals were likely to offend from the locations of the offender’s residence: the aim of geographical profiling is the reverse. Using the location of an offender’s crime as his or her starting point, the geographical profiler tries to predict the area in which the offender lives (Canter, 2000). Routine Activities Theory and Pattern Theory are relevant to geographical profiling. This suggests that criminals will offend in an area with which they are familiar.”

“In other words, while criminals are going their daily life, they will notice potential targets. The area with which criminals are familiar and which surrounds their residence has been called ‘home range’.”

2.3 Factors impeding the effectiveness of criminal profiling

2.3.1 Inaccuracies in profiling

“The effectiveness of criminal profiling in the identification of criminals has drawn a lot of attention due to the questions raised on its accuracy (Holmes and Holmes, 2008). One of the problems pertaining to the accuracy of this method is the inconsistency of the results that it posts. In this regard, research has shown that the marauder pattern of offending is common with stranger rapists and serial arsonists while burglars have an unclear pattern. Despite this it has also been established that offenders may change their geographical pattern of offending which may lead to incorrect analysis given the inconsistency (Davison 2010). In this regard, offenders may change their pattern in different crimes of the same nature while shifting from the marauder behavior to the commuter behavior. This was demonstrated in a study examining a serial arsonist in Italy who had committed several crimes over a number of years, from the study, it was revealed that the offender at times acted as a marauder while at times behaving as a commuter (Abumere, 2012). Thus it was unwise to assume the type of topography that an offender fits as is the case with criminal profiling (Abumere, 2012).”

“In addition from an analytical evaluation of the criminal profiling in 1997 in the United Kingdom, it was established that although profiling assisted the investigators in furthering their understanding of the case, only a small percentage reported that profiling had assisted in solving the case with an even smaller percentage reporting the use of the profile in the identification of the criminals (Abumere, 2012). In this regard, out of the respondents who took part in the study, only 14.1% reported the actual assistance of criminal profiling in getting the solution to a case. Sadly only 2.5% of the respondents reported the identification of the offenders using the data that had been obtained from profiling with 5.4 % reporting that profiling offered a structure for the interviewing of the apprehended suspects (Trager and Brewster, 2013). However, 82.6% of those interviewed reported that profiling was operationally useful in a general sense with 60.9% reporting that profiling had

enhanced their understanding of the cases being handled (Trager and Brewster, 2013).”

2.3.2 Lack of trained criminal profilers

“Training of criminal profiles has been given much eminence in the western countries with the establishment of training institutions to give the requisite skills to criminal profilers. However, this training has been regarded as inadequate. In the Netherlands, while airing their protests, the officers indicated that the advice was not practical given the resources that were at their disposal (Abumere 2012). In addition, the contradiction between the advice given to them and their opinion was also a factor that contributed to the ignorance of some of the advice given by the profilers. However, these findings cannot be used to fully discredit the effectiveness of criminal profiling given the small size (six) of the sample that was used (Abumere 2012).”

2.3.3 Corruption

“Corruption has been singled out as the most degenerating menace killing the criminal justice system to date despite the sophistication of crime detection methods such as criminal profiling, fingerprints screening and DNA profiling. The effectiveness sustenance of the society is hinged on an efficient law enforcement process (Obasanjo and Mabogunje, 2010). It is not so with Nigeria where crime and violence is moving on a fast lane. Given the spate of violence, and the level of degeneration in the body polity, one may be right to conclude that Nigeria-Police have exhibited glaring inadequacies, and demonstrated incapacity to effectively enforce the law and maintain order in the society, robberies, assassination, arson, looting of public treasury and child-theft amongst other vices, have become the rule rather than the exception (Obasanjo and Mabogunje 2010).”

“According to Onyeozili (2005), allegations leveled against the institution and its personnel, some of which have proven to be true, include arbitrariness in exercising its power, corruption, perversion of justice, and delay in the administration of justice. Various factors have been blamed as constituting a stumbling block to the effective administration of justice and efficient maintenance of law and order in Nigeria. Other factors are inadequate manpower (both in strength and expertise),

insufficient education and training, inadequate equipment, and poor conditions of service of the average policeman (Onyeozili, 2005). The long term failure of the Nigerian authorities to address police bribery, extortion and wholesale embezzlement threatens the basic rights of all Nigerians. Corruption has also not escaped the Zimbabwean police evidenced by several media stories reporting on police officer nabbed in the course of corruption. Hence the researcher sought to ascertain whether the effectiveness of criminal profiling in the crime detection of unlawful entry and theft is being affected by corruption among the ranks and files of the police.”

2.3.4 Criminal profiling is based on unproven theory

“In addition, criminal profiling is ineffective as it is based on an outdated theory of personality that does not have any empirical support. As such, the assumptions in the criminal profiling lead to mistakes during the identification of offender of a crime, as explained in the Snook et al. (2008), the majority of criminal profiling approaches are based on the classical trait theory that assumes that the determining factor of criminal behavior is the underlying dispositions with criminals that influence them to act in a certain way. In addition, these approaches assume that the criminals will portray similar behaviour in other aspects of their lives just like in committing crimes. The authors argue that these assumptions are flawed in that the situational factors play an equal role in determining the behaviour of criminals as does the personality disposition (Snook, et al. 2008). In support of this, Bennel and Canter (2002) found very low levels of consistency in the behaviours related to the stolen items as well as entry methods. This was unlike the consistency observed in the behaviours relating to crime site choices (Bennel and Canter 2002). This is in addition to the neglect that profilers show in relation to research in closely related fields such as that aimed at identifying consistency in offender samples in the prison and community settings (Snook, et al. 2008). In this regard, profilers continue to make predictions that do not have any basis of empirical research as opposed to heeding this research. It is thus possible that, criminal profiling is ineffective in Zimbabwe due to the error in theory posited by Snook et al (2008).”

2.5 Mechanisms that can be employed to improve the effectiveness of criminal profiling in reducing cases of unlawful entry and theft

“Offender profiling, in all various guises, is still very much a discipline that is yet to be proved. Unlike much of psychology and criminology, the accuracy of an offender profile may have profound implications. If a profile of an offender is wrong or even slightly inadequate, police maybe misled, allowing the offender to escape detection for a little longer –and innocent people may be dead as a result. Hence the following strategies have been suggested by leading scholars in criminal profiling.”

2.5.1 Holistic investigations approach should be used

“The effectiveness of criminal profiling in reality relies on the extent of which profiling has actually been performed in practice. Wilson et al. (2007) propose, to some extent idealistically, that subsequent to focusing at the track documentation of profiling so far the proposition is that it works. Criminal profiling alone cannot yield the desired results rather a combination of all investigative techniques and the effort of all parties involved (Wilson et al, 2007). Thus the inter-agency approach to policing must be adopted to work alongside criminal profiling and other policing investigative tools.”

2.5.2 Adaptation of the inductive investigative management approach

“An alternative to classifying serial murderers into rigid types, organized and disorganized, for example, it is inductive investigative process management method that sees the criminal’s behaviour as shaped by daily life experiences and interpersonal relationships with others (Canter and Godwin, 2007). In other words, the way the individual treats others when he is not offending may affect the way he carries out his crimes. Investigative process management offers a new approach to profiling that may be practical for police investigations (canter and Godwin, 2007).”

