

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**

**FACULTY OF COMMERCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES**



**INVESTIGATING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY ZIMBABWE REPUBLIC  
POLICE (ZRP) IN FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ZIMBABWE. A CASE  
STUDY OF HARARE CENTRAL POLICE STATION. FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2024**

**BY**

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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (HONORS) DEGREE  
IN FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE OF BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
EDUCATION.**

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## **DEDICATION**

I would like to express my deep appreciation and dedicate this work to my parents, Mr and Mrs Ntaibu, for their unwavering support in every aspect of my life—emotionally, intellectually, and financially. Without their assistance, I would not have been able to achieve this level of success. I also want to dedicate this work to my sister, Melisa, and my brother, Brain. Their love and encouragement have been a constant source of motivation throughout my academic journey. My heartfelt gratitude goes to my supervisor, Mr Gombarume, whose tireless efforts and guidance have been instrumental in the completion of this dissertation. Your mentorship and expertise have contributed greatly to my growth as a scholar. Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude to God, the Almighty, for His constant presence and guidance. His blessings and divine intervention have guided me at every step of this journey.

## **ABSTRACT**

The research study focused on examining the challenges encountered in combating human trafficking in Zimbabwe, specifically in the Harare policing area. The objectives of the study were to identify the different forms of human trafficking, determine the causes and effects of human trafficking, and investigate the challenges faced by the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in their anti-trafficking efforts. The study employed a descriptive research design and involved a total of 150 respondents, including constables, sergeants, and inspectors from the ZRP. Data collection was conducted through questionnaires administered to 80 police members and interviews conducted with 10 police personnel, utilizing purposive and simple random sampling techniques. Descriptive statistics, such as percentages and mean scores, were used to analyse the data and assess the concentration of responses. The findings of the study concluded that despite the ZRP Harare Central's knowledge of human trafficking, the lack of awareness campaigns has contributed to a high number of trafficking incidents and a low reporting rate. Human trafficking has detrimental effects on human capital, negatively impacting the nation. The lack of resources emerged as a major challenge faced by the majority of police officials at Harare Central Police Station in their efforts to combat human trafficking. Additionally, there is a lack of public trust in the police, as individuals fear victimization by corrupt officers, leading to fewer reports and investigations. The study also revealed that although ZRP members possess knowledge of human trafficking, they have not received formal training in proper and professional investigation techniques. Based on these findings, the study recommends that ZRP Harare Central actively conduct awareness campaigns to educate citizens about the different forms of human trafficking, aiming to reduce trafficking incidents. Law enforcement should maximize the use of anti-corruption laws, treating all corruption cases as high-level criminal offenses, in order to deter potential offenders. Adequate funding should be allocated to the Victim Friendly Unit and other departments involved in combating human trafficking to ensure effective investigations. Police should review and update legal frameworks to establish clear policies and anti-human trafficking laws, promoting proper conduct among officers and preserving the confidentiality and trust of informants. Finally, it is suggested that ZRP members receive formal training in professional investigation techniques to enhance their effectiveness in addressing human trafficking.

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The issue of human trafficking has become a major advocacy concern in Zimbabwe. The government is collaborating in efforts to address this problem. However, there is a lack of official statistical data on the number of people being trafficked from Zimbabwe to neighboring countries. This lack of data is not unique to Zimbabwe - even at the global level, the full scale of human trafficking remains poorly understood. Despite increased attention and efforts to combat trafficking, there are still significant gaps in the available information and data on this pressing issue. (Gumbo, 2008). What one can find are estimates, such as some estimates indicating that 800, 000- 900, 000 people are trafficked annually across international borders (Cucumanova, 2010). Approximately, 66% are women, 22% are girls and 12% are men (Chembe, 2016)

Not much is known about the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking so this study will therefore determine the impacts, analyze the measures as well as investigate the challenges being faced in fighting human trafficking.

#### **1.1 Background of the study**

Zimbabwe is confronted with economic challenges, poverty, and food insecurity, which have resulted in an increased vulnerability of its population to becoming a readily available source of cheap labor. In search of better opportunities, many individuals from Zimbabwe seek employment in other countries, making them susceptible to human trafficking. Furthermore, due to its geographic location, Zimbabwe serves as a transit point for the trafficking of individuals across the continent. This includes the provision of trafficked individuals from countries such as Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, and even as far as Somalia (Dodo and Dodo, 2012).

According to Dodo and Dodo (2012), one of the reasons for significant displacement of former laborers in Zimbabwe was land invasion and acquisition, which left them in a state of desperation. In 2005, the government carried out Operation Murambatsvina, resulting in the destruction of illegal structures and leaving 700,000 people homeless, while an additional 2.4 million individuals were affected to varying degrees (Tibajuka Report cited by Dodo and Dodo). Subsequently, political persecution and violence targeting opposition supporters between 2000 and 2008 led to a large number of Zimbabweans fleeing their homes and seeking refuge in other areas and countries. There was a high rate of migration from Zimbabwe to South Africa, Botswana, and even the UK. The dire situation in Zimbabwe exposed its citizens to the risk of human trafficking (Nyemba, 2014).

According to Dodo and Dodo (2012) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) (2010), there is a lack of reliable official statistics on human trafficking in Zimbabwe due to inadequate documentation, weak criminal codes, the involvement of senior officials at border posts, and the secrecy maintained by victims of human trafficking. The consequences of human trafficking are severe and far-reaching, as victims endure physical and psychological abuse, along with economic exploitation. They are coerced into sexual slavery and domestic servitude, resulting in conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety (Jones, 2003).

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

According to Gumbo (2008) and The Herald (2006), it is emphasized that human trafficking is not only a minor issue but also a matter that requires immediate attention as it is on the rise. It is noted that limited information is available about the extent of the trafficking problem in Zimbabwe due to its illegal nature and the difficulties associated with detecting it. These challenges stem from factors such as insufficient resources for law enforcement agencies, inadequate training, and limited international cooperation. Consequently, it is crucial to conduct investigations into human trafficking in order to address these obstacles effectively.

## **1.3 Purpose of the study**

The purpose of the study was to investigate the challenges faced by ZRP in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe.

## **1.4 Research Objectives**

The research intended to address the following issues:

1. To identify the forms of human trafficking in Zimbabwe.
2. To determine the causes of fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe.
3. To identify the effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe.
4. To investigate the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe

### **1.5 Research Questions**

1. What are the forms of human trafficking in Zimbabwe?
2. What are the causes or drivers of human trafficking in Zimbabwe?
3. What are the effects of human trafficking on the victims, communities, and the nation?
4. What are the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

#### **To the researcher**

The research study has contributed to the researcher's broader understanding of the subject matter, particularly in the area of Financial Intelligence, as human trafficking is a component of International Criminal Organizations. This investigation has provided the researcher with valuable insights into the connection between human trafficking and the laws governing anti-human trafficking efforts.

#### **To the academic world**

In Zimbabwe, there is a lack of extensive research conducted on the topic of human trafficking. This study will make a significant contribution to the existing literature on this research subject and help identify areas that require further investigation. Moreover, the findings of this research will enhance the available resources in the Bindura University of Science Education library, serving as a valuable reference material for future students.

#### **To the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP)**

The research conducted shed light on the previously overlooked challenges in combating human trafficking, providing important insights for the Zimbabwe Republic Police. This new found understanding of the obstacles faced in addressing human trafficking will serve as a foundation for community policing efforts. By implementing the recommendations outlined in this research, the Zimbabwe Republic Police can effectively address these challenges. This will facilitate the establishment of a modern and efficient communication system between the police



and the public, enabling the ZRP to investigate and resolve human trafficking cases more effectively.

### **To the public**

Ensuring the safety of the public can be achieved through effective awareness campaigns. By creating employment opportunities and improving working conditions, individuals are less likely to be enticed into human trafficking. Educating young people about the severe repercussions and negative outcomes associated with becoming involved in trafficking is also crucial. When the public becomes aware of the consequences and effects of human trafficking, there is a potential reduction in overall crime rates within society. Additionally, fostering an environment where information flows freely between the community and the police will contribute to increased collaboration and communication.

### **To Bindura University of Science Education**

Students with an interest in this topic can utilize the research as a valuable source of information. Furthermore, future researchers investigating the challenges confronted by the Zimbabwe Republic Police in combating human trafficking will benefit from this study. The research will serve as a reference material for students studying subjects related to Financial Intelligence, particularly in the area of international criminal organizations. Moreover, it will stimulate additional research on the impacts, various forms, and challenges associated with combating human trafficking, thereby contributing to the expansion of knowledge in this field and its intersection with police work.

### **To the government or the state**

The primary objective of any sovereign state is to enhance the effectiveness of its criminal justice system, as it brings essential advantages such as safeguarding internal security, ensuring political stability, and fostering economic stability. Consequently, the strategies proposed in this study hold great significance for policymakers in the state's security domain, as they contribute to the fight against human trafficking and the apprehension of offenders.

## **1.7 Assumptions**

The researcher made assumptions when conducting the study, assumptions were that:

- Respondents had a strong understanding of the topic of human trafficking

- Information gathered from all respondents was accurate, comprehensive, legitimate, and trustworthy
- Respondents collaborated favourably.

### **1.8 Delimitations of the study**

The research investigation took place in Harare Province, specifically focusing on Harare Central Police Station as a case study. The study was conducted between the years 2022 and 2024, with data collection carried out in various local suburbs within Harare. The information was gathered from high-density areas, including Mbare, Kuwadzana, Glen View, and Budiro. The statistical data utilized in the research was obtained from the records of Harare Central Police Station. It is important to note that the study solely collected data from police officers and covered the period between 2022 and 2024, in addition to previous years.

### **1.9 Limitations of the study**

A number of constraints were encountered during the course of the study. These include the following;

#### **Financial constraints**

Insufficient financial resources posed a challenge for the researcher to gather data, but with the unwavering support of their family, this obstacle was overcome. The financial constraints mainly pertained to expenses related to stationery and sustenance during the research process. The researcher required funds for printing questionnaires, which incurred significant costs. To address this issue, the researcher had carefully planned and budgeted for these expenses ahead of commencing the study. Additionally, the researcher relied on their personal laptop for typing purposes and personally financed the printing services from their own pocket.

