POVERTY AND CRIME IN FORT PORTAL MUNICIPALITY, KABAROLE DISTRICT

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A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
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DECLARATION

I, **Kajumba Asumpta** here by state that the work presented in this research report is my own and to the best of my knowledge it has never been presented to any institution of higher learning or university for any award.

Signed;

....

ASSUMPTA

Date...10ᵗʰ / 05 / 2019...

APPROVAL

This research report has been conducted under my supervision and is now ready for submission to the college of Humanities and Social Sciences for the award of a Bachelor's Degree of Development Studies of Kampala International University.

DR. KAFEERO KIGGUNDU

Sign...................... Date. 10th May 2019

DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to God for the gift of life and wisdom He has given me. I also dedicate it to my beloved husband Thomas and my children.

ACKNOWLEGEMENT

I wish to express my gratitude to all the people whose support has enabled me to complete my studies.

First I wish to acknowledge my beloved parents Mr. Waako Mugaara Akiiki and Ms. Happy Jolly Abwooli and my dear husband without their support I wouldn't have accomplished my studies.

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Last but not least, I thank Liam Mathew Tut for being patience when I was busy with studies during the times he needed me most.

May God bless you all.

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out on poverty and crime whose general objective was to establish the extent to which poverty has led to increased crime in Fortportal municipality. Three specific objectives guided the study and these were; to assess the impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal municipality, to identify the causes of high crime rates amongst the people of Fortortal municipality and to establish possible measures on how to reduce crime in Fortportal. The study used descriptive design which was explanatory in nature and it was based on quantitative and qualitative approaches. It covered a sample of sixty respondents. The data instruments used were the questionnaires and interviews. Findings revealed that prevalence of poverty in Fortportal is relatively high and the resultant impact is the issue of increased crime like shoplifting, theft, drug abuse, prostitution, among others. The main causes of increased crime were unemployment, drug abuse, corruption of which poverty is said to be a major determinant. Therefore, creation of employment opportunities should be a priority by the government to ensure that altleast majority of the people, youths in particular have jobs. Efforts should also be geared towards fighting corruption among the authorities such that criminals are legally punished and law is enforced efficiently.

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter deals with the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, and the significance of the study.

1.1 Background

The background of this study is presented in three perspectives of historical, theoretical, conceptual, and contextual perspectives.

1.1.1 Historical perspective

The connection between poverty and crime rate is a subject that has baffled many social scientists, economists, and even those in the legal and justice systems. This is because of recent developments in the directions of these two issues: in the United States, for instance, crime rate has been on a decline since the 1960s. On the other hand, since the 1970s, income inequality has been soaring (Russell, 2016). While there are varying factors attributed to increasing crimes, a parallel direction can be clearly seen on a global and per-nation analysis. Places with high poverty levels have higher incidence of crime; and people living in poorer communities with majority of population among low income earners are exposed to more crimes (Zubrich, 2018).

The patterns and effects of crime in both developed and developing largely depend on socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the population and the social effects of crime vary among the various segments of the general population. Statistics show that men are far more likely to be victims of crime than women. Studies show that women, however, fear crime far more than men. Other patterns reveal that the elderly fear crime more than younger adults, and children fear crime more than adults (Bertola, 2017). While women have less chances of being a victim, the crimes they suffer are more violent including rape and domestic abuse. Another factor is that women, the elderly, and the

very young are physically weaker than the common offender making them feel more susceptible to crime.

Communities and governments spend public funds for police departments, prisons and jails, courts, and treatment programs, including the salaries of prosecutors, judges, public defenders, social workers, security guards, and probation officers. The amount of time spent by victims, offenders, their families, and juries during court trials also take away from community productivity. By the beginning of the twenty-first century it was estimated that the annual cost of crime in the United States was reaching upward toward $1.7 trillion.

Even though 400 million people living in East Asia have moved above the absolute poverty line within the last 25 years, poverty has almost doubled in sub-Saharan Africa. Due to extreme poverty of the world's population of relatively 13% lack adequate nutrition, 17% lack access to safe drinking water, 15% have no access to basic medical care, 17% lack adequate shelter while 17% are illiterate (World Bank 2008).