“There are two immediate advantages. First, police investigations are faced with a great deal of information or investigative value that may be derived from simple overt aspects of an offence (canter and Godwin, 2007). Research carried out in investigative process management can be very helpful in that crimes often involve subtle behavioral information which has value, but human biases drawn about the overt actions of the offence usually overshadow these subtle actions. One example

of how the investigative process management profiling could assist police in a serial murder investigation is a study carried out by this author on the spatial behaviour of 54 U.S serial murderers (Canter and Godwin 2007). The study found out that the locations at which victims were abducted were centrally located close to the offenders' home bases rather than at any number of the body dump locations.”

“Second, investigative process management relies on offence and offender variables that have been inductively related empirically replicated for linking crimes to a common offender without having to rely on the unreliability and weak validity and utility of deductive profiles (Canter, 2010). As Canter (2010) clearly pointed out: detectives and police investigators are particularly vulnerable to the creative fictions of “profilers” because their task is very similar to that of a novelist. Investigators feel the need to invent a narrative that makes sense of all the facts and also indicates the psychological processes that gives the plot its dynamics, usually rather ambiguously referred to as the “motive”. If this invention adds weight to their own loosely formulated notions it is even more attractive (Canter 2010).”

2.5.3 Training

“Hazelwood and Burgess (2011) points to the fact that, for effective results to be achieved, the worker must be trained for the job. Criminal profiling received much hype in the FBI in the United States in 1978 and a few training programmes have thus emerged but is arguably comprehensive enough to make profiling significant in the investigative process (Hazelwood and Burgess, 2011). Godwin (2010) stated that profiling as investigative tool today is entirely intuitive based and represents a less than educated attempt to provide law enforcement agencies with detailed information about the behaviour of an unknown individual who has committed a crime .For example, most published accounts of profiling, which details the methods employed by various individuals, have tended to take the form of semi-autobiographical books and journalistic articles rather than systematic academic work and, hence are difficult to evaluate from an accuracy or scientific point of view (Godwin 2010).”

“In support of widening of skills of criminal profiling Godwin (2010) supports the inclusion of psychology as part of training. Godwin (2010) notes that one major flaw of current profiling methods is that most of all profiles emphasizes the various

psychological functions that murder has for the offender not what varieties of action the murder actually consist of. Consequently, these profiles make little distinction between the overt crime scene behaviours as they occur in murders and the psychodynamic processes that are taken to account for or produce that behaviour. Hence, there is little attempt by profilers to differentiate between aspects of the offender's motivations and life-style from aspects of his offending behaviour. Another problem, which exists with profiling, is many profilers view profiling as "crime scene reconstruction" and completely ignore aspects of psychology (Godwin 2010)."

2.6 Theoretical theory and Concepts

According to BUSE guidelines (2016), theoretical literature indicates variables and relationship relevant to the study. Theories have three functions namely to explain observed facts, predict outcomes of relationships and to summarise knowledge. Akers and Sellers (2013), were of the view that,

"Theories are useful tools that help us to understand and explain the world around us, theories suggest the way things are not the way things ought to be and theory can try to explain crime for a large social unit or area(macro) or it can attempt to explain crime at individual or smaller unit level(micro)"

This study is based on two theories the Sociological Theory and the Biological Theory which are much related to the study since the study is dwelling much on controlling the crime of unlawful entry into premises and theft(burglary).

2.6.1 Sociological Theory

According to Holmes and Holmes (2008), Traditional sociological theories proposed that crimes was a result of anomie, a term meaning normlessness or a feeling of a lack of social norms, a lack of being connected to society. Sociologists defined crime as an act of dissociation of the individual from the collective conscience or the criminality resulting from a lack of opportunity to achieve aspirations or by the learning of criminal values and behaviours. Criminality results from the failure to properly socialize by individuals and unequal opportunities between groups. Durkheim believed that crime was an inescapable fact of society and advocated maintaining crime within reasonable boundaries.

According to the Theory, society manufactures criminality. Breggin (2008), avers that certain types of human activity are harmful and are judged so by society as a whole. There are also other behaviours recognized by society as criminal that do not result in harm to others and are therefore criminalized without sufficient ground and these are the victimless crimes (ibid). These include drug use and prostitution. Therefore, according to this view, all members of a society are lawbreakers at some point.

Finally, sociological policies to control crime would advocate stronger and harsher penalties for serious crimes such as murder, rape, are more effective law enforcement. According to Holmes and Holmes (2008), sociologists accept the reality that crime is a social phenomenon that will not disappear no matter how many interventions are enacted to control it.

According to this Theory, criminal profiling becomes problematic because of the large numbers of criminals involved in the commission of crimes. Every member of the society is, at one point, a criminal therefore profiling will mean have the whole society profiled and this is difficult because of resources constraint. On the other hand, this Theory is relevant to the current study because the study focuses on the crime of unlawful entry and theft and is not concerned with victimless crimes. Criminal profiling for cases of unlawful entry and theft is therefore possible. Since the society is knowledgeable on the criminal elements within its set-up, it means it can work hand in hand with the police detectives to ensure arrest of unlawful entry and theft criminals through profiling thus making criminal profiling an effective tool for detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft.

2.6.2 Biological Theory

Biological theories of criminality basically purport that criminal behaviour is the result of some flaw in the biological makeup of the individual. The issue for the community is how to recognize a significant biological contribution to criminal behaviour since genetic testing is unreliable and there are no other physical markers of criminality (Holmes and Holmes, 2008). It seems that currently in the absence of very harsh crimes like murder and rape one must be recognized as a repeat offender before a possible innate tendency towards criminality can be realised (ibid). By that time the damage, which is often irreparable, is done. The only possible solution rests

on stricter probation and parole practices for first-time offenders. However, this solution is expensive and tax payers may not support it.

This Theory makes it difficult for the profilers to get accurate information on the criminals since the society is not in a position to accurately identify the offenders involved in unlawful entry and theft cases since they do not have markers aligning them to unlawful entry and theft commission.

2.7 Empirical literature review

Kocsis and Palermo, (2005), conducted a study entitled, “Contemporary Problems in Criminal Profiling” in New Jersey. The aim of the study was to investigate the problems emanating in criminal profiling. The findings of this study were that, profilers do not come to similar conclusions because they use divergent reasoning, that is, deductive and inductive. Other problems identified were professionalism and regulation. It seems that there is a peculiar form of myopia among profilers who are unable or unwilling to cite, acknowledge, or build on the research of colleagues, or may be unaware of it at all (Kocsis and Palermo, 2005). This phenomenon is an impediment to the scientific development of profiling because, without the integration of all research, the field is in serious danger of remaining a fragmented practice, with repetitious errors, duplication, failure to test theories, and a lack of exposure to differing scientific approaches (Kocsis and Palermo 2005). Regards regulation, gross disparities in the level of skill among practitioners can occur and the quality of the services rendered may vary considerably. In the context of police investigations, such disparities in the quality of professional services rendered can have potentially disastrous results for the course of justice (Kocsis and Palermo 2005). It is possible that these problems are also affecting the level of effectiveness of criminal profiling in Zimbabwe.

Ressler et al., (2008), also conducted a study on “The usefulness of criminal profiling in crime detection” in Bahil. The objectives of the study were to reveal the role of criminal profiling in crime detection. In their finding, Ressler et al.,(2008), stated that, criminal profiling was more useful in other crimes particularly sexual crimes and murder where the offender normally leaves a trail. It was established that it is most effective in nabbing repeat offenders as opposed to one-time offenders (Ressler et al., 2008). The researcher posits that it is also highly probable that in this

study, that criminal profiling is effective in repeat offenders as opposed to once-off criminals. This study thus focuses on whether criminal profiling is effective in detecting crimes of unlawful entry and theft.