#### **Organisational concerns**

The study encountered a reluctance among the respondents to disclose accurate and comprehensive information, likely due to the high visibility of police operations and the scrutiny they attract from the media and civil society groups on local, regional, and international levels. The research topic, focusing on the challenges faced by the Zimbabwe Republic Police in combating human trafficking, appears to be sensitive. Therefore, the

researcher explicitly communicated to the participants that the information collected would be used solely for academic purposes.

## **1.9 Abbreviations**

AHTTZ	Anti-Human Trafficking Trust Zimbabwe
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
ZRP	Zimbabwe Republic Police

## **1.11 Organization of the study**

The first chapter of the study provided an overview of the background, statement of the problem, purpose, research aims, research questions, importance, assumptions, study delimitations, limits, and a summary of the chapters. The second chapter focused on the literature review, where the researcher discussed theoretical and empirical literature relevant to the study. In the third chapter, the researcher outlined the study's methodology and research design. The fourth chapter presented the data collected, including data presentation, analysis, and discussion. Finally, the fifth chapter summarized the major results of the study, drew conclusions, and provided suggestions for further research.

## **1.12 Summary**

This chapter looked at the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, assumptions, and significance of the study. Apart from that, delimitations, limitations, and definition of terms were also discussed.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter covers three frameworks namely, the conceptual framework, the theoretical framework as well as the empirical framework. The conceptual framework focused on the causes, measures as well as the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking. The theoretical framework discussed theories such as the theory of modern-day slavery, conflict theory as well as ecological theory in support of the study. The empirical framework emphasizes case studies of other researcher experts to identify the challenges faced in fighting trafficking so as to get direction as well as identifying the knowledge group.

#### **2.1 Definition and Purpose of Literature Review**

According to Merriam and Simpson (2000), a literature review is the process of locating, analyzing, and synthesizing published research articles and opinion papers related to a particular subject. The purpose is to discover the relationship between the existing studies and the current research. This process involves explanation, analysis, and critical discussion of the prior studies in order to increase knowledge of the topic under investigation.

The literature review, as described by Cooper and Schindler (2005), serves to refine the research problem and avoid duplication of previous work. It further helps the researcher establish research gaps that need to be addressed by the current study. The literature review is a crucial step in the research process, as it provides the foundation for the study and situates the current research within the broader context of existing knowledge on the topic.

##### **2.1.1 Conceptual Framework**

According to Rodam (1980), a conceptual framework is an analytical model that displays the research factors involved in the inquiry and how they may influence one another in the process

of addressing the gap being investigated. This part of the research process includes the most important concepts and variables within the field of study.

The conceptual framework serves as an analytical tool that helps the researcher organize and present the key elements of the research and their potential relationships. It provides a visual representation of the theoretical or conceptual underpinnings that guide the study and inform the research questions or hypotheses. The conceptual framework is an essential component of the research, as it establishes the foundation for the investigation and helps the researcher situate the study within the broader theoretical landscape.

### **2.1.2 Human Trafficking**

According to (the United Nations), human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons, using the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for exploitation. According to UNODC (2016), an estimated 1000 to 1500 victims were trafficked from Zimbabwe to other countries such as South Africa and Mozambique and 62% were female. 62% were exploited for labor, 35% for sexual exploitation, and 3% for organ removal.

### **2.1.3 Human Smuggling**

According to Liempt (2018) human smuggling is a special term for the facilitation of movement across international borders which is not authorised by the state.

## **2.2.2 Forms of human trafficking**

### **2.2.2.1 Human trafficking in women and girl for sexual exploitation**

According to a study by the International Organization for Migration (2010), there has been a significant increase in the trafficking of women and young girls for sexual exploitation. The study highlights South Africa as a regional hub and destination for this illicit activity. Factors contributing to the vulnerability of women and young girls include the high demand for sexual services in economically stable countries like South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Britain, and the United States. These individuals are often from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and are lured, coerced, or deceived into providing sexual services in hopes of improving their standard of living.

The patriarchal structure prevalent across Africa further disadvantages women and young girls, as they lack ownership of means of production and face limited employment opportunities to sustain their livelihoods. The lack of access to economic resources makes them vulnerable to exploitation by human traffickers, who promise them jobs as housemaids or farm laborers but instead subject them to forced labor and sexual exploitation upon arrival at their destinations. In Mozambique, local women in collaboration with compatriots and South African men are identified as the main traffickers. They transport victims from Maputo to Johannesburg or Durban, confiscate their documents and belongings, and subject them to sexual exploitation and abuse. Victims are either sold as sex workers in brothels or as wives to mine workers. With approximately 1,000 victims recruited and transported each year, this trade proves lucrative for the traffickers (Samuel, 2021).

Reports from Zimbabwe indicate that women and young girls between the ages of 14 and 24 are trafficked under the pretext of employment and educational opportunities but are subsequently sold or bonded into prostitution rings upon arrival at their destinations. Women and young girls who escape harsh socio-economic conditions often resort to trading sex for transportation and food, making them vulnerable to rape and HIV infection by cross-border bus and truck drivers, as well as robbers and border patrol guards. Various factors contribute to the vulnerability of women and young girls to human trafficking, including poverty, hopelessness, war and conflict, unemployment, and poor living conditions. Political violence during Zimbabwe's elections in 2000, 2002, 2005, and 2008 led to the displacement of many women and young girls, pushing them to cross borders into neighboring countries where they became victims of human trafficking Salah (cited by Adepoju 2005:79)

The study also highlights the increased risk of HIV infection among women and young girls involved in human trafficking. They are often forced into unprotected sex, subjected to rape and torture by their handlers, and exposed to the misconception that sleeping with a virgin can cure HIV infection. These factors further contribute to the risks faced by young girls in terms of trafficking and HIV infection IOM (2003, cited by Adepoji 2005:79)

#### **2.2.2.2 Child trafficking**

Child trafficking involves the voluntary or involuntary removal and transportation of minors under the age of 18 from their families to work as sexual workers, forced laborers, or beggars on the streets in destination countries. Several factors contribute to the vulnerability of children

to human trafficking, including the prevalence of the AIDS epidemic, parental deaths, family breakdowns, extreme poverty, physical and sexual abuse, lack of educational opportunities, and conflict situations. These factors increase the likelihood of children being targeted and exploited by traffickers. (ILO, 2003, Moore 1994, cited by Adepejo, 2005:80)

Child trafficking is a severe violation of human rights, exposing children to physical, sexual, emotional, and economic abuse. A research study conducted in Mali focused on understanding the nature, context, and consequences of youth migration, with a specific emphasis on child trafficking. The study examined the motivations behind young people leaving their homes, and their experiences during migration, and identified the routes used for trafficking children (Nyemba, 2014).

### **2.2.2.3 Trafficking for forced labour**

According to Nyandoro (2016), trafficking for forced labor is considered a form of modern-day slavery. In this type of trafficking, victims are deceived or coerced by traffickers who confiscate their identity and travel documents, promising to return them once the victims pay off the accumulated travel costs. However, the documents are never returned, and the victims are forced into servitude, providing labor under exploitative conditions for very low wages. This occurs in various settings, including plantations, estates, households, and industries in the destination countries.

Recent media reports and internet footage have exposed the harsh realities of forced labor. For instance, there have been videos and pictures showing forced laborers in the brick-making industry in India who had their hands cut off as punishment for attempting to escape. In South Africa, Zimbabweans constitute a significant portion of the cheap and forced labor workforce on farms and plantations, where they often experience mistreatment by farm owners. The extent of trafficking for forced labor is significant, and this criminal activity is conducted in a secretive and illicit manner. It encompasses various forms, including forcing children to beg on the streets or work as domestic workers and farmhands (Nyemba, 2014).

### **2.2.3 Causes of human trafficking**

#### **2.2.3.1 Poverty**

Poverty is a well-established risk factor for human trafficking (Ezeilo, 2017). According to the International Organization for Migration (2015), poverty and lack of employment opportunities at the household level were the primary causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. The study

also noted that trafficking was the main way for some households to ensure a minimum standard of living. The Global Slavery Index ranks Zimbabwe as a country with the 11th highest prevalence of modern slavery in the world with an estimated 1.6% of the population in modern slavery. In addition, the World Bank's Poverty Headcount Index for Zimbabwe found that 62.2% lived below the poverty line (Walk Free Foundation, 2016). These statistics highlight the clear link between poverty and trafficking.

#### **2.2.3.2 Weak law enforcement**

According to UNODC, weak law enforcement, including limited capacity to effectively enforce the law, is another facilitating factor for trafficking in persons. In the context of Zimbabwe, fragility has resulted in ill-governance and weak state responses to more broadly related concerns, such as policing and defense. This has spurred economic survival through criminality and in particular the radicalization of police officers (Chirambwi, Nare, 2018). Corrupt officers and border officials are sometimes complicit in trafficking crimes, accepting bribes, or engaging in trade (Ezeilo, 2017). In terms of specific statistics, the Global Corruption Barometer (2018) found that 56% of Zimbabweans think that the police are corrupt. Additionally, Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (2019) ranks Zimbabwe at 154 out of 175 countries, indicating that the country has a high level of perceived corruption. This leads to a general lack of public trust in the police which makes it difficult for law enforcement to do their job effectively.

#### **2.2.3.3 Lack of awareness**

Lack of awareness about the risks of human trafficking has been linked to an increase in these crimes in Zimbabwe. According to UNODC (2020), the majority of people who are trafficked are unaware that they are being trafficked. This lack of awareness is often because traffickers often use deceptive strategies to lure victims. For example, promising high-paying jobs only to force them into labor exploitation.

### **2.2.4 Effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe**

#### **2.2.4.1 Erodes Human Capital**

According to the International Labour Organization (2012), trafficking has a detrimental impact on the labor market in African countries, particularly when it involves the forced labor



of children. When children are made to work at an early age, often for long hours ranging from ten to twenty hours per day, they are deprived of access to education. This lack of education perpetuates the cycle of poverty and illiteracy, creating conditions that are conducive to trafficking. Furthermore, it hampers their healthy social and physical development during childhood.

As a result of being denied education and skills development, children who are subjected to forced labor are unable to acquire the necessary skills to compete in the labor market of their own country. This leads to a national labor force that cannot compete in the global economy, where success is dependent on skilled workers. Additionally, the use of forced child labor depresses wages for all workers, as the availability of cheap child labor lowers overall wage levels.