On the other hand, poverty is not just a problem of inadequate income; it is a multidimensional social phenomenon. The World Bank tries to use other social indicators such as vulnerability, risk, social exclusion to measure different dimensions of poverty (World Bank, 2001). However, people living in poverty have lower life expectancy, higher levels of child mortality, and malnutrition. These problems are exacerbated by a lack of education amongst the working young and a shortage of quality healthcare services (World Bank, 2008). The burden of poverty is spread evenly among regions of the developing world, among countries within those regions and among localities within those countries. The World Bank reports that about 45% of the approximately 590 million people in sub-Saharan Africa live below the national poverty lines.

1.1.2 Theoretical perspective
This study is based on the Poverty Alleviation Theory by American economist Gary Becker (1989), who pronounces that an increase in income inequality has a big and robust effect of increasing crime rates. Not only that, but a country's economic growth (GDP rate) has significant impact in lessening incidence of crimes. Since reduction in

income inequality gap and a richer economy has an alleviating effect on poverty level, it implies that poverty alleviation has a crime-reducing effect. According to Williams (2010) the U.S., which ranks 3rd among the most income-unequal nations, and the worst in terms of income gap growth, also have the largest percentage of its population in prison among industrialized democratic nations thus reflecting the social ills a big wealth disparity and overt rich-poor distinction can cause.

1.1.3 Contextual background

Qualitative studies conducted by Help Age International also indicate a strong existence of severe and long term poverty among young people in Uganda and this group of people is particularly youths who are chronically poor, orphaned, street kids, casual and unskilled labourers among others (Heslop & Gorman, 2011). Conditions of absolute poverty among these groups of people especially in fortportal in this case, are associated with an absence of income security, inadequate family or social support and poor health combined with inadequate health care.

Uganda has continued to reduce the number of people living in poverty as the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED , 2015) recognized that the national poverty rate fell to 19.7 percent in 2012/13, from 24.5 percent in 2009/10. Even with significant population growth, the total number of Ugandans living below the poverty line declined from 7.5 million to 6.7 million over the same period. There are now almost twice as many Ugandans in the middle class – living above twice the poverty line – as there are poor.

On the other hand, criminal activities are increasing in many parts of Uganda especially in urbanized communities Fortportal inclusive. Crime is becoming a major part of every community and in every town fort portal inclusive. Its costs and effects touch just about everyone to some degree. The types of costs and effects are widely varied. Some costs are short-term while others last a lifetime. Crime not only affects economic productivity when victims miss work, but communities also are affected through loss of tourism and retail sales. Even the so-called victimless crimes of prostitution, drug abuse, and gambling have major social consequences. Drug abuse affects worker productivity, uses

public funds for drug treatment programs and medical attention, and leads to criminal activity to support the expenses of a drug habit.

In this research focus is on causes that may be directly related to economic phenomena and, in particular, on the independent variable that has been repeatedly considered potentially powerful determinants of crime and that is poverty (Jovial 2013). Crime and poverty strongly associate crime with reduced capacity to work arising from the reduced capability of young people to work and generate income and a growing risk of serious idleness. Hence likelihood to fall into poverty that consequently makes them vulnerable to crime regardless of their original economic status.

1.2 Problem statement

Uganda's population is currently estimated at 40 million people and poverty levels are growing high unlike the previous years of the late 1980s and 1990s where poverty had reduced due to government programs like prosperity for all, NAADS, etc. A recent report by Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) of national household survey 2016/2017 indicated that people living in poverty now stands 10 million up from 6.6millions, that is, poverty has increased from 19.7% to 27% (UBOS, 2017). Poverty has subjected the young people to miserable situations because they are unable to afford the basic necessities of life and their living standards are totally affected (Edwin, 2011). Apparently, crime and criminal activities have equally increased through a multiplicity of causal chains. The crime status in Kabarole district and Fortportal in particular is quite bad while the outcome is a double burden. Presently distribution and use of illegal drugs is common and at the same time acts of shoplifting, breaking and entering in homes, robbery, vandalism and other related crimes are on the increase within the municipality. Such irregularities therefore inspired the researcher to carry out this study on the impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal municipality.

1.3 Objectives of the study

1.3.1 General objective of the Study

This study intended to establish the extent to which poverty has led to increased crime in Fortportal municipality, Kabalore district, Uganda.

1.3.2 Objectives of the Study

i.   To assess the impact of poverty on crime in fortportal municipality.

ii. To identify the causes of high crime rates amongst the people of Fortportal municipality.

iii. To establish possible measures on how to reduce crime in Fortportal municipality.

1.4 Research Questions

i.   What is the impact of poverty in Fortportal Municipality, Kampala?

ii. What are the causes of high crime rates amongst the people of Fortportal?

iii. What possible measures that can be implemented to reduce crime in Fortportal?