Canter and Kirby (2010), conducted a study, “The socio-psychological Profiler” in London with the aim of evaluating the relationship between the suspected criminal’s past, socialization and psychological make-up to criminality. Canter and Kirby (2010), looked at the conviction history of child molesters. This study investigated the validity of the common assumption that child molesters will have a history of sexually deviant behaviour and assaults on children, and that these men will escalate their offending from minor to more serious sexual offences. Interestingly, they found that these assumptions, which were often held by police officers, had no empirical basis. They found out that these offenders were more likely to have had a history of convictions for theft, burglary, and violent offences than for prior minor sexual offences.

They also found out that there was little evidence to suggest escalation from less serious offences. For example, very few of the men who were child molesters had any history of indecent exposure (Canter and Kirby 2010). Thus the researcher in this study also sought to ascertain to extent and implication of use of socio-psychological profiling of suspects in crime investigations.

Pinizzotto and Finkel (2012), went on to study about “The implications of criminal profiler skills and competencies on the outcome of criminal profiling” in Brussels. In probably the most comprehensive experimental study on profiling conducted to date, Pinizzotto and Finkel (2012), examined profiles conducted by professional profiler, detectives, psychologists, and students for a series of cases.

The study was looking at whether the accuracy of the profiles differed between the groups and whether there was qualitative difference between the profilers and the non-profilers in the process in which the profile was constructed. The accuracy of the profilers varied depending on the case, with the profilers more accurate than all the other groups combined in the sex offender case, but these same profilers not especially accurate for the homicide (Pinizzotto and Finkel, 2012).

With regard to the sex offender case, Pinizzotto and Finkel (2012), go on to say that the profilers were significantly more accurate for items such as gender, age, and education of the offender. In the homicide case, however, the detectives were significantly more accurate than the profilers in regard to the offender's employment and the relationship of the offender's residence to the crime scene. It was also found that the profilers wrote richer, more detailed reports than the non-profilers and that the profilers recalled more details that were necessary to generate the profile. There are, of course, some problems with the study. The psychologists and students used, for instance had no special interest in policing or profiling, so it would be expected that those who have to construct profiles for a living were both better prepared and more invested in the process, and thus tried harder than non-profilers (Pinizzotto and Finkel, 2012).

The empirical review of this study has helped the researcher realize a research gap in the area of effectiveness of criminal profiling in crime detection in unlawful entry and theft cases. Previous studies concentrated on sexual crimes and murder and also showed the researcher some areas where criminal profiling maybe lacking in its usefulness.

2.8 Summary

This chapter covered the review of literature comprising conceptual framework, theoretical framework and empirical literature in line with the research objectives. The next chapter will focus on research methodology.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

The previous Chapter focused on literature review and this chapter covered research design, study population, sampling, research instruments, data collection procedures, data presentation and analysis procedures as well as the chapter summary.

3.1 Research design

“Saunders et al (2016), describe a research design as the overall strategy that a researcher chooses to integrate the different components of the study in a coherent and logical way, thereby ensuring the research problem is effectively addressed. Quantitative and qualitative are the two approaches to research. The researcher used triangulation methods, which is a combination of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Quantitative research allowed the researcher to decide what to study for and provide findings which were reliable. It allowed data to be collected in numbers which enabled the researcher to compare statistics. However quantitative approach lacked validity provided by qualitative research. This is why the researcher used both the quantitative and qualitative approaches.”

“On the other hand, qualitative research allowed the collection of in-depth data on the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting the crime of unlawful entry and theft in Gweru District. Kothari (2010), avers that quantitative research is based on the measurement of quantity or amount. It is applicable to phenomena that can be expressed in terms of quantity. Qualitative research is concerned with qualitative phenomenon, that is., phenomena relating to or involving quality or kind (Leedy, 2014).”

“Qualitative research approach enabled the researcher to contextualise the study, to engage face to face with respondents thereby obtaining an in-depth understanding of criminal profiling.”

3.2 Descriptive survey

“Borg (2012), defines descriptive survey as the method that gathers data for the purposes of examining the characteristics, opinions or intentions of a study population. The researcher used descriptive survey because it allowed him to explore attitudes, perceptions of detectives on the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft through the use of questionnaires and interviews. It also enabled the researcher to collect data from many respondents in a short space of time and within limited resources through administering questionnaires which were completed at the respondents’ free time. However, the limitation of the survey research design was that it did not extract expected responses because there was no control over who completed the questionnaires and as such the intended respondents could not have been the ones who completed them. To overcome this challenge, the researcher explained to the respondents the importance and benefits of the study so that they could participate fully in the study.”

3.3 Population and sampling

“Population is any group of individuals who have one or more characteristics in common that are of interest to the researcher (Lawley, 2000). In this study, the population referred to the detectives in Gweru District. In this research the target population was 150 detectives attached to CID Gweru.”

3.3.1 Target population

Borg (2015) defines target population as the total collection of elements about which one wishes to make some inferences. In this study, the target population were detectives attached to CID Gweru District who were (150) in number.

3.3.2 Study population

“Study population refers to the population from which a sample will be drawn from and generalised to the target population (Young, 2004). In this study, the study population were detectives from Gweru District who make use of CIU when investigating cases of unlawful entry and theft and these were hundred and fifty in number.”

3.3.3 Sample and sampling technique

“Sampling refers to taking a small proportion of the overall group which is representative. Krathwohl (2010) defines a sample as that part of a large population that gives a representation of the entire population. Since the population was homogeneous, the researcher used the stratified and simple random sampling methods. According to Young (2004), stratified random sampling entails subdividing the population into smaller groups or strata with homogeneous characteristics and then simple random sampling is carried out from each stratum. Stratified Sampling technique grouped the respondents into strata/ groups with similar characteristics and simple random sampling technique provided each respondent with equal chances of being selected into the sample. In this study, the population was stratified according to ranks, that is, (150) detectives who were commissioned and non-commissioned officers.”

“Babbie (2009) argued that a large sample size of at least 10% to 30% of the population is acceptable for the sake of achieving accurate results. The sampling size comprised of (30) detectives in Gweru District”

3.3.4 Sampling procedure

“The study population in this study was made up of elements of different ranks hence the researcher first used stratified sampling techniques which allowed the researcher to divide respondents according to their ranks. The strata were for Constables, Sergeants, Assistant Inspectors and Inspectors. To select a sample from each strata, the researcher used simple random sampling technique which give each element an equal chance of being selected into the sample.”

“The researcher used a nominal roll of all Detective Constables stationed in Gweru District. Simple random technique was carried out by writing a number code for each element of the population on a slip of paper, and then putting the prepared slips of paper into a bowl. Without looking, the slips were mixed thoroughly before picking the desired number of units from the bowl without replacement. A total of 10 Constables were chosen to participate in the study. The same procedure was done for Sergeants, Assistant Inspectors and Inspectors were 10, 05 and 05 names were chosen respectively to give a total of 30 participants.”

The sample selection is as depicted in Table below:

Table 3.1: Sample distribution

Target Population Group	Target population group size	% sample	Sample size
Detective Constables	75	33.3%	10
Detective Sergeants	40	33.%	10
Detective Assistant Inspectors	30	16.7%	5
Detective Inspectors	05	16.7%	5
TOTAL	150	100%	30

Source: Primary data (March 2020)

“The researcher used the nominal rolls to randomly pick 20% of research participants from the study population. The total sample was 30 elements comprising of 15 Detective Constables, 8 Detective Sergeants, 5 Detective Assistant Inspectors and 2 Detective Inspectors. This was in line with Babbie’s (2009) argument that a large sample size of at least 10% to 30% of the population is acceptable for the sake of achieving accurate results.”