The departure of children to other countries as a result of trafficking represents an irretrievable loss of human resources for their home country. These children do not contribute to the development of their own nation's economy and society. The long-term effects of trafficking, including the depletion of human resources and a lack of skilled workers, can result in a lower number of individuals available to care for an increasingly elderly population. It can also lead to social imbalances in terms of the male-to-female ratio within the population.

#### **2.2.4.2 Undermining Public Health**

Trafficking exposes men, women, and children to a range of adverse consequences, including the risk of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, and other infectious diseases. Victims also face violence, dangerous working conditions, inadequate nutrition, and the potential for drug and alcohol addiction. In particular, individuals subjected to commercial sexual exploitation, such as child prostitutes and street children, are vulnerable to contracting HIV/AIDS (Maphosa, 2012).

According to UNICEF (2012), trafficked children are less likely to participate in immunization programs, undermining government efforts to eradicate early childhood diseases. The International Labour Organization (2012) highlights the specific risks faced by trafficked children in Africa. These risks include sunstroke, increased heart rhythm, poisoning from exposure to chemicals in insecticides, inhalation of dust in sawmills and mines, accidents involving machinery, burns, road accidents, stunted growth, and general fatigue. These harsh working conditions make them more susceptible to malaria and other diseases.

In addition to physical consequences, trafficking inflicts severe psychological trauma on victims. The experiences of separation from their families, coercion, sexual abuse, and depression often result in long-lasting psychological effects. Such trauma can lead to a life of criminal activities, drug and alcohol addiction, and increased vulnerability to sexual violence. Overall, trafficking exposes individuals to a multitude of health risks, both physical and psychological, exacerbating their vulnerability and hindering their overall well-being. The growing demand of young kids for adoption, an increase in the demand for women and girls in the rapidly expanding sex industry and exploitation as a result of the misconception that sexual intimacy with young girls reduces chances of contracting HIV/ AIDS or myth that sex with a virgin cure HIV/ AIDS, demand for young women in places of military concentration (Waghamode, Angadi, 2014).

#### **2.2.4.3 Sustaining Illicit Activities and Organized Crime**

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 2012, traffickers often achieve high levels of success due to their connections with other transnational crimes, such as arms trafficking, drug trafficking, and smuggling of other illegal goods. These criminal networks provide traffickers with established and secure routes, access to large sums of cash, and the ability to bribe corrupt officials. They exploit these connections to deceive their victims, enticing them to travel to another country in search of a better life. To give their operations a facade of legitimacy, traffickers often create false travel and employment agencies.

The profits generated from human trafficking not only strengthen criminal organizations but also fund other illicit activities, thereby undermining government efforts to establish the rule of law. Organized criminal groups, gangs, document forgers, brothel owners, and corrupt police or immigration officials play a role in funneling trafficking profits into both legitimate and criminal enterprises. It is common for human traffickers, car theft rings, and drug smugglers to utilize similar methods, routes, and corrupt officials to transport humans, drugs, and stolen goods to lucrative markets. Additionally, there is a possibility that certain terrorist groups may be involved in profiting from human trafficking.

The interconnectedness between human trafficking and other transnational crimes creates a complex and challenging environment for law enforcement efforts. It highlights the need for comprehensive and coordinated approaches to combat these criminal activities effectively.

#### **2.2.5 Challenges faced in fighting human trafficking**

### **2.2.5.1 Lack of resources**

The government has limited funds and personnel to implement anti-trafficking measures which can effectively combat human trafficking. Additionally, the government does not have enough staff to properly investigate and prosecute trafficking cases. The IOM reports that 17 officers are assigned to the Anti-Trafficking Unit of the ZRP, which is not enough to efficiently investigate cases. The lack of resources has resulted in the lack of victim support services such as shelter, medical care, and counselling (Mlambo, Ndebele, 2021)

### **2.2.5.2 Limited cooperation with other countries**

The limited of cooperation with other countries presents a significant challenge for the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in combating human trafficking, as highlighted in the U.S. Department of State's 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report. The report noted that Zimbabwe did not report any efforts to coordinate with neighboring countries on anti-trafficking initiatives. This lack of cooperation hampers the ZRP's ability to investigate trafficking networks that operate across borders and can result in the victimization of trafficking survivors.

Without effective cooperation, the ZRP faces difficulties in sharing information with law enforcement agencies in other countries. This makes it challenging to identify traffickers, locate victims, and prevent future instances of trafficking. Zimbabwe's limited extradition agreements with other countries further complicate the apprehension of traffickers who operate across borders. The absence of cooperation also hinders the repatriation of trafficking victims to their countries of origin. According to the Anti-Human Trafficking Trust Zimbabwe (AHTTZ), victims who are foreign nationals often struggle to return to their home countries due to obstacles in obtaining travel documents and a lack of coordination between law enforcement agencies (AHTTZ, 2020).

Additionally, the limited cooperation between countries poses challenges in addressing transnational trafficking cases, particularly those involving transit trafficking. In such cases, victims are trafficked through multiple countries, making it difficult for the ZRP and other law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute these complex cases. The lack of cooperation undermines the sharing of intelligence on the movement of traffickers and victims, impeding efforts to track and intercept them as they cross borders.

According to Zim eye, (2024) a case outlined by the state prosecutor, Mr Ngoni Kaseke, demonstrates a disturbing human trafficking scheme that unfolded in February 2022.

According to the evidence presented, Mashonganyika, in collusion with Muswe and an Oman-based accomplice named Hassan Mohammed Ali, deceived unsuspecting Zimbabwean women by promising them lucrative jobs in Dubai.

However, the reality was that these women were actually trafficked to Oman, where they were subjected to harrowing conditions. The traffickers used a WhatsApp group to advertise the non-existent job opportunities, enticing the victims with the promise of high-paying hotel industry positions and favourable working arrangements. Lured by these false promises, the victims were then processed with visas, airline tickets, and medical examinations by Mashonganyika, who facilitated their transportation from Zimbabwe to Oman, deceptively bypassing Dubai. The victims only became aware of the grim reality of their situation upon arrival at Muscat International Airport, where they were met by Hassan Mohammed Ali al Shihhi. Their passports were confiscated, and they were forced into domestic servitude as housemaids, enduring endless unpaid labor, and suffering sexual and physical abuse.

As noted by Hove (2024), this case serves as a tragic reminder of the ongoing human trafficking crisis, where hundreds of young Zimbabwean women have been deceived and exploited under the guise of employment opportunities in Asia since 2015, ultimately being subjected to sex slavery.

### **2.2.5.3 Corruption**

Corruption presents a significant obstacle to the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in their fight against human trafficking, it is widely recognized that corruption within law enforcement agencies undermines anti-trafficking efforts. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (2019) ranks Zimbabwe at 154 out of 175 countries, indicating that the country has a high level of perceived corruption. In the context of Zimbabwe, police corruption creates an environment that enables traffickers to operate with impunity, often benefiting from the protection or collusion of corrupt officials. This can involve practices such as bribery, tipping off traffickers about impending raids or investigations, tampering with evidence, or deliberately failing to take action against suspected traffickers.

Corrupt practices within the police force can create an atmosphere of impunity, where traffickers feel protected and victims are discouraged from reporting crimes. This can be exacerbated by intimidation and threats from corrupt officers, leading to a climate of fear and

silence. Corruption can also compromise the integrity of investigations into human trafficking cases. This may involve leaking sensitive information to traffickers, sabotaging evidence, or intentionally mishandling cases to protect influential individuals involved in trafficking networks.

According to an interview by Newsday, (2024) national police spokesperson Assistant Commissioner Paul Nyathi one of its senior officers based in Chirundu who is accused of human trafficking was arrested at Mashala Farm in Karoi at the weekend after allegedly smuggling a group of Ethiopians into the country. The farm is a few kilometres east of Karoi town and owned by former Regional Integration and Co-operation deputy minister Reuben Marumahoko. The top cop was driving a commuter omnibus that had 10 Ethiopians believed to be travelling to South Africa.

#### **2.2.5.4 Inadequate legal framework**

The lack of adequate legal frameworks poses a significant challenge for the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in combating human trafficking, as noted in the U.S. Department of State's 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report. The report highlights that Zimbabwe's legal framework lacks a comprehensive definition of human trafficking that aligns with international law, which can create loopholes that traffickers can exploit. Beyond the absence of a comprehensive definition, the legal framework in Zimbabwe also faces challenges in terms of penalties for human trafficking. According to the Anti-Human Trafficking Trust Zimbabwe (AHTTZ), the penalties for human trafficking in the country are not proportionate to the seriousness of the crime. Insufficiently severe punishments may fail to act as effective deterrents against potential traffickers (AHTTZ, 2020).

Moreover, specific forms of trafficking, such as forced labor and child trafficking for exploitation, may not be fully addressed by existing legislation, such as the Anti-Human Trafficking Act. This limited scope of the law can make it difficult for the ZRP and other law enforcement agencies to effectively address and prosecute all forms of trafficking. The lack of clear legal provisions for these forms of trafficking can impede investigations and hinder efforts to hold traffickers accountable. Inadequate legal frameworks also contribute to challenges in victim protection and reporting. Without strong legal protections and support mechanisms, victims of trafficking may be reluctant to come forward and report their experiences to law

enforcement authorities. This can result in underreporting of trafficking cases and a failure to provide adequate assistance and protection to victims.

IOL reported on Sunday that commissioner of the Border Management Authority (BMA) Mike Masiapato confirmed that the law enforcement agency intercepted 443 children, under the age of eight, who were being brought to South Africa in what Pretoria authorities believed to be human trafficking (Maromo, 2024).

#### **2.2.5.5 Lack of training**

The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) faces the challenge of inadequate training in their efforts to combat human trafficking, as highlighted in various reports. The Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2021 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) emphasizes the limited capacity of the ZRP to handle human trafficking cases due to insufficient resources and a lack of training for law enforcement officers. This lack of training can impede the ZRP's ability to effectively investigate and prosecute trafficking cases, potentially resulting in underreporting and under-prosecution of this crime. The issue of inadequate training among ZRP officers in addressing human trafficking has been echoed by other sources as well. The U.S. Department of State's 2021 trafficking in Persons Report for Zimbabwe states that officials cannot identify and assist victims, particularly among vulnerable populations such as migrants, refugees, street children, and young women. The report also highlights the absence of specialized training for officials to identify victims and traffickers (UNODC, 2021).