1.5 Scope of the study

1.5.1 Geographical scope

The study was carried out in Fortportal Municipality. It is found in Kabarole District in the western region of Uganda about 260km from Kampala city. Fortpotal has been chosen because it is one of the fastest growing urban area in western Uganda with a population highly characterized by the youths.

1.5.2 Content scope

The study basically concentrated on poverty and its influence on the growing crime rates in Uganda, it also examined the extent of poverty, causes of high crime rates amongst the people of Fortportal, in Kabalore district and finally come up with ways to reduce crimes.

1.5.3 Time scope

The study was covered the trends of poverty and crime in Uganda for a period 2014-2018 and was conducted in a period of four months, the time in which data was gathered from January to April, 2018.

1.6 Operational definition of key concepts

Poverty: It is a state of deprivation and prohibitive of decent life that results from many mutually reinforcing factors including lack of access to basic needs and productive resources to generate income. (URT, 2003)

Crime: Is any activity that is legally unacceptable within a given society/ country. Crime can happen at any time and at any place and the law enforcement authorities like the police are charged with the responsibility of preventing crime in a society.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study is significant to various stakeholders as stipulated below;

The findings of this research shall be used by administration of Fortportal Municipality to evaluate the activities of the municipality and guide them in formulating and implementing policies which will help to reduce crime and poverty.

The study will generate new knowledge which will help policy makers in coming up with informed decisions in area on poverty management and its subsequent effect on the community.

The study will help in improving the researchers' knowledge in areas of poverty and crime in Fortportal municipality and Kabalarole district at large. Secondly, it will also help the researcher to fulfill the requirements for the award of the degree of Development Studies.

Furthermore, the study will be a basis for reference for future researchers and other scholars who may need to deal with related topic.

1.6 Conceptual Framework:

A conceptual framework showing Poverty and crime in Fortportal Municipality Kampala.

Poverty
• Unemployment • High dependency level • Illiteracy • Lack of basic needs i.e. education, shelter, food.

Crimes
• Drug abuse • Shoplifting • Prostitution • Vandalism • Burglary & theft

• Government policies • Mental health
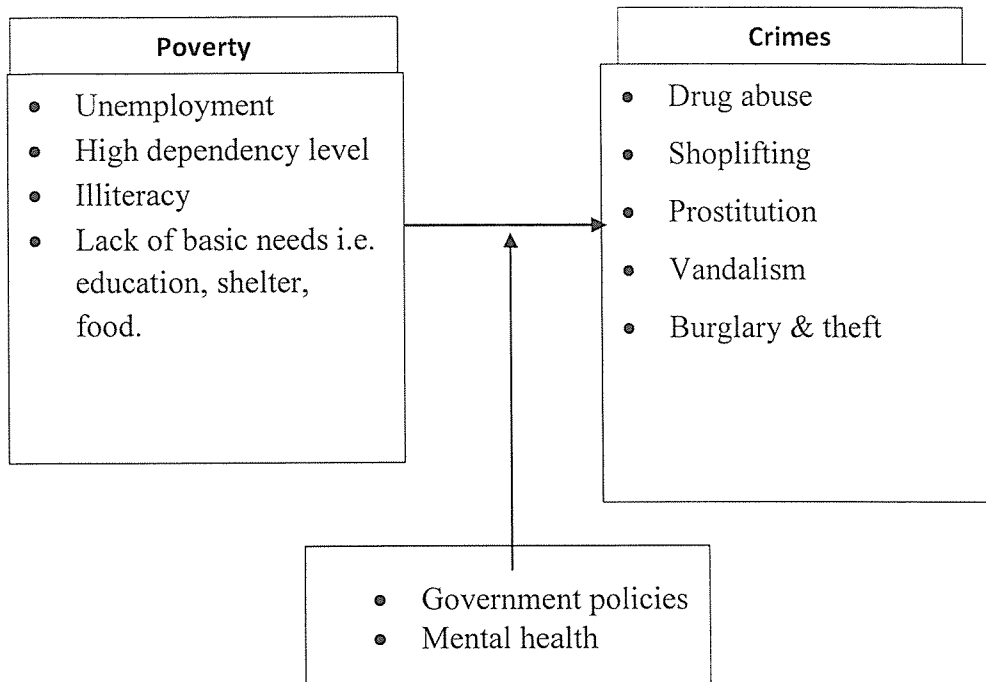
Source: Primary data – adopted from Lisa, (2013).