3.4 Sources of Data

3.4.1 Primary source

These are original sources from which the researcher directly collected data that have not been previously collected (Saunders, 2005). In this study the researcher collected primary data through questionnaires and oral interviews. Primary sources helped to capture the changes as they occurred and enabled the researcher to have first-hand experience with the real situation on the ground. The disadvantage of primary sources however is that it was a difficult process as the researcher had to seek authority to get information needed for the study from police members and command.

3.4.2 Secondary sources

Secondary data is data that has already been collected and is readily available from other sources (Saunders, 2009). The researcher used the internet journals, books,

newspaper articles, previous research studies, and statistics from ZRP Gweru District as sources of secondary data. Secondary data helped the researcher to understand the problem better from reading similar previous research studies. The disadvantage however, was that some of the data was inappropriate and outdated.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

For the purposes of primary data collection, the research utilised the triangulation method, which was a combination of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. In this study the researcher used interviews and questionnaires to address research questions of this study to compliment the disadvantages of the other with the advantages of the other.

3.5.1 Questionnaires

According to Leedy (2006) a questionnaire is set of questions prepared and distributed to respondents to guide them in giving relevant information necessary for the completion of an investigation at hand. It is the most extensively used method for accumulating primary data. The researcher used the questionnaire to ask questions consisting of scaled response questions, closed questions which solicited for yes or no answers and open-ended questions to all respondents.

3.5.1.1 Strength of a questionnaire

Questionnaires were developed comprising open and closed ended questions and information was gathered without having to make appointments as the questionnaires were completed by the respondents at their own time. The questionnaires were structured for ease of data processing and analysis. Close ended questions were widely used, few open ended questions were asked. The questions were reasonably short, simple and well-structured to eliminate chances of ambiguity. It also allowed for a wide coverage at the least expense in terms of time, money and effort. The researcher employed the use of questionnaires because it gave the respondents room to answer without any influence from the researcher. There was also enhanced confidentiality as respondents did not disclose their names. Furthermore, it allowed respondents an opportunity to freely and honestly express their views without fear of victimization.

3.5.1.2 Weaknesses of questionnaires

Not all the questionnaires were completed in full and some were not completed after the scheduled time had elapsed. To mitigate this challenge, the researcher sent follow up questionnaires for those that were not returned.

3.5.2 Interviews

According to Kothari (2014), an interview is a face-to-face interaction whereby the respondents answer the researcher's questions. Interviews were appropriate for this study because in carrying out an interview the researcher gained a deeper understanding of the problem under review. Furthermore, the researcher had control over the interviews and gained an in-depth understanding of the participants' attitudes, perceptions over the use of criminal profiling.

Interviews allowed the researcher to probe and seek clarity on ambiguous matters thereby obtaining rich information for the study. The researcher explained that the purpose of the study was strictly for academic uses to the respondents so that they became comfortable to express themselves. Interviews were done with the detective Inspectors in Gweru District. Interviews were preferred because they enabled accurate information to be obtained as the researcher was able to see the facial expressions of the participants.

3.6 Data Collection Procedures

The researcher took the following steps in data collection:

3.6.1 Administration of questionnaires

The researcher prepared sufficient questionnaires to begin with, for the collection of data through questionnaires. The researcher distributed twenty five (25) questionnaires by hand to the detectives of the ranks of Constables, Sergeants and Assistant Inspectors while at the same time assured confidentiality to the respondents of information anonymously given in the questionnaires. Respondents were given one week to complete the questionnaires. Questionnaires were personally collected from the respondents after one week.

3.6.2 Interviews

The interviews were carried out at the participants' workplaces, with each session taking approximately fifteen minutes. A total of 5 interviews were carried out, with detective Inspectors and they were done through appointments. Confidentiality was guaranteed to all respondents.

3.6.3 Validity of research instrument

Cohen (2008), posits that validity is concerned with the soundness and the effectiveness of a measuring instrument. Krathwohl (2010), defines validity as the extent to which a test measures what it claims to measure. The researcher ensured validity by designing questionnaire directly from the research objectives. The field instruments were pre-tested for both content and face validity. The researcher requested participants to comment on the appropriateness of the items on the instrument of the study clarifying confusing issues, updating terminology and verifying whether the tool covered the breath of the content area and measured what it was intended to test. All data collection instruments were reviewed and checked for validity before use.

3.6.4 Reliability of research instrument

Reliability of an instrument is the extent to which similar information is supplied when a measurement is performed more than once (Leedy, 2012). In this study, reliability was facilitated by the use of questionnaires. The simple and concise close ended questions contained in questionnaires ensured consistency. Similarly, the use of a semi-structured interview guide in interviews enhanced reliability since same questions were asked to the respondents over and over again. Cohen (2008), argues that an instrument is described as reliable if each time it is used under the same conditions with the same subjects, it measures in the same way and yields the same results. The reliability of research instruments is all about data consistency stability and dependability. In order to test the reliability of the questionnaire instruments, they were administered to the same respondents in the space of one week under the same conditions.

3.6.5 Pilot study

According to Leedy (2012), a pilot test is a small-scale study to test a questionnaire or interview check list, to minimize the likelihood of respondents having problems in answering the questions and of data recording problems as well as to allow some assessment of the questions' validity and reliability of the data that was collected. In this study a preliminary analysis using the pilot test data was undertaken to ensure that the data collected enabled investigative questions of the research study to be answered. The researcher carried out a pilot study which consisted of ten detectives at Bindura CID with the same attributes as the study sample to test the reliability of the questionnaires. The questions were based on the research study's objectives to ensure reliability and validity of the instruments.

3.7 Data Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation

Qualitative data was presented in themes while quantitative data was presented by the use of statistical tables, bar charts, histograms, and percentages in line with the aim and objectives of the research study.

Data analysis in this study was aimed at addressing the objectives of the study either quantitatively or qualitatively. The aim of the researcher in data analysis will be to present results that are accurate, well clarified and comprehensive hence the use of charts to present collected quantifiable data. To ensure elimination of ambiguity, the researcher gave a descriptive interpretation of the information presented relating it to the previous research findings.

3.8 Ethical considerations

Ethics according to Seligor (2014), relates to questions about how we formulate and clarify our research topics, design our research questions and gain access, collect, process, store and analyse data, as well as write research findings in a moral and responsible way in terms of being methodologically sound and morally defensible to all those who are involved and influenced by social norms and behaviour.

The research was designed in such a way that certain rules were observed so as to limit harm, physically, emotionally and spiritually. The researcher observed informed consent, confidentiality, the right to privacy and deception by swearing an

oath of confidentiality first before engaging the participants. The researcher sought authority to carry out the research from the relevant authorities.

3.9 Summary

In this chapter, focus was on research survey, population sample size, sampling design and procedures, instruments design, data collection procedures, presentation, analysis and interpretation. Methodological aspects involving research instruments namely, the questionnaire and interviews, their strengths and weaknesses were considered as well as issues of validity and reliability.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

The previous chapter focused on research methodology and this chapter focuses on the presentation of data, analysis and discussion of the findings. The study objectives were to investigate the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting the unlawful entry and theft in the Gweru District from January 2017-December 2018, to establish challenges affecting the practice of criminal profiling in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft in Z.R.P Gweru District and to recommend best practice of criminal profiling for adoption by Zimbabwe Police Gweru and Z.R.P in general to deal with the crime of unlawful entry and theft.