The Anti-Human Trafficking Trust Zimbabwe (AHTTZ) also emphasizes the challenge of inadequate training and awareness among law enforcement officers. Their report states that the lack of proper training and sensitization impedes the detection, investigation, and prosecution of trafficking cases. Many officers lack awareness of the nature of human trafficking and how to detect it, especially in cases of internal trafficking. Since victims may not self-identify as trafficking victims and may not display obvious signs of exploitation, proper training is essential for law enforcement officers to effectively identify and assist victims (AHTTZ, 2020). Without adequate training, law enforcement officers may struggle to collect and analyse evidence, identify trafficking networks, and build strong cases against traffickers. Enhancing training programs and sensitization initiatives for ZRP officers can significantly improve their capacity to combat human trafficking and ensure effective victim identification, investigation, and prosecution of traffickers.

## **2.3 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

A theoretical framework, according to Saunders (2003), is research that outlines various courses of action or presents a recommended approach to an idea or thinking. In this study, the theoretical framework served as a road map, guiding empirical inquiry into related literature and studies on the causes, effects, and consequences of corruption. The study focused on the following theories: theory of modern-day slavery, conflict theory and ecological systems theory, consistence with the study's objective.

### **2.3.1 Theory of Modern/ Contemporary Slavery**

Kevin Bales, in his theory of modern slavery, proposed in 2001, argues that global demographic and economic changes have significantly transformed the nature of slavery over the past several decades. According to Bales, since the 1950s, there has been a shift in the dynamics of slavery, both in how it is packaged and in the actual relationship between slaveholders and slaves. This transformation is primarily attributed to a significant decrease in the price of slaves. Bales contends that the economic aspect of the slavery relationship has undergone a substantial alteration, which, in turn, has affected the treatment of slaves and their role within local and global economies. The drastic decrease in the price of slaves has had far-reaching consequences beyond the immediate slaveholder-slave relationship. Notably, it has led to a significant increase in profits for certain slaveholders.

Given the current economic crisis in Zimbabwe, which has been exacerbated by corruption, including embezzlement of funds by government officials, and high rates of unemployment, Kevin Bales' theory of Modern Slavery holds significant relevance to the country's situation. Zimbabwe is experiencing a breakdown of the rule of law and a disregard for human rights, creating an environment where those with resources can prosper at the expense of the powerless and economically marginalized, as noted by Haralambos and Holborn (2008). Consequently, vulnerable individuals are exposed to situations of desperation that can lead to human trafficking.

The prevalence of trafficking in Zimbabwe is sustained by the absence of effective government measures to combat the practice. Local authorities may be compromised or influenced to refrain from interfering with the transactions of slaveholders. The applicability of the Modern

Slavery theory extends beyond Zimbabwe and can be observed in various African countries where political corruption has become pervasive, resulting in the exploitation and enslavement of individuals who lack the power, force, and means to protect themselves.

### **2.3.2 Conflict Theory**

Conflict theory is a sociological theory that sees society as being composed of groups with different and often competing interests. According to Karl Marx Conflict theory, is a theory that society is in a state of perpetual conflict because of competition for limited resources.

According to conflict theory, society is characterized by inherent power imbalances and social inequalities. In the context of human trafficking, power imbalances play a significant role. Traffickers hold power over vulnerable individuals, exploiting their disadvantaged positions for personal gain. Economic disparities and lack of legal protections contribute to this power asymmetry. Conflict theorists highlight how economic systems can exploit and perpetuate social inequalities. In the case of trafficking, economic factors are central. Human trafficking often thrives in regions with high poverty rates, limited job opportunities, and income disparities. Traffickers capitalize on these economic vulnerabilities, luring individuals with false promises of better lives or exploiting their desperation for survival. For example, in the Kuwait case of 2016 where about seven Zimbabwean women were trafficked to Kuwait due to fake promises by agents who promised nice job opportunities and convincing salaries.

Moreso, conflict theory emphasizes social control mechanisms used by dominant groups to maintain their power. In human trafficking, traffickers exercise control over victims through tactics such as physical and psychological abuse, coercion, and debt bondage. This control prevents victims from resisting or escaping their exploitation.

### **2.3.3 Ecological Systems Theory**

According to Urie Bronfenbrenner, a renowned developmental psychologist. Bronfenbrenner proposed this theory in the 1970s as a way to understand human development in the context of various interconnected systems. Ecological theory can be applied to explain human trafficking by examining the multiple levels of influence that contribute to it. It consists of microsystems which refer to the immediate environments where individuals interact directly. In the context of trafficking, this includes the relationships and dynamics within families, peer groups, and local communities. Ecological theory helped the researcher understand the push-pull factors of



human trafficking factors such as social isolation, poverty, unemployment, and peer pressure can contribute to individuals becoming involved in trafficking as victims or perpetrators.

## **2.4.0 EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE OF THE STUDY**

### **2.4.1 Case study on challenges faced in fighting human trafficking (2021)**

According to the United Nations (2021), corruption and complicity among government officials in human trafficking remained prevalent in the country. However, the government did not report any investigations, prosecutions, or convictions of government officials involved in trafficking or related crimes. Observers noted that the government lacked a system to investigate and prosecute officials involved in trafficking. There was a specific incident where potential labor trafficking victims on a Member of Parliament's farm sought assistance after not receiving their agreed-upon pay and facing threats for requesting it. An NGO intervened and removed the potential victims from the farm, but the government did not investigate the allegations.

During the reporting period, there were instances of police soliciting bribes from NGOs in exchange for information on trafficking and denying them access to necessary locations for their anti-trafficking research. Media reports indicated that violent gangs controlled some artisanal gold mines, resorting to kidnapping workers and subjecting them to forced labor. These gangs enjoyed impunity due to their connections with the police and local politicians. Police manning checkpoints at defunct gold mines were allegedly accepting bribes to allow individuals, including forced laborers, to enter and work without oversight.

The study also identified challenges in fighting human trafficking, including weak law enforcement and a lack of training. The acceptance of bribes by police officers indicates weaknesses in law enforcement, and victims reported being threatened and intimidated when trying to report their cases. It is worth noting that the researcher obtained the study through exploratory research, using documents available as secondary data retrieved from the internet. The UN report highlights the prevalence of corruption and complicity among government officials in human trafficking in the country. Weaknesses in law enforcement, including the acceptance of bribes, hinder efforts to combat trafficking. Victims also face threats and intimidation when attempting to report their cases.

### **2.4.2 Literature on trafficking in Zimbabwe and other jurisdictions**

According to a report from the Protection Project, which focuses on researching and documenting human trafficking globally, Zimbabwe serves as a country of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking in persons. The porous borders in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region facilitate illegal entry, as reported by IOM Harare, Zimbabwe's Safe Journey Campaign. The majority of individuals who are trafficked are women and children, with many being trafficked to South Africa. The report highlights that a significant number of young Zimbabwean women, particularly those aged between 14 and 25, are recruited and subjected to forced prostitution and forced labor in countries such as South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Southeast Asia. Upon arrival at their destinations, victims often have their travel documents confiscated, which makes it challenging for them to escape their exploitative situations, as mentioned by IOM, Harare, Zimbabwe. The report further states that a substantial number of Zimbabweans, estimated to be between 1,000 and 2,000 individuals, are deported from South Africa through the Beitbridge border every week. However, establishing the extent to which some of these individuals may have been trafficked is difficult, according to IOM.

Media reports indicate that internal trafficking within Zimbabwe, particularly the rural-to-urban trafficking of young girls aged between 12 and 18, has been occurring for a significant period. These girls are often brought into urban areas to work as domestic servants but are vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse (The Herald, 2006). The methods of recruitment used in trafficking cases predominantly involve false promises of employment, marriage, or education. In some instances, abduction is also employed as a means of recruiting victims, according to The Herald. Regarding legislation, The Herald highlights the lack of specific laws addressing trafficking in Zimbabwe. This gap in legislation allows traffickers to exploit weak legal instruments, such as the Immigration Act, enabling their illicit activities.

The report highlights that the lack of specific legislation criminalizing trafficking in persons in countries such as Lesotho, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe pose a significant obstacle to police and prosecutors in investigating and charging perpetrators of trafficking. The absence of domestic anti-trafficking laws provides little motivation for law enforcement to actively pursue criminal syndicates involved in this illicit activity. Additionally, in many parts of the region, law enforcement officials struggle to differentiate between human trafficking, which involves the ongoing exploitation of victims, and human smuggling, where individuals pay smugglers to assist with undocumented border crossings.

## **2.5 Gap Analysis**

The chapter analysed the perspectives of various authors regarding the issue of trafficking, including its causes, characteristics, effects, and potential solutions. However, the literature reviewed did not extensively address girl child trafficking and the specific vulnerabilities of young girls. While some references were made to girl child trafficking, most of the literature focused on the trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation. Consequently, there is limited knowledge or virtually no information available about trafficking for other purposes, such as labor exploitation or organ trafficking.

The empirical evidence studies described above failed to give challenges faced in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe and only gave effects of human trafficking which was less effective for the researcher. The empirical evidence of the study proved to be ineffective in helping the researcher to come up with the investigation of the current research which was to investigate the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking.

## **2.6 Summary**

This chapter provided an overview of the supportive literature relevant to the investigation of challenges faced in combating human trafficking in Zimbabwe. It presented important theories, conceptual frameworks, and empirical evidence pertaining to this topic. The chapter delved into the forms, causes, and impacts of human trafficking within the Zimbabwean context, aligning with the research objectives. Previous studies and case examples were highlighted to provide context and support for the current research. The researcher's approach to data collection and analysis, which will be used to reach the study's results, is examined in the following chapter. This demonstrates the researcher's methodological rigor in addressing the research problem and filling the identified knowledge gaps.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

To fulfill the objectives of this study and investigate the research questions identified in the first chapter, the methodology employed in this study is described in this chapter. The chapter explains the rationale behind the chosen research design, data collection techniques, sampling methods, and data analysis approach used in the study.