Figure 1 above indicate that poverty as the dependent variable can be manifested in various ways not limited unemployment, high dependency level, illiteracy, lack of basic needs i.e. education, shelter, food. The lack of such basic needs can be affiliated to anti-social behaviours like theft, vandalism, kidnapping, shoplifting among others. However, factors like government policies in terms of law enforcement, policy formulation implementation and crime prevention mechanisms, and mental health which may also determine an individual's actions.

CHAPTER TWO
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the review of related literature. The literature reviewed for the study highlights sources in relation to the topic and the specific objectives of the study in order to gain more understanding on the effects of substance abuse among people especially the youths.

Many explanations exist for differences in criminality across countries or cities on the African continent and its evolution over time. The most important causes are probably sociological or cultural. In this research focus is on causes that may be directly related to economic phenomena and, in particular, on the independent variable that has been repeatedly considered potentially powerful determinants of crime and that is poverty. The economic motivation behind crime is essentially the appropriation of somebody else's property. Another motivation is the pursuit of illegal activity even at the risk of being caught and punished. Therefore, criminal offenders are likely to be found among those who have relatively more to gain from these activities and relatively little to lose in case they are caught. Individuals such as these presumably belong to the neediest groups in society (poor people), their number being greater and their motivation being stronger the more unequal the distribution of resources in society (Nikolai, 2014).

2.1 Influence of poverty on crime

The impact of poverty on crime involves a complex interrelationship among mediating individual and community-level variables' Valdez et al (2007:595) and, 'hard evidence of this relationship is difficult to come by. Valdez et al. states that there are several reasons for this state of affairs, all having to do with the joint causality between poverty and crime. Whether the influence of poverty towards crime is direct, indirect or based on a loose association, the best, largest, long-term, longitudinal studies seeking to discover whether individuals from socio-economically disadvantaged and deprived environments have a greater propensity to engage in crime, come to similar conclusions.

According to Naomi (2018) there's an old adage that says, "If a man don't work, he don't eat." That's not the case for a large number people living in poverty. Lack of economic opportunity leads to impoverishment which then leads to crime. Global unemployment is at a high point. One hundred ninety-two million people around the world are jobless. In some parts of the world, mainly poor parts, unemployment standings will drive this number higher. In a study done on youth in the Caribbean, it was determined that joblessness fueled criminal activity in those aged 15 through 24. As mentioned by Russell (2016) crimes like murder rates are higher in various parts of the country due to joblessness than in any other region where poverty is minimized. For example, the crime rate affects 6.8 percent of the Caribbean population against the world average of 4.5 percent, calculating the global rate per 100,000 people. People who live below the poverty line and don't have access to sufficient economic opportunity, live by any dangerous means necessary.

According to Marcus (2017) social scientists and public officials have long identified poverty as a root cause of crime or, at least, as a significant risk factor. According to Marcus, "Poverty is the mother of Poverty and crime has a clear relationship. He found that people with little wealth are strained as individuals and their families, and the added stress of living in poverty sometimes leads them to commit crimes to get cash. In addition Substance abuse can complicate matters because this is equally a common characteristic among majorly the poor. However, it's not clear whether low-income people are more likely to become addicted to a substance, they are more likely to break the law while under the influence.

Bell (2017) cited that impoverished neighborhoods that do not have the same resources as higher-income areas are more likely to be vulnerable to crime as well, Rosenfeld (2001) highlighted that the poor tend to be more likely to be the victim of an assault with a gun. He cited an example that in the city of St. Louis, according to a study by Rosenfeld, firearm assault rates per 1,000 residents is more than six times higher in high-poverty neighborhoods than in low-poverty neighborhoods - 13.08 compared with 2.01, respectively." However numerical figures in the context of this study are not clearly documented.

2.2 Poverty and poverty measurement

Okello (2000) noticed that local people define poverty in terms of material and non-material aspects that influence their lives. However he observed that there is a general perception of poverty, and according to him, poverty refers to a situation of perpetual need for the daily necessities of life, such as food, shelter, or clothing or a feeling of powerlessness to influence the things around you.

Human wellbeing has many dimensions and is perceived differently by different groups; therefore no single measure captures all aspects of it. Revallation (1992) distinguishes materialistic measures, such as income and standard of living, from concepts as opportunities and the right to participate in society. The international fund for agricultural development (IFAD) has identified eighth broad classes of poverty (Jazairy et al. 1999): (i) material deprivation; (ii) lack of assets; (iii) isolation; (iv) alienation; (v) dependence; (vi) insecurity; (vii) lack of decision making power; and (viii) vulnerability to external shocks.