4.1 Response rate

The questionnaire and interview response rates are depicted in the Table below:-

Table 4.1: Questionnaire/Interview response rate

	Distributed/ Scheduled	Returned/ Conducted	Not returned/ not conducted	Percentage achievement
Questionnaires	25	25	Nil	100
Interviews	05	05	Nil	100
TOTAL	30	30	Nil	100

Table 4.1 shows that 25 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents who fell in the class of non-commissioned officers. All the questionnaires were returned thus achieving one hundred percent in the response rate. On the other hand, 5 interviews were scheduled and conducted ensuring that a one hundred percent response rate was achieved.

A one hundred percent response rate spells out that the findings of the study can be relied upon as they are a true reflection of the views of the sample which in turn is a representation of the population. The findings can be generalised to the entire population.

4.2 Demographic data of respondents

Demographic data pertaining to the respondents was solicited with a view of gaining a deeper insight of them. Data is presented below:-

Table 4.2: Demographic profile of respondents

n=30

Attribute	Frequency		Percentage	
	Questionnaire respondents	Interview respondents	Questionnaire respondents	Interview respondents
Sex				
Females	10	02	40%	40%
Males	15	03	60%	60%
TOTAL	25	05	100%	100%
Age				
18-30 years	05	01	20%	20%
31-45 years	15	01	60%	20%
45 years and above	05	03	20%	60%
TOTAL	25	05	100%	100%
Education level				
Ordinary level	16	02	64%	40%
Advanced level	04	01	16%	20%
Diploma	03	01	12%	20%
Degree	02	01	08%	20%
TOTAL	25	05	100%	100%
Length of service				

1-2 years	04	00	16%	0%
3-4 years	08	00	32%	0%
5 years and above	13	05	52%	100%
TOTAL	25	05	100%	100%

4.2.1 Sex of respondents

Table 4.2 indicates that 10 (40%) questionnaire respondents were females and 15 (60%) were males. On the other hand, 2 (4 0%) interview respondents were females whilst 3 (60%) were males. The majority of the respondents were males whilst the minority were females. The findings give a true reflection of the composition of police officers in the ZRP whereby there are more males than female police officers. This attribute therefore show that the study findings can be relied upon as they are representative.

4.2.2 Age

The Table indicates that 5 (20%) questionnaire respondents were aged between 18 and 30 years, 15 (60%) were aged between 31 and 45 years whilst 5 (20%) were above 45 years. 1 (20%) interview respondents were aged between 31 and 45 years whilst 1 (20%) were in the 18 to 30 years category and 3 (60%) above 45 years. The majority of the respondents were aged above 45 years whilst the minority were between 18 and 30 years and 31-45 years. The respondents were mature enough to understand the seriousness of the study thus making meaningful contributions.

4.2.3 Level of education

From Table 4.2, 16 (64%) questionnaire respondents were Ordinary Level holders, 4 (16%) were Advanced Level holders, 3 (12%) were Diploma holders and 2 (8%) had degrees as their highest levels of education. Of the interviewed respondents, 2 (40%) were Ordinary Level holders, 1 (20%) were Advanced level, Diploma and Degree holders. The findings show that all the respondents were holders of Ordinary level certificates. This is so because the minimum entry qualification into the ZRP is five Ordinary Level subjects. This means the respondents were literate enough to give meaningful and valid responses to the given questions. This is also supporting

Seligor (2014), who opined that high literacy levels contribute to the reliability of study findings.

4.2.4 Work experience

The Table highlights that 4 (16%) of the questionnaire respondents had between 1 and 2 years work experience, 8 (32%) had between 3 and 4 years and 13 (52%) had more than 5 years' experience. All the interviewed respondents had more than 5 years' experience. This attribute shows that the respondents had reasonable work experience to make valid contributions to the demands of the study.

4.3 The role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and Theft

The first objective of the study sought to establish the role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft. The findings are as presented below.

4.3.1 The extent of role played by criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft

The respondents had different views on the extent of the role played by criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft and their views are presented below:-

Table 4.3: Extent of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft
n=30

Response		
	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Greater extent	20	67
Lesser extent	10	33
TOTAL	30	100

Source: Primary source (*March 2020*)

Table 4.3 shows that 20 (67%) respondents indicated that criminal profiling played a greater extent in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft and 10 (33%) indicated that it played a lesser extent. Majority of interviewees indicted that criminal

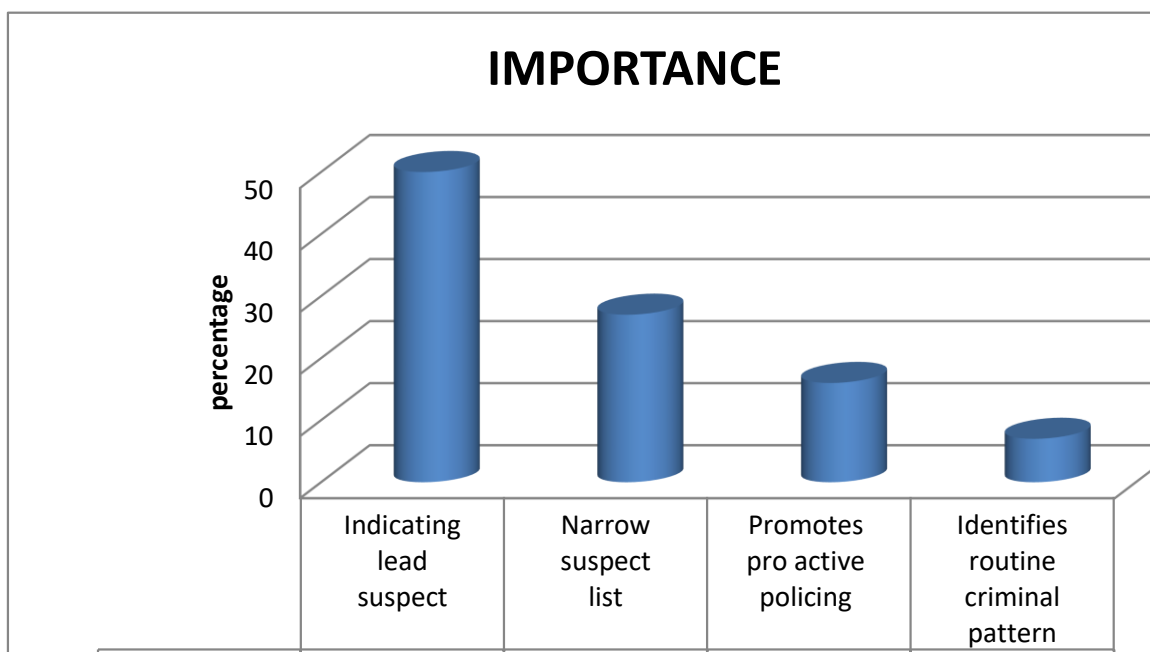
profiling plays a greater extent in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst minority opined that it played a lesser extent. The majority of the respondents felt that criminal profiling played a greater extent in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst the minority felt it played a lesser extent.