#### **3.1 Research design**

Bryman and Bell (2015) assert that a research design serves as a framework for collecting and analyzing data. It outlines the steps the researcher will take, starting from formulating the hypothesis and determining its implications for data analysis. In this study, the researcher employed a descriptive case study research methodology because the descriptive survey enabled the collection of data from many respondents in a short space of time and with limited resources. However, the limitation of descriptive survey research design was that it is standardized and elicits expected responses thereby limiting the respondent's independent opinion

##### **3.1.1 Descriptive research**

Descriptive research, as defined by Thakur (2009), refers to a research design that seeks to provide an accurate depiction of institutions, events, and communities by minimizing bias and maximizing reliability in the information gathered. The decision to adopt a descriptive research plan in this study was based on its ability to provide an accurate and comprehensive depiction

of the variables and components relevant to the research questions, as well as facilitating a literature review. This approach was deemed most suitable for the study as it allowed for the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data, enabling a comprehensive examination of the challenges faced by the ZRP in combatting human trafficking. Additionally, the descriptive research design was well-suited to investigating questions related to the why, where, and how of human trafficking, thus facilitating a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon and its implications within the country.

### **Disadvantages**

The researcher saw that respondent attributes, such as knowledge, experience, personality, or developmental stage, might have an impact on the data. Due to the standardised nature of the questions, the descriptive survey research approach also has the drawback of being superficial in its coverage of complicated subjects because it tends to elicit replies. But in order to mitigate the consequences of this restriction, the researcher carried out pilot testing to make sure that the questions were designed in a way that removed prejudice.

## **3.2 Target population**

As per Gable's (2014) definition, a target population refers to a specific group of individuals from whom the researcher aims to gather information. The study population was confined to law enforcement officials. Data was collected from police officers (150) at Harare Central police station. Furthermore, the criminal investigation department acted as a reliable source of information for the study because they were directly exposed to the issue of human trafficking, resulting in authentic and reliable information about the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking in Harare town. To put it another way, the Harare Central Police Station acted as a one-stop shop for data collection.

### **3.3.1 Population sample.**

Maxwell (2013) defines a sample as a subset or smaller portion of a larger population that is selected to represent the entire targeted population, sharing similar characteristics with the population under study. In this research, the initial sampling approach focused on choosing Harare Central Police Station as a case study to investigate the identified problem in the study. Due to constraints in terms of time and financial resources, Harare Central Police Station was

selected as the sole case study for this research. The findings of the study provided the researcher with a deeper understanding of the nature of human trafficking. A summary of the population sample can be found in Table 3.1.2. Sixty of the police officers were detective inspectors, detective assistant inspectors, detective sergeants and detective constables. The remaining 30 were assistant inspectors, assistant sergeants and assistant constables.

### 3.3.1 Sample Size

Group	Target Population	Sample	Sample %
Detective inspectors	20	10	50%
Detective assistant inspectors	25	15	60%
Detective sergeants	25	15	60%
Detective constables	30	20	66%
Assistant inspectors	15	10	66%
Assistant sergeants	15	10	66%
Assistant constables	20	10	50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>60%</b>

Source: Researcher's raw data

### 3.2 Sampling techniques

Sampling is used to determine conclusions about the entire population by selecting some elements from the entire population. For this study, the research used purposive sampling a non-probability sampling technique as well as simple random sampling which is a probability sampling technique. According to Babbie (2016), non-probability sampling is a technique in which individuals or elements are selected for a study based on subjective criteria, such as convenience, judgment, or researcher's discretion, rather than randomization.

The purpose of using this sampling technique was to reduce costs and save time for the researcher. The researcher selected respondents who were easily accessible and nearest to her. Due to constraints on time and budget, the researcher prepared a sample that was affordable while still providing adequate coverage to address the research objectives. To choose the respondents, the researcher utilized a combination of probability and non-probability sampling methods. Specifically, the researcher employed both purposive and simple random sampling techniques. The purposive sampling approach allowed the researcher to deliberately select

participants based on specific criteria relevant to the research. The simple random sampling technique then enabled the researcher to leverage the connections and networks of the initial participants to identify additional relevant respondents.

This strategic combination of sampling methods enabled the researcher to optimize the resource-efficiency of the data collection process while still ensuring the sample was appropriately representative to meet the research goals, despite the constraints.

### **3.2.1 Purposive Sampling Technique**

Purposive sampling is a non-probability sampling strategy that allows researchers to apply their judgment in selecting examples that will best enable them to answer research questions and achieve the researcher's goals (Saunders, Lewis, Thornhill, 2016). This strategy was utilized by the researcher to collect data from law enforcement officials at Harare Central Police Station. She chose a range of police officers which consisted of detective inspectors, detective assistant inspectors, detective sergeants, detective constables, assistant inspectors, assistant sergeants and assistant constables.

### **3.3.2 Simple Random Sampling**

After identifying the specific group of 90 police officers (sixty of the police officers were detective inspectors, detective assistant inspectors, detective sergeants and detective constables. The remaining 30 were assistant inspectors, assistant sergeants and assistant constables) that was suitable for data collection, the researcher used simple random sampling to allow the officers to have an equal chance of being selected. According to Levy and Lemeshow (2013), simple random sampling refers to a technique where each member of the population has an equal probability of being selected, and the selection process is based purely on chance.

## **3.4 Research instruments**

These are the tools that were utilized to obtain primary data. Questionnaires and interview guides were used as research instruments by the researcher.

### **3.4.1 The Questionnaire**

Behr and Sha (2018) defined a questionnaire as a structured set of questions that are systematically documented and provided to a respondent for their responses. Both open-ended and close-ended questionnaires were used.

The researcher took advantage of the questionnaire's higher level of privacy and flexibility, as participants felt more secure and could complete it at their convenience, whether at home or work. This approach also minimized bias as the researcher's absence during completion reduced potential influence. Additionally, the questionnaire was cost-effective and suitable for the researcher's limited time and resources, requiring less time to administer. The self-administered format also offered the advantage of non-response bias.

However, a major drawback was the poor return rate, which could result in a skewed sample that may not accurately represent the target population. The lack of interaction between the researcher and respondents meant that issues or concerns regarding the questionnaire were not addressed, potentially leading to skewed responses. To mitigate biased responses, the researcher conducted a pilot test before the actual survey and personally distributed and collected the questionnaires. The researcher also used clear language to reduce misunderstandings or technical terms that can be unfamiliar to respondents.

### **3.4.2 Interview guide**

As stated by Kothari (2004), the interview method of data collection involves the presentation of verbal stimuli to respondents and eliciting their oral-verbal responses in return. To ensure the safety of participants, interviews were conducted in a private setting, and confidentiality was maintained for all interview records. Conducting interviews offered several advantages for the research, including the ability to gather specific information and explanations that may not be feasible through a questionnaire. It also allowed for interactive discussions, enabling the exploration of emerging themes and topics.

However, conducting face-to-face interviews was time-consuming as the researcher needed to establish connections with participants before initiating the interview process. Additionally, some respondents faced challenges in expressing themselves openly due to concerns regarding confidentiality and privacy, limiting the depth of the interviews. To address these challenges,



the researcher focused on building a positive rapport with the interviewees and assuring them of the strict confidentiality and exclusive use of the acquired data for the study.

### **3.5 Data Collection Procedure and Administration**

According to Kotler (2000), the data collection procedure involves how the primary and secondary data will be gathered. In this case, the researcher distributed the questionnaires in person to the respondents, utilizing a "drop and pick" method. A colleague helped the researcher in the collection of feedback from the completed questionnaires.

For the interviews, the interviewer noted down the main or key points from the responses on a sheet, rather than recording the full interviews. The researcher made physical appointments to schedule the interviews, which was a cheaper and faster method that ensured definite responses.

### **3.6 Validity and reliability of data**

#### **Validity**

According to Chan and Idris (2017), external validity pertains to the extent to which the results and findings of a study can be applied or generalized to different populations, settings, groups, and situations. In other words, it examines the degree to which the findings from the particular context of the study can hold true and be applicable beyond that specific setting.

In this case, validity was used to confirm that the quality of the data collected for the research variables was satisfactory. A pilot test, which is a pre-test of the interviews, and a questionnaire guide were used to provide guidance to the researcher on how to best meet the research objectives. By acquiring information directly from corporate personnel rather than making assumptions, the researcher was able to correct any mistakes on the questionnaires and ensure they contained the required information. This helped enhance the validity and reliability of the data collected.

#### **Reliability**

According to Cresswell and Clark (2017), reliability focuses on the accuracy of the measurement instrument used. It involves assessing the instrument's precision and consistency in producing accurate results. Reliability raises questions such as the level of accuracy achieved by the measurement instrument. The researcher evaluated the reliability of the study after completing the fieldwork, using the insights gained from the study's outcomes. To ensure

understanding, the questionnaire was designed with simple language, enabling respondents to grasp the research requirements. This approach enhanced the reliability of the data collection techniques employed for the study. Additionally, the responses obtained from the interviews were carefully reviewed for any omissions ensuring the integrity of the study.

### **3.8 Data presentation, analysis, and interpretation.**

The data collected from the survey was analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Quantitative data obtained from the questionnaires was analyzed using SPSS software, while Microsoft Excel was used to complement the analysis by presenting the data in tables and graphs.

On the other hand, the data gathered from the interviews underwent thematic analysis. The researcher systematically reviewed the responses, identified meaningful patterns and insights, compared and contrasted the different responses from the participants, and interpreted the overall meaning to generate valuable information.

### **3.9 Ethical considerations**

According to Saunders et al. (2016), ethics refers to the ethical appropriateness of a researcher's conduct concerning the rights of individuals who are the subjects of the survey. To ensure that the research maintains ethical considerations the researcher collected data with informed consent. The researcher emphasized that participation in the study was voluntary, and participants had the freedom to withdraw from the study if they chose to do so. Furthermore, it was highlighted that all study participants were treated with respect, fairness, and dignity throughout the research process.

Confidentiality involves safeguarding participants' personal information and ensuring that their identities and responses are kept confidential. It is essential for maintaining trust between researchers and participants, as it assures individuals that their privacy will be protected. Researchers should communicate to participants how their personal information will be managed, stored, and used exclusively for research purposes. In this study, the researcher obtained informed consent by providing participants with information about the study's objective and explaining how their information would be handled.

Privacy pertains to safeguarding an individual's personal information and respecting their authority over the disclosure and utilization of such information. In research ethics, privacy

considerations include obtaining informed consent from participants. This involves providing participants with comprehensive information about the study's objective, the nature of data collection, the purposes for which their data will be used, and any potential risks involved. Participants should be able to freely provide their consent and have a clear understanding of how their privacy will be upheld.