According to Rogers et al (2006) Poverty can be absolute, where individuals are unable to satisfy the minimum basic needs for survival, or it can be relative, where some function of the distribution of income or expenditure can be used to define a threshold level below which people are defined as poor.

Some efforts have been made to take a multidimensional approach to measuring poverty , for example the priority poverty indicators (PPIs), developed by the world bank take into account measures such as nutritional status, life expectancy, under five mortality, and school enrollments rates, as well as income and expenditure. More usually, however, measures of human wellbeing focus on specific dimensions such as material deprivation or levels of achievement in health of education. Most commonly poverty measurement is based on material deprivation that is generally linked to the inability of incomes or expenditures to meet basic nutritional needs, as defined by consumption based poverty line. In this way poverty rate can be estimated using head-count indices (the proportion of people below poverty line), poverty gap ratios or severity of poverty indices (Malik 1998).

A study by Uganda Women's Finance and Credit Trust (UWFCT, 2008) presents an argument that attributes poverty in Uganda to the imbalance between population and resources. It stresses the negative effects of uncontrolled population growth and low technology on land productivity, which often results in soil overuse and deterioration, and consequently impoverishment. Thus, population pressure, decreasing acreage of farmland holdings, deteriorating soil fertility, declining stocks of animals, and cultural attitudes and practices have all combined to create a new situation of poverty as well as entrenching a process of impoverishment.

IMF (2005) has identified four concerns of poverty and they include regional inequalities, gender, occupational structure and disadvantaged groups. In the same way, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has identified eighth broad classes of poverty. Poverty has been seen by many scholars as either absolute or dimensional, and the following have been highlighted as the causes of poverty;-

According to Okello (2000) on poverty in Uganda, found out that poor health and disease were the most frequently mentioned factors across all communities, both as a cause and an effect of poverty. Poor health was a cause in 54% of rural and 58% of urban communities. Poor health and disease grossly increases the level of poverty as they decrease human productivity and increase expenditure. Okello continues to assert that excessive drinking of alcohol particularly by men, was the second most frequently cited cause of poverty, mentioned almost equally in rural communities where men spend most of their time in bars and gambling. This creates a burden to women since they have to struggle to cater for the family in terms of basic needs. Excessive drinking by men was seen as leading to poor health, failure to provide for the household, debts and sale of household assets, family disunity, idleness, declining, hopelessness and drinking away their children's future.

According to IMF (2005), changing patterns of employment requires equally changing patterns of skills. To some extent, this happens through the market. Many studies including Malak (1996) have singled out lack of education and skills to be one of the factors underpinning poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. This is because lack of skills reduces

income-generating opportunities. The importance of this factor in rural areas was emphasized by the 21% of communities who mentioned lack of primary schools near communities which minimizes education opportunities for children. It is further reinforced by 37% of rural communities who mentioned failure to educate children as an impact of poverty.

2.2 Causes of crimes

The heightened incidence of criminal and violent behavior in recent years has become a major concern across the world. From Eastern Europe to the developing countries of Latin America, violence and crime threaten social stability and are becoming major obstacles to development. For example, between the early 1980s and the mid 1990s, the rate of intentional homicides increased by 50% in Latin America and by more than 100% in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

In countries such as Colombia, Russia, and Thailand, the crimes like homicide rate more than tripled in about the same period. The concern with crime is well justified given its pernicious effects on economic activity and, more generally, on the quality of life of people who must cope with the reduced sense of personal and proprietary security. Despite the fact that violent crime is emerging as a priority in policy agendas worldwide, we know little regarding the economic, social, and institutional factors that make some countries have higher crime rates than others or make a country experience a change in its crime rate.

DiIulio (1996) links the lack of "social capital" to the rise of crime rates in U.S. cities. Similarly, Freeman (1986) finds a strong association between church attendance and lower crime participation rates for needy youths. Demographic factors and social interactions has also been the subject of recent research. Using a survey of disadvantaged youths in Boston, Case and Katz (1991) find that an individual's propensity to commit a crime rises when his peers are also engaged in criminal activities. In a related paper, Glaeser, Sacerdote, and Scheinkman (1996) emphasize the role of social interactions in

explaining the continuous prevalence of high crime rates in certain places and the significant variance of crime rates across space.