The findings are in contradiction with the view by Bloom (2013), who indicated that in the comparative years (2016), and, (2017), Los Angeles Police Department accounted for (1687) cases of burglary for investigation using the offender profiling technique but only 56 were solved. This represented 3.3% of the total cases cleared. This shows that criminal profiling is not accounting for a larger share of unlawful entry and theft cases in America. It has to be seen why the practice is not producing meaningful results in the ZRP despite the fact that police officers believe that it is effective.

4.3.2 How can criminal profiling assist in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft.

The respondents were asked to indicate how criminal profiling assisted in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft and they gave different responses as shown below:-

Figure 4.1: Responses to the role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft (n=30)



4.3.2.1 Indicating leads suspects

Figure 4.1 indicates that 50% of the respondents were of the view that criminal profiling assists in the detection of unlawful entry and theft cases by indicating lead suspects. The interviewed respondents indicated that criminal profiling makes a study of criminal behaviour which in turn reflects personality and by examining behaviour, the investigator may be able to determine what type of person is responsible for the offense. One of the interviews actually stated that “*Behaviour helps to predict the personality type or the motives for the crime*”. This position is in support of Grubin (1995), who opined that the single most important thing that a profiler looks for at a scene of crime is anything that may point to the personality of the offender.

4.3.2.2 Narrowing suspect list

Figure 4.1 indicates that 8 (27%) of respondents indicated that criminal profiling narrows down the suspect list and some of the interviewees had the same view. Criminal profiling is used mostly by behavioural scientists and the police to narrow down an investigation to those who possess certain behavioural and personality features that are revealed by the way a crime was committed. This view is supported by Ebiske (2001), who maintained that the primary goal of profiling is to aid local police in limiting and refining their suspect list so that they can direct their resources where they might do the most good. The view also supports the Biological Theory which indicates that criminals have peculiar features that make them to be easily identified and brought to book and in such a way criminal profiling narrows down the suspect list.

4.3.2.3 Promotes proactive policing

Figure 4.1 shows that 5 (16%) of respondents indicated that criminal profiling promotes proactive policing and on a similar note, few interviewees echoed the same sentiments. One interviewee stated that,

“Certain personality types show routine behaviour and as such knowledge and understanding of these patterns can lead investigators to identify potential suspects.”

This assertion clearly indicates that profiling helps police officers to identify potential house breakers and thwart their actions before they strike thus becoming pro-active. This is in support of Jackson and Bekerian (2009), who maintained that a profile is based on the premise that the proper interpretation of crime scene evidence can indicate the personality type of the individual (s) who committed the offence. It is assumed that certain personality types exhibit similar behavioural patterns and that knowledge of these patterns can assist in the investigation of the crime and the assessment of potential suspects (ibid).

4.3.2.4 Identifies routine and criminal pattern

Figure 4.1 shows that 4 (7%) of respondents indicated that profiling helps in the identification of routines and criminal patterns and interviewees also held a similar view. Some interviewees stated that,

“Criminals will offend in an area with which they are familiar with”.

This confirms to the fact that geographical profiling is used to identify the likely area of an offender’s residence from the location of the crime and is useful in narrowing down a pool of suspects or enabling the police to prioritize an area for investigation or DNA sampling. This supports Canter (2000), who points out that using the location of an offender’s crime as his or her starting point, the geographical profiler tries to predict the area in which the offender lives. This shows that criminal profiling identifies routine and criminal patterns.

4.4 Factors impeding the effectiveness of criminal profiling

The second objective sought to bring out factors that impede the effectiveness of criminal profiling and the responses are as presented below:-

4.4.1 Effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft.

The question was meant to ascertain from the respondents whether criminal profiling was effective in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft and the following were the respondents’ views:-

Table 4.4:1.Effectiveness of criminal profiling n=30

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	33%
No	20	67%
TOTAL	30	100%

Source: Primary data (*March 2020*)

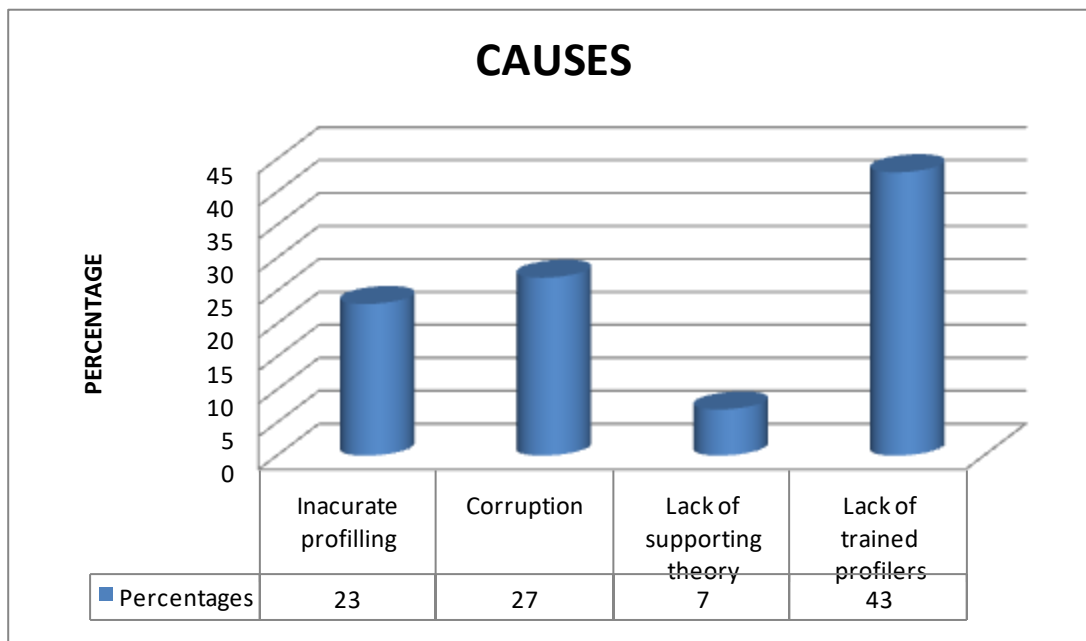
Table 4.4 indicates that 10 (33%) of the respondents stated that criminal profiling was effective in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst 20 (67%) indicated that it was not. Majority of the interviewees stated that it was not effective. The majority of the respondents indicated that criminal profiling was not effective in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst the minority stated that it was effective.

The findings are in support of the outcome of the study by Ressler et al., (2008), who conducted a study on “The usefulness of criminal profiling in crime detection” in Bahil. The study found out that criminal profiling was effective for murder and rape cases and not for once off crimes like unlawful entry and theft. This was so as a result of the trail left behind at murder and rape crime scenes by offenders.

4.4.2 Factors restraining the effectiveness of criminal profiling

This section sought to establish from the respondents the factors that downplay the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft and the respondents’ views are given below:-

Figure 4.2: Factors affecting effectiveness of criminal profiling



Source: Primary data (February 2020)

4.4.2.1 Inaccurate profiling

Figure 4.2 denotes that 7 (23%) of the respondents indicated that inaccurate profiling down plays the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft. The respondents seem to bring out the fact that criminal information held by police officers may not be accurate and this may actually cause the profiling approach to be ineffective. This is supported by Davison (2010), who states that the effectiveness of criminal profiling in the identification of criminals has been hard hit by the inconsistency of the results that it posts. This shows that the information held by police cannot accurately bring to book the criminals. It may be one of the reasons why profiling is failing to account for cases of unlawful entry and theft.