### **3.10 Summary**

This chapter focused on outlining the methodology of the research, including the examination of research instruments and addressing the concepts of validity and reliability. Practical aspects of data collection, such as sampling, questionnaire distribution, and collection, were also discussed, along with an evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of different research tools. The following chapter (Chapter 4) then centered on the processes of data gathering, analysis, and presentation.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION**

#### **4.0 Introduction**

The chapter conducted an analysis of research data collected from law enforcement officials, utilizing both qualitative and quantitative methods. The objective was to provide a comprehensive understanding of the results and perspectives of the respondents. The research aimed to identify the causes of trafficking in Zimbabwe, examine the effects of human trafficking, and determine the challenges faced in combating it. To achieve these objectives, a combination of research questionnaires and interviews was utilized, and the findings were presented in a manner that applied to the study's goals. The results obtained from the surveyed respondents were highlighted, and various data visualization tools such as charts, graphs, tables, and notes were employed to present and interpret the data in a meaningful way.

#### **4.1 Data Presentation Process**

Following the completion of all planned interviews and the collection of completed questionnaires, the researcher had to analyse the responses from a variety of respondents in order to draw conclusions. The information gathered over the course of the investigation served as the foundation for presenting the results. For the study, a sample population consisting of eighty respondents was chosen. Descriptive statistical analysis techniques were used in the data analysis process to look over and compile the information gathered.

#### **4.2 Response Rate**

#### 4.2.1 Questionnaire Response rate

The researcher distributed a total of 80 questionnaires to detective inspectors, detective assistant inspectors, detective sergeants, detective constables, assistant inspectors, assistant sergeants and assistant constables. Among the distributed questionnaires, 75% were completed by the respondents, while 25% remained incomplete. The non-completion of some questionnaires can be attributed to reasons such as concerns over confidentiality or lack of interest among the officials. The response rate of the respondents to the self-completion questionnaires is presented in Table 4.1, indicating the proportion of completed questionnaires in relation to the total distributed.

*Table 4.1 Response rate of questionnaire*

*N=80*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Number distributed</b>	<b>returned</b>	<b>% returned</b>
<b>Detective inspectors</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Detective assistant inspectors</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Detective sergeants</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Detective constables</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Assistant inspectors</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>Assistant sergeants</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Assistant constables</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>75%</b>

Source: Primary data, 2024

Table 4.1 displays that the participants exhibited an average response rate of 75%, while the non-response rate was 25%. Leeuw (2005) indicates that the acceptability of a response rate depends on the survey methodology, considering a response rate of 70% and above as very good since it represents the majority of the targeted sample. Therefore, the study's results were representative of the entire population as the response rate of 75% exceeded the national average of 54%. The response rate achieved was deemed sufficient to ensure unbiased data collection.

#### 4.1.2 Interview Response Rate

The researcher had targeted to conduct 10 interviews unfortunately she managed to conduct 7 of them. Table 4.2 below shows interview response rate.

*Table 4. 1 Interview response rate*

Type of research instruments	Interviews scheduled	Interview done	Interview not done	Response rate (%)
Interviews	10	7	3	70%

*Source: primary data, 2024*

According to the above table the researcher managed to conduct 7 interviews which is a total of 70% of the total population. Only 3 were not interviewed due to network challenges and insufficient funds (30%).

#### 4.2 Demographic Information of Respondents

This section aims to examine the demographic characteristics of the respondents. It provides detailed information on factors such as gender, age, level of education. This section aims to investigate the demographic profile of the respondents. It provides a comprehensive explanation of various aspects such as gender, age, level of education, and the specific section in which the respondents were employed during the research period.

Table 4.2 below illustrates that the male respondents constituted the majority at 66.67%, while the female respondents accounted for 33.33%. The research findings indicated a notable 20% difference in the number of male employees compared to females. This skewed gender distribution can be attributed to historical imbalances, where male children were often given more opportunities for education and employment. This gender disparity is significant to the study as men and women may have different perspectives on accounting and financial performance.

Regarding age groups, the highest participation rate was observed in the 31-35 age group, representing 33.33% of the respondents. The age group of 41 years and above closely followed with 31.67%. The age group of 36-40 years ranked third at 25%, while the age group of 25-30 years had the fewest respondents at 10%. The higher representation of respondents aged 31 years and above indicates their valuable experience within the organization, which contributes to a better understanding of corruption-related issues.

**Table 4.3 Demographics**

Demographic category	Demographic variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	40	66.7
	Female	20	33.3
	Total	60	100
Age	Below 25 years	0	0
	25-30 years	6	10
	31-35 years	20	33.3
	36-40 years	15	25
	Above 40 years	19	31.7
	Total	60	100
Years in employment	Below 2 years	4	6.7
	2-4 years	5	8.3
	5-6 years	20	33.3
	7-9 years	15	25
	Above 9 years	16	26.7
	Total	60	100
Level of education	No formal education	0	0
	Secondary level	35	58.3
	Undergraduate	15	25
	Degree plus	10	16.7
	Total	60	100
Employment position	Inspector	23	38.3
	Sergeant	22	36.7
	Constable	11	18.3
	Other	4	6.7
	Total	60	100

*Source: Primary data, 2024*

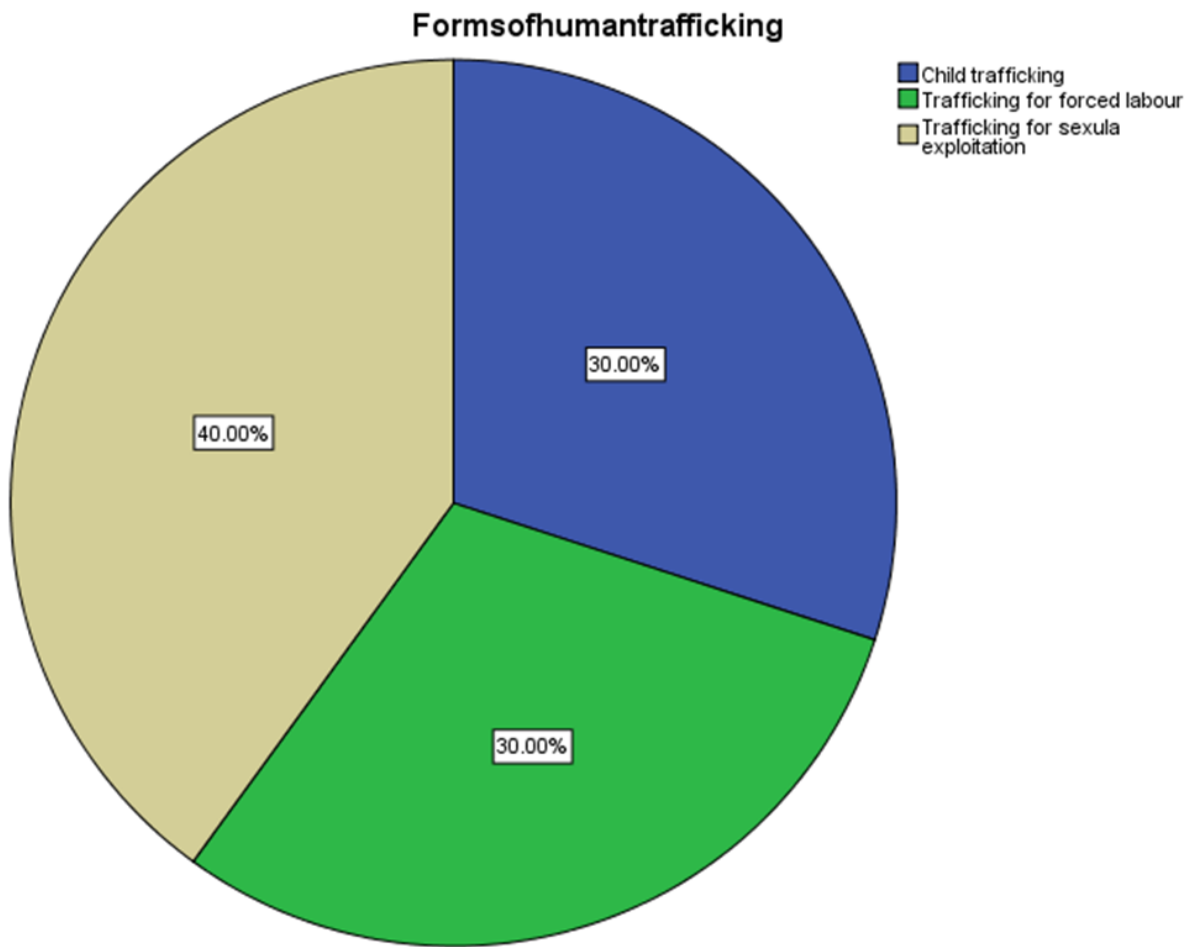
Regarding age groups, the highest participation rate was observed in the 31-35 age group, representing 33.33% of the respondents. The age group of 41 years and above closely followed with 31.67%. The age group of 36-40 years ranked third at 25%, while the age group of 25-30 years had the fewest respondents at 10%. The higher representation of respondents aged 31 years and above indicates their valuable experience within the organization, which contributes to a better understanding of corruption-related issues.

In terms of work experience at Harare Central Police Station, the majority of respondents (33.33%) had five to six years of experience. This was followed by individuals with more than nine years of experience (26.67%) and those with 7-9 years of experience (25% each). A smaller proportion (6.67%) had less than two years of experience. This implies that 85% of the target population had been working at the police station for more than five years, indicating their familiarity with industry operations. The information provided by these experienced individuals regarding human trafficking can be considered reliable.

#### **4.3 Forms of human trafficking in Zimbabwe**

The following results relate to the questions on the forms of human trafficking experienced in Zimbabwe, which included major forms of human trafficking and other considered forms of trafficking suggested by the respondents in this study.





***Figure 4. 1 Forms of human trafficking***

Source: Primary data, 2024

In response to the open-ended question regarding other prevalent forms of human trafficking in Zimbabwe, 40% of the respondents identified trafficking of women and young girls for sexual exploitation as a significant issue. These findings align with a study conducted by the International Organization for Migration (2010), which reported a significant increase in the trafficking of women and young girls for sexual exploitation. Factors contributing to the vulnerability of women and young girls include the high demand for sexual services in economically stable countries such as South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Britain, and the United States.