4.4.2.2 Corruption

Figure 4.2 also indicates that 8 (27%) of the respondents indicated that corruption is another reason that down plays the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft. The findings allude to the fact that corruption in the profiling process leaves some criminals unprofiled and hence it becomes impossible to detect them when they get involved in unlawful entry cases. The

findings support Obasanjo and Mabogunje (2010), who indicate that the effective sustenance of the society is hinged on an efficient law enforcement process. Corruption in Zimbabwe has grown to unprecedented levels (National Economic Consultative Forum 2015) which has seen the country ranked 150 out of 160-countries for corruption by Transparency International. Corruption has become “cancer eating Zimbabwe”, and the Z.R.P is not spared. In the Zimbabwe National Competitiveness Report of 2015 corruption is indicated as one of the most problematic areas of doing business in the country and public trust in the Z.R.P is at its lowest indicating that the majority feel their trust has been abused by those entrusted to provide solution. It may be seen that corruption may be one of the factors that down play the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft at Z.R.P Gweru District.

4.4.2.3 Lack of supporting Theory

Figure 4.2 shows that 2 (7%) of the respondents indicated that the effectiveness of profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft is hampered by lack of supporting theory. The findings seem to suggest that criminal profiling assumptions lead to mistakes during the identification of offender of a crime. This view is in support of Snook et al. (2008), who state that the majority of criminal profiling approaches are based on the classical trait theory that assumes that the determining factor of criminal behavior is the underlying dispositions with criminals that influence them to act in a certain way. These assumptions maybe flawed in that the situational factors play an equal role in determining the behavior of criminals as does the personality disposition (ibid). It may be seen that the assumptions that are used by the ZRP in identifying offenders may have short comings that will actually make them to identify wrong suspects thus hampering effective detection of the crime of unlawful entry and theft.

4.4.2.4 Lack of trained profilers

Figure 4.2 also shows that 13 (43%) of the respondents indicated that the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft is affected by lack of trained profilers. The findings seem to suggest that the training that is given to profilers is inadequate. The findings are in line with Abumere (2012), who indicated that in the Netherlands, the officers indicated that the training

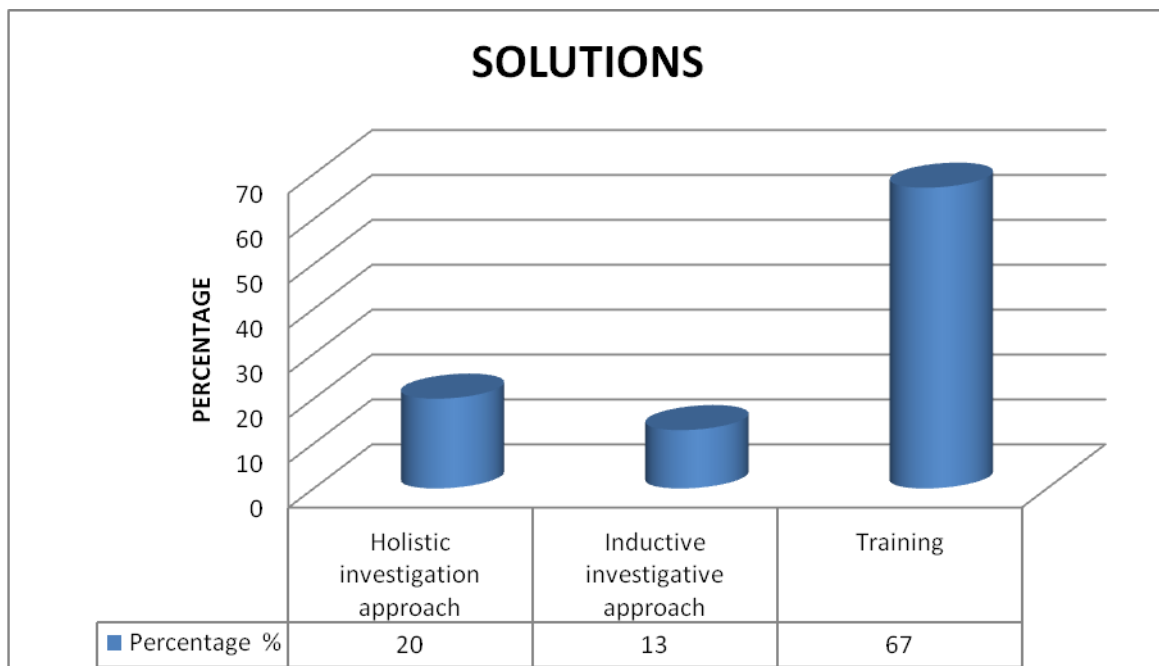
was not practical given the resources that were at their disposal. The ZRP is crippled in resources due to the turbulent Zimbabwean economy and as such no adequate training is done to the police officers responsible for profiling.

4.5 Mechanisms that can be employed to improve the effectiveness of criminal profiling in reducing cases of unlawful entry and theft

The objective sought to establish the mechanisms that were being used to enhance the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft.

The responses are detailed below:-

Figure 4.3: Strategies of ensuring effective criminal profiling



4.5.1 Holistic investigations approach

Figure 4.3 shows that 6 (20%) of respondents indicated that embracing a holistic investigations approach is a strategy that is being used by the police to ensure the effectiveness of criminal profiling. The findings point out that criminal profiling alone cannot yield the desired results. These findings are in support of the assertion by Wilson et al (2007), that a combination of investigative techniques and the efforts of all parties involved in investigating the crime of unlawful entry and theft can

produce better results in the detection of the crime. The ZRP embraces the inter-agency approach to policing and it needs to be seen if the approach and other policing investigative tools are ideal at Z.R.P Gweru District.

4.5.2 Inductive investigative approach

Figure 4.3 also shows that 4 (13%) of the respondents stated that the inductive investigative approach is a strategy of ensuring effective criminal profiling. This means that the criminal's behaviour is shaped by daily life experiences and interpersonal relationships with others and this behaviour can be used to deduce how a criminal commits offences. These findings are in line with position of Canter and Godwin (2007), who opine that the way the individual treats others when he is not offending may affect the way he carries out his crimes. It remains to be seen that the profiling being done in the ZRP takes into consideration a criminal's daily life interactions to determine to the likelihood of them committing offences.

4.5.3 Training

The figure above shows that 20 (67%) of the respondents indicated that training is an effective mechanism of ensuring the effectiveness of criminal profiling. The findings seem to prove the fact that training of police officers is key in improving their competencies in profiling. These findings are in support of Hazelwood and Burgess (2011), who pointed out that, for effective results to be achieved, the worker must be trained. Equipping police officers with different skills such as psychology, criminology and technology assist them in sharpening their profiling skills.

4.6 Other ways of improving the effectiveness of criminal profiling

The respondents came up with a multitude of measures including the following

- ❖ Allocating more resources to the Z.R.P, both human and material, so that profilers do their tasks effectively and efficiently.
- ❖ International training of profilers so that they cross pollinate ideas and benchmarking with international standards.
- ❖ Decentralising criminal intelligence unit to all stations so that effective profiling is done closer to the suspects.

4.7 Chapter summary

The Chapter focused on data presentation, analysis, interpretation and discussion in line with the research objectives. Data was presented through tables and charts. Analysis focused on frequencies of responses whilst discussions were done in line with the reviewed literature. The next chapter focuses on summary, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

The previous chapter dealt with data presentation analysis and discussion. The current chapter deals with summary, conclusion and recommendations. Summary is systematically presented in the chronology of the chapters. Conclusions in relation to the findings are also made. Finally recommendations for farther studies are also presented.