Another form of human trafficking highlighted by 30% of the respondents was trafficking for forced labor. The International Labour Organization (2010) recognizes trafficking for forced labor as a form of modern-day slavery. In this type of trafficking, victims are deceived or coerced by traffickers who confiscate their identity and travel documents, promising their return once the victims pay off the accumulated travel costs.

Child trafficking was identified as a form of trafficking in Zimbabwe by 30% of the respondents. The vulnerability of children to human trafficking is influenced by various factors, including the prevalence of the AIDS epidemic, parental deaths, family breakdowns, extreme poverty, physical and sexual abuse, lack of educational opportunities, and conflict situations.

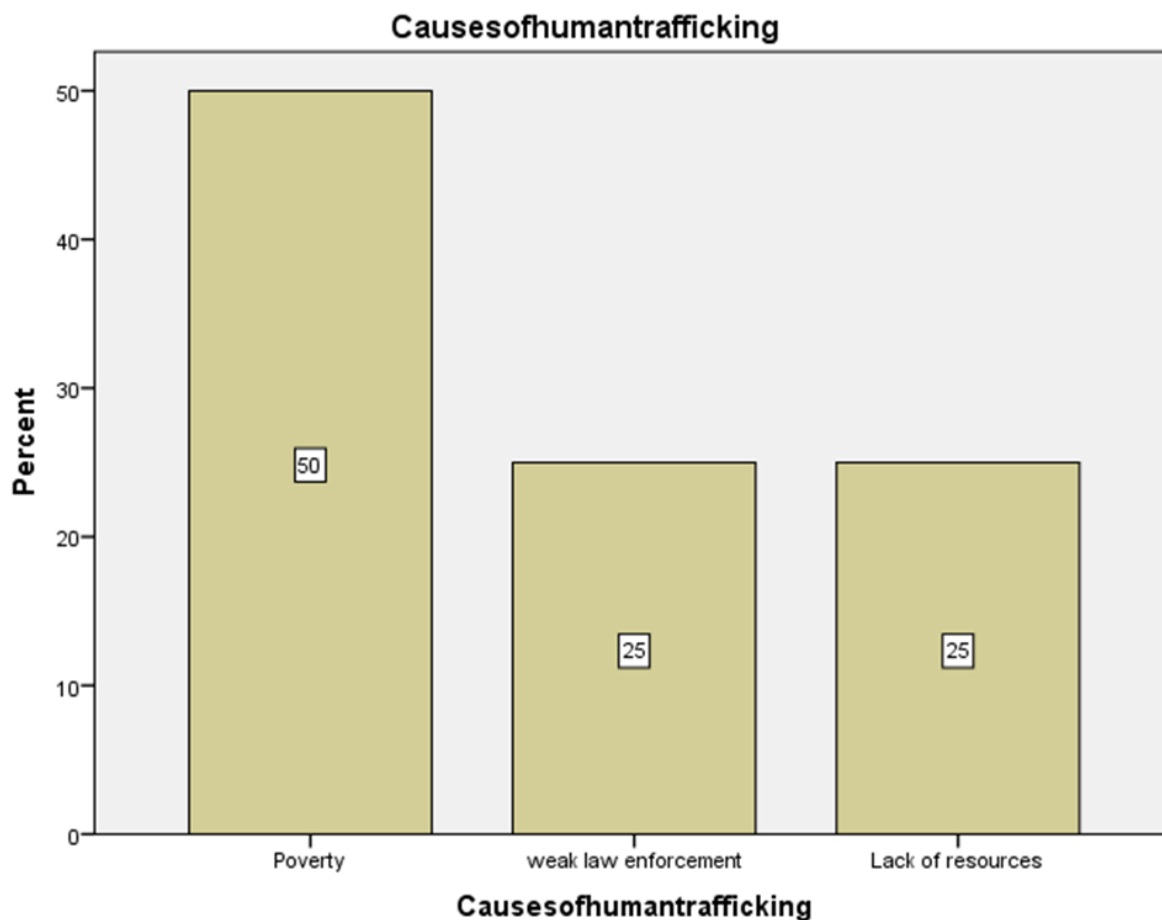
During the interviews conducted, additional forms of human trafficking prevalent in Zimbabwe were suggested by the respondents. Out of seven respondents, 57.14% identified trafficking for forced labor and trafficking for sexual exploitation as common forms of human trafficking. These findings align with the International Labour Organization's definition of trafficking for forced labor as a form of modern-day slavery, where victims are deceived or coerced by traffickers who confiscate their identity and travel documents, promising their return upon payment of accumulated travel costs.

Furthermore, 42.86% of the respondents highlighted child trafficking as a major form of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. They emphasized that several factors contribute to the vulnerability of children, including the AIDS epidemic, parental deaths, family breakdowns, extreme poverty, physical and sexual abuse, lack of educational opportunities, and conflict situations.

#### **4.4 Causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe**

The following results to questions on the Causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe.

**(N= 60)**



**Figure 4. 2 Causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe**

**Source:** Primary data, 2024

Figure 4.2 presents the drivers of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. The majority of respondents (50%) identified poverty as the primary driver of human trafficking. This aligns with the findings of the International Organization for Migration (2015), which highlighted poverty and the lack of employment opportunities at the household level as the main causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. The study also noted that for some households, engaging in trafficking was a means to ensure a minimum standard of living.

Additionally, 25% of the respondents pointed out weak law enforcement as a contributing factor to human trafficking. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2020), weak law enforcement, including limited capacity to effectively enforce laws, facilitates trafficking in persons. Corrupt officers and border officials may be complicit in trafficking crimes, accepting bribes or participating in illicit trade. These findings are consistent with the conflict theory, which suggests that individuals in positions of power may

act in their own interests without considering the public's welfare, leading to police officers engaging in unlawful activities.

Another 25% of the respondents highlighted a lack of awareness as a driver of human trafficking. They emphasized that the lack of awareness about the risks associated with human trafficking has contributed to its increase in Zimbabwe. UNODC (2020) also acknowledges that many people who are trafficked are unaware that they are being trafficked, as traffickers often employ deceptive tactics to lure victims, such as promising high-paying jobs only to subject them to labor exploitation.

In addition to the information obtained from the questionnaire, three out of seven interviewees mentioned poverty as the primary driver of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. These findings align with the International Organization for Migration (2015), which identified poverty and the lack of employment opportunities at the household level as the main causes of human trafficking. The World Bank's Poverty Headcount Index for Zimbabwe further supports this correlation by indicating that 62.2% of the population lived below the poverty line (Walk Free Foundation, 2016).

Two out of seven interviewees cited weak law enforcement as a contributing factor to human trafficking. They expressed the belief that corrupt officers and border officials sometimes participate in trafficking crimes by accepting bribes or engaging in illicit trade. This aligns with UNODC's assertion that weak law enforcement, characterized by limited capacity to enforce laws effectively, facilitates human trafficking. These findings are also consistent with Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (2019), which ranks Zimbabwe at 154 out of 175 countries, indicating a high level of perceived corruption and reduced government resource allocation. The perspectives of the interviewees are in line with the conflict theory, which emphasizes power imbalances and social inequalities in society. In the context of human trafficking, these power imbalances play a significant role, with law enforcement officials exploiting the vulnerable positions of individuals for personal gain.

Two out of seven respondents mentioned a lack of awareness as a driver of human trafficking. They emphasized that the majority of people who are trafficked are often unaware that they are being trafficked. UNODC (2020) supports this view, noting that traffickers frequently employ deceptive strategies to mislead victims about their true intentions, such as promising lucrative employment opportunities before subjecting them to exploitation.

#### 4.5 Effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe

The following findings address questions about the effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. Responses are shown in fig 4.4 below

(N=60)

Effects	1		2		3		4		5		Statistics	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Mean	St Dev
Erodes human capital	15	25	3	5	0	0	30	50	12	20	2.75	1.8
Undermining public health	9	15	3	5	0	0	25	42	23	38.3	3.35	1.505
ing illicit activities and organised	30	50	0	0	0	0	15	25	15	25	3.83	1.392

1-Strongly agree, 2- Agree, 3- Neutral, 4-Disagree, 5-Strongly disagree

**Table 4. 2 Effects of human trafficking in Zimbabwe**

**Source: Primary data, 2023**

Table 4.4 above shows that human trafficking has major effects on Zimbabwe as a whole. This was affirmed by the majority of the respondents (50%) who pointed out that human trafficking erodes human capital with a mean of 2.75 and standard deviation of 1.8. A less significant figure (30%), mean of 3.35 and standard deviation of 1.505 pointed out that human trafficking undermines public health while 20% of the target population pointed that human trafficking sustains illicit activities and organized crimes with a mean of 3.38 and standard deviation of 1.392.

The majority of the interviewed staff pointed out that human trafficking erodes human capital as well as undermining public health.

#### 4.6 Challenges faced by ZRP in fighting human trafficking

The fourth objective of the study sought to solicit the views of the respondents on the challenges faced by ZRP in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe. The interviewed respondents mentioned the following challenges

(N=60)

Challenges faced in fighting human trafficking	1		2		3		4		5		Statistics	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Mean	St Dev
Lack of resources	14	23.3	10	17	0	0	31	51.7	5	8.3	3.05	1.407
Limited cooperation with other countries	3	5	2	3.3	7	11.7	29	48.3	19	31.7	3.98	1.017
Inadequate legal framework	6	10	6	10	2	3.3	8	13.3	38	63.3	4.1	1.411
Lack of training	9	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	85	4.4	1.44
Corruption	6	10	4	6.7	0	0	25	41.7	25	41.7	3.98	1.269

*1-Strongly agree, 2- Agree, 3- Neutral, 4-Disagree, 5-Strongly disagree*

**Table 4. 3 Challenges faced in fighting human trafficking**

**Source: Primary data, 2024**

The data presented in the table indicates that lack of resources was identified by 40% of the respondents as the greatest challenge in the fight against human trafficking with a mean of 3.05 and standard deviation of 1.407. The respondents noted that the government of Zimbabwe has a limited annual budget of \$19.5 million for anti-trafficking efforts, which is insufficient to effectively address the problem.

Inadequate legal framework was mentioned by 20% of the respondents, a mean of 4.1 and standard deviation of 1.411 as another challenge faced by law enforcement officials. The U.S. Department of State's 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report highlighted that Zimbabwe's legal framework lacks a comprehensive definition of human trafficking that aligns with international law, creating loopholes that traffickers can exploit. Additionally, the legal framework in Zimbabwe faces challenges in terms of penalties for human trafficking.

Limited cooperation with other countries was identified as a challenge by 15% of the respondents, with a mean of 3.98 and standard deviation of 1.017. The U.S. Department of State's report noted that Zimbabwe did not report any efforts to coordinate with neighboring countries on anti-trafficking initiatives. This lack of cooperation hampers the ability to investigate trafficking networks that operate across borders and can result in the victimization of trafficking survivors.

Corruption was mentioned by another 15% of the respondents as a challenge faced by law enforcement officials, mean of 3.98 and standard deviation of 1.269. Zimbabwe ranks high in perceived corruption according to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (2019). Police corruption creates an environment that enables traffickers to operate with impunity, often benefiting from the protection or collusion of corrupt officials.

Lastly, 10% of the respondents with a mean of 4.4 and standard deviation of 1.44 highlighted the lack of training as a challenge in fighting human trafficking. The United Nations Office on

Drugs and Crime (2021) emphasizes the limited capacity of law enforcement agencies, such as the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP), to handle trafficking cases due to insufficient resources and a lack of training. This can impede their ability to effectively investigate and prosecute trafficking cases, leading to underreporting and under-prosecution of this crime.

#### **4.7 Summary**

This chapter focused on the presentation, analysis, and discussion of the data collected for the study. The research can be considered successful as it effectively addressed all of its research questions through comprehensive data analysis, and the overall research objectives were achieved. The study utilized a combination of qualitative and quantitative data, with the descriptive survey data being analyzed using appropriate descriptive statistical methods. The results were presented in the form of tables, visual representations, and were analyzed using Microsoft Excel software. The subsequent chapter (Chapter V) will provide a summary of the key research findings, draw conclusions based on the analysis, and offer recommendations for future actions or further research based on the outcomes of this study.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

The purpose of this study was to examine the challenges encountered in combating human trafficking in Zimbabwe, specifically through a survey conducted at Harare Central Police Station. In this chapter, we will draw conclusions and provide recommendations based on a thorough analysis of the research findings. These conclusions and recommendations are aligned with the research objectives and are supported by both the findings presented in this study and the existing literature.

#### **5.1 Organization of the study**

**Chapter 1** of this research presented the introduction of the study under review, the statement of the problem, objectives of the study and the significance of the study.

**Chapter 2** focused on the literature review as a way of testifying the importance of the area of study. From the study it emerged that Police are facing challenges in fighting human trafficking

**Chapter 3** mainly focused on research methodology and research design. The research used descriptive research design.

**Chapter 4** focused on the data presentation, analysis and discussion of findings. From the results obtained, it was clear that Police are facing challenges in fighting human trafficking In Zimbabwe.

**Chapter 5** mainly dealt with summary, conclusions, recommendations and areas for further research.



## **5.2 Summary of major findings of the study**

The majority of the respondents in the study demonstrated a good level of awareness regarding the challenges faced in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe. All the interviewed police officers were knowledgeable about social media platforms. The most commonly mentioned challenges identified by the respondents were lack of resources, inadequate legal framework, and corruption. While a significant number of respondents were aware of the various forms of human trafficking known to Harare Central Police Station, a minority expressed a lack of awareness regarding these forms.

A considerable number of respondents strongly agreed that poverty, weak law enforcement, and lack of awareness are the main drivers of human trafficking in Zimbabwe. They also acknowledged that human trafficking leads to the erosion of human capital, undermines public health, and sustains illicit activities and organized crimes.

Among the workers surveyed, 40% identified lack of resources as the major challenge in combating human trafficking. This lack of resources translates into limited funds and personnel available for implementing effective anti-trafficking measures. Additionally, 20% of the staff highlighted the issue of an inadequate legal framework as a significant challenge. Another 15% of the respondents mentioned corruption, which involves practices such as bribery and tipping off traffickers. This corruption hampers prevention efforts. A smaller, but notable, percentage of staff (10%) identified the lack of training as a challenge in addressing human trafficking. Insufficient training can hinder the Zimbabwe Republic Police's ability to investigate and prosecute trafficking cases, potentially leading to underreporting and under-prosecution of this crime.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

Based on the above findings, the following conclusions were made:

- The residents of ZRP Harare Central policing area and members of the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) lack awareness of human trafficking.

- The most prevalent form of human trafficking in the ZRP Harare Central policing area is the trafficking of girls and women for sexual exploitation.
- There is limited knowledge about child trafficking among the people in the Harare policing area.
- Despite being aware of the ZRP Harare Central's knowledge of human trafficking, the lack of awareness campaigns has contributed to a high number of people being trafficked and a low number of reports being made.
- Human trafficking leads to a decline in human capital, negatively impacting the nation.
- Lack of resources is identified as a major challenge by the majority of police officials at Harare Central Police Station in their efforts to combat human trafficking.
- In addition to other challenges, there is a lack of trust among the public towards the police, as they fear victimization from corrupt officers, resulting in fewer reports and investigations.
- Other challenges faced by ZRP Harare Central include limited cooperation with neighboring countries, inadequate legal framework, and lack of resources.
- ZRP Harare Central Police Station has reported few efforts to coordinate with neighboring countries on anti-trafficking initiatives.
- Although the members of ZRP in Zimbabwe have knowledge of human trafficking, the study revealed that they have not received formal training in proper and professional investigation techniques.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

In light of the above conclusions, the following recommendations are made:

- ZRP Harare Central should actively conduct awareness campaigns to educate citizens about the different forms of human trafficking, enabling them to contribute towards reducing trafficking incidents.
- Law enforcement should utilize anti-corruption laws to their fullest extent, treating all corruption cases as high-level criminal offenses. This approach can serve as a deterrent for potential offenders and discourage engagement in corrupt activities.
- Adequate funding should be allocated to the Victim Friendly Unit and other departments involved in combating human trafficking. Sufficient resources will facilitate smooth investigations and increase the chances of successful outcomes.

- Police should review and update legal frameworks to establish clearly defined policies and anti-human trafficking laws. This step will regulate the behavior of police officers and ensure the confidentiality and trust of informants, ultimately leading to the apprehension of traffickers.
- ZRP members should undergo formal training in proper and professional investigation procedures. This training will equip them with the necessary skills to collect reliable information, thereby enhancing their ability to combat human trafficking.
- It is recommended that further research be conducted on the effects of human trafficking and the effectiveness of measures implemented by ZRP in Zimbabwe. This research will assist ZRP in addressing the challenges and reducing human trafficking more effectively.

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## **APPENDIX 1**

### **LETTER FOR REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH**



Bindura University of Science Education

Faculty of Commerce Department of Intelligence and Security Studies

P. Bag 1020

Bindura

Dear Sir/Madam

#### **RE: REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH**

Ntaibu Trish is my name, and B201614B is my registration number. At Bindura University of Science Education, I am an undergraduate student pursuing a financial intelligence bachelor's degree. One of the criteria for the degree is that I have to do a research project. As a result, the student is conducting research on "investigating the challenges faced by ZRP in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe." An analysis of the Harare Central Police Station. Please help the researcher by completing the questionnaire as a response to the research project. Please be aware that there will be no cash compensation for your participation in this study. You are free to opt out of this study at any time without facing any consequences. You should be aware that this is only an academic activity that is being done for academic credit. Highest secrecy is guaranteed for your comments, which will only be used for academic purposes.

Your cooperation will be very greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Ntaibu Trish

## **General Instructions**

[1] Answer by putting a tick in the box where options are provided or give details where necessary.

[2] Please kindly complete the questionnaire on your own.

**[NB]:** Names of participants will not by any means be disclosed to the on the questionnaire.

Information collected shall remain private and confidential and will be used for the purpose of this study only.



## QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Indicate by way of a tick [ ] the relevant answers and provide information in the spaces where necessary.
- Please do not write your name on the questionnaire.

### SECTION A: Demographic Data

1. Indicate your gender

Male [ ] Female [ ]

2. Indicate your age range

Below 25 years [ ] 25 – 30 years [ ]  
31 – 35 years [ ] 36 – 40 years [ ]  
Above 40 years [ ]

3. Years in employment

Below 2 years [ ] 2 – 4 years [ ]  
5 – 6 years [ ] 7 – 9 years [ ]  
Above 9 years [ ]

4. Level of education

No formal education [ ] Secondary [ ]  
Undergraduate [ ] Degree +

5. Employment position

.....

### SECTION B

6. What would you think are the main forms for human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

Child trafficking [ ] trafficking for sexual exploitation [ ]

Trafficking for forced labour [ ] other [ ]

7. How common is sex trafficking compared to other forms of human trafficking, such as labor and child trafficking?

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8. What would you think are the main causes for human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

Poverty [    ]                      Weak law enforcement [    ]

Lack of awareness [    ]                      other        [    ]

9. How does human trafficking affect economic development such as by depriving communities of skilled workers

Effects	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	disagree	Strongly disagree
Erodes human capital					
undermines public health					
sustains illicit activities and organized crimes					

10. Is inadequate legal framework a challenge faced by ZRP in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

Yes    [    ]                      No    [    ]                      Not Sure        [    ]

11. What challenges do you face in coordinating between different agencies such as law enforcement and social services in your efforts to combat human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

challenges	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	disagree	Strongly disagree
Lack of resources					
Inadequate legal framework					
Limited cooperation with other countries					
Lack of training					
Corruption					

12. What resources or tools do you feel are lacking in your efforts to combat human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

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.....

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13. Do you have any other thoughts or ideas on how to address the challenges of human trafficking in Zimbabwe?

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**Thank you for your assistance**

## **APPENDIX I**

### **INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR POLICE OFFICERS**

**Research Topic: Investigating the challenges faced by Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) in fighting human trafficking in Zimbabwe.**

#### **SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHICS**

1. Gender
2. Age
3. Level of education
4. Years in Employment

#### **SECTION B:**

5. What are the most common forms of human trafficking in Zimbabwe?
6. How does poverty, weak law enforcement and lack of training contribute to the vulnerability of individuals to human trafficking in Zimbabwe?
7. What are effects of human trafficking on the public?
8. What are the biggest challenges in investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases in Zimbabwe?