5.1 Summary of the study

The study sought to investigate the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft using a case study of Z.R.P Gweru District for the period January 2017 to December 2018. The chapter dealt with the background of the study The study objectives were to investigate the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting the unlawful entry and theft in the Gweru District from January 2017-December 2018,to establish challenges affecting the practice of criminal profiling in reducing the crime of unlawful entry and theft in Z.R.P Gweru District and to recommend best practice of criminal profiling for adoption by Zimbabwe Police Gweru and Z.R.P in general to deal with the crime of unlawful entry and theft.

.Chapter two focused on literature review and was done in line with the research objective so as to gain a deeper understanding of the problem under study. Conceptual, Theoretical and empirical review formed the basis of Chapter two.

A descriptive survey was used as the research design. The sample size was five commissioned and twenty-five non-commissioned police officers stationed at Gweru CID. Questionnaires and interviews were used to gather data from the respondents. Gathered data was presented in the form of tables and thereafter it was analysed and discussed.

5.2 Summary of major findings

Basing on the analysis of data presented, the following summary can be drawn in line with the objectives of the study;-

5.2.1 The role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft

The majority of the respondents felt that criminal profiling played a greater role in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst the minority felt it played a lesser role.

The majority of the respondents indicated that criminal profiling assisted investigation of unlawful entry and theft cases through narrowing down suspect list, indicating lead suspect, encouraging pro-active policing as well as identifying criminal patterns.

5.2.2 Factors hampering the effectiveness of criminal profiling

The majority of the respondents indicated that criminal profiling was not effective in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft whilst the minority stated that it was effective.

The majority of the respondents indicated that the effectiveness of criminal profiling was impeded by shortage of qualified profilers, lack of supporting theory, corruption as well as inaccurate profiling.

5.2.3 Mechanisms in place to enhance effectiveness of criminal profiling

The majority of the respondents indicated that the effectiveness of criminal profiling was being enhanced by using the holistic investigation approach, training as well inductive investigative approach.

5.3 Conclusion of the study

From the study, it was concluded that:-

Criminal profiling plays a major role as an investigation tool on the crime of unlawful entry and theft as it assists through narrowing down suspects list, indicating lead suspects, encouraging pro-active policing as well as identifying criminal patterns.

The effectiveness of criminal profiling was impeded by shortage of qualified profilers, lack of supporting theory, corruption as well as inaccurate profiling.

The effectiveness of criminal profiling was being enhanced by using the holistic investigation approach, training as well inductive investigative approach.

5.4 Approval of study proposition

The study propositions that criminal profiling is not being fully implemented in some cases and that corruption is one of the factors militating against the effectiveness of criminal profiling are valid as shown by the findings of the study. The study propositions are thus approved.

5.5 Recommendations

- ❖ Basing on the conclusion drawn from the study findings, the following recommendations are being made;-
- ❖ Criminal profiling must continue to be used by the ZRP as it is still relevant in the investigation of the crime of unlawful entry and theft. Detectives are still detecting some cases of unlawful entry into premises and theft using this policing initiative.
- ❖ Intelligence led policing which encompasses use of criminal profiling requires a large share of resources such as computers, internet, motor vehicles and highly trained police officers to effectively implement. To this end, resources, both material and human, must be allocated to the Crime Prevention Unit to enable it to effectively and efficiently profile all criminals.
- ❖ Training of police profilers should be done comprehensively and this calls for the secondment of profilers to other developed countries so that they bench mark and adopt best practices done in those countries. Selection of profiler's should be premised on merit not on patronage or nepotism. The training curriculum must be broadened so that the profilers are better equipped in a wide range of areas of speciality.

- ❖ The holistic investigations and inductive investigative approach has to be encouraged as it brings different stakeholders and tools used in the investigation of cases of unlawful entry and theft thus enabling better detection of this crime. The approach will enable other players to chip in with more resources.

5.6 Implication for farther study

The researcher recommends that future studies be carried out on the impact of technology on the effectiveness of criminal profiling so as to identify best technological advancements that can be incorporated by the ZRP to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness in criminal profiling.

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BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
CRIMINAL PROFILING AND ITS ROLE IN REDUCING THE CRIME OF
UNLAWFUL ENTRY AND THEFT: A CASE STUDY OF Z.R.P GWERU
DISTRICT FROM 01 JANUARY 2017 - DECEMBER 2018”

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR POLICE OFFICERS.

Instructions to respondents

(a) Answer all questions as truthfully as possible.

(b) Tick in the box where possible

(c) Where blank spaces are provided, answer as clearly as possible.

(d) Do not write your name and address on the questionnaire.

Section A: Demographic Details

1. Indicate your sex?
 Male Female

2. Indicate your age group?
 18 – 30 years 31 – 45 years Over 45 years

3. What is your highest level of education?
 Ordinary level
 Advanced level
 Diploma
 Degree
 Any other.....(specify)

4. How long have you been at Gweru CID?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-2 years
- 3-4 years
- Above 5 years

Section B: The role of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft

5. To what extent do you think that criminal profiling plays a role in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft?

- Greater extent
- Lesser extent

6. How does criminal profiling assist in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft?

- Identifying suspects
- Narrowing down suspect list
- Encouraging pro-active policing
- Identifying criminal patterns

Section C: Factors impeding the effectiveness of criminal profiling

7. Do you think that criminal profiling is effective in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft?

- Yes
- No

8. Which factors downplay the effectiveness of criminal profiling?

- Shortages of criminal profilers
- Corruption
- Inaccuracies in profiling
- Lack of supporting theories

Section D: Methods in place of detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft through criminal profiling

9. In your opinion which strategies of criminal profiling yields good results in detecting cases of unlawful entry?

Holistic investigation approach

Inductive investigation approach

Training

Section E: Ways of improving criminal profiling

11. How can criminal profiling be enhanced to detect cases of unlawful entry and theft?

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

12. Any other comments

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

End of questionnaire. Thank you for your time!!!

Interview guide for Inspectors

1. How old are you?
2. What is your highest level of education?
3. For how long have you been attached to CID Gweru?
4. Is criminal profiling helpful in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft?
5. How does criminal profiling assist in the detection of cases of unlawful entry and theft?
6. Which factors downplay the effectiveness of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft?
7. What mechanisms are in place to ensure that criminal profiling is effective in the detection of cases of unlawful entry and theft?
8. What do you think makes these strategies not effective?
9. How can the use of criminal profiling in detecting cases of unlawful entry and theft be enhanced?

End of interview. Thank



BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

**Zimbabwe Republic Police
Criminal Investigations Department, Gweru
P.O BOX 394, Gweru**

29 February 2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CORNCERN

I, am *WISDOM MUJONI*, a student at Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) and studying for Bachelor of Business Administration in Police and Security Studies. In partial fulfilment of this program, it is a requirement that I must carry out a research project on a problem of my choice approved by the University authorities. As such I am carrying out a research titled:-

“CRIMINAL PROFILING AND ITS ROLE IN REDUCING THE CRIME OF UNLAWFUL ENTRY AND THEFT: A CASE STUDY OF Z.R.P GWERU DISTRICT FROM 01 JANUARY 2017 - DECEMBER 2018”

You are therefore kindly requested to participate in the study by providing honest and sincere answers to this questionnaire. All of the information you shall give will truly be used for this academic research and will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Thank you in advance for taking your time to complete the questionnaire form as well as participation in the interview.

Yours sincerely

WISDOM MUJONI

Contact: 0775125147/0715993245.