Jens & Odd-Helge (2008) highlighted that corruption is also both a crime and cause for increased crimes as it is a pervasive and historically persistent part of many police organizations. It arises in the daily routines of the police. The police's right to use violence in order to achieve its bureaucratic aims influences its rent collection possibilities. Yet, research on the roles and behavior of the police has been almost neglected in development research. It has mainly been a matter of criminology. During the period of decolonization in the 1960s, however, observers and practitioners were acutely aware of the role of the police and judiciary for development (Faull, 2007). How eruptions of violence and development might be interlinked was a question of survival for old and new political elites alike. Social scientists applied 'modernization' theories to analyze these linkages. For example, they were finely dealt with in Samuel Huntington's book, Political Order in Changing Societies (1968). Huntington tied together corruption and violence – thus, also the behavior of the police - to similar forces of deep economic and social change as Emile Durkheim (1897) once did for crime and suicide. Furthermore, the role of the police in India was the subject of an extensive modernization analysis by David Bayley (1969) in the volume The Police and Political Development in India.

According to Pablo et al, (2000), one of the reasons cross-country studies are uncommon is that it is difficult to compare crime rates across countries. The issues of mismeasurement associated with aggregate variables are quite severe for most types of crime data. Underreporting is widespread in countries with low quality police and judicial systems and with poorly educated populations. In fact, Soares (1999) finds that the extent of underreporting is negatively correlated with the level of development. Underreporting of crimes is most pronounced for low-value property crime (e.g., common theft) and for crimes carrying a social stigma for the victim (e.g., rape.) We attempt to reduce the biases caused by measurement errors by, first, choosing the types of crime that are least likely to be affected by underreporting and, second, employing an econometric methodology that

deals with systematic measurement error. The types of crime we work with are intentional homicides and robberies.

Intentional homicide statistics suffer the least from underreporting because corpses are more difficult to ignore than losses of property or assaults. Robberies are crimes against property that include a violent component, which means that the victim has two reasons to report the crime. To the extent that intentional homicide and robbery are good proxies for overall crime, our conclusions apply to criminal activities broadly understood. However, if these types of crime proxy mostly for violent crime, our results apply more narrowly. We assembled a new data set on intentional homicide and robbery rates based on information from the United Nations World Crime Surveys. The data set consists of an unbalanced panel of 45 countries for homicides and 34 countries for robberies, covering the period 1970-94 (Pablo, *et al.*, 2000).

High crime rates may have devastating impacts on investments and economic growth. Countries with high crime rates often find it difficult to attract, retain, and expand private investment. In addition to deterring investments, crime has direct costs on firms (and households) through theft losses and in security-related expenses, which translate into reduced competitiveness and lower investment (sometimes even disinvestments). One of the key difficulties when relating police corruption to crime rates, however, is that it together with the overall police efficiency may have significant impact on crime statistics. It influences both the public's and the police's reporting of crime (Jens & Odd-Helge, 2008).

In a study conducted by Pablo et al (2000), on the causes of crime and its effects, the analysis provided strong evidence in favor of a model of criminal behavior that emphasizes the role of economic variables and accounts for inertial effects. Both economic growth and income inequality are robust determinants of violent crime rates. Furthermore, even controlling for country-specific effects (including systematic measurement error), there was clear evidence that violent crime is self-perpetuating. These variables included economic growth, inequality, and past crime rates which

worked well for homicides and remarkably well for robbery rates. Their sign and statistical significance survived the addition of other explanatory variables, including measures of crime deterrence, illicit drug activities, demographic characteristics, and cultural traits.

2.3 Measures to Overcome Poverty

Eliminate the corruption

Corruption in the crime control officials (Police) is the main factor in increasing rate of crime in Pakistan. People, especially youths have no fear what so ever in breaking the laws because they know that if they get caught, they'll be released on spot in return of Rs. 50. Some actions are taken to minimize the factor of corruption from traffic police for which cameras were placed in high profile areas of Karachi but due to the loop holes, the problem is still there. If this problem of corruption is eliminated from the Police system, crime rate will fall by 70-75%. (Anderson et. al, 2002).

Strengthen the Law Enforcing Agencies

In Pakistan, Police seems to have limited authority. There is a need to increase the authorities of police and solve their problems in order to improve their attitude towards work. As a result, the control over the offenders will be increased. Most of the offenders do it freely just because they know that there is no one to catch them. If police arrests 20 or 30 criminals and give them proper punishment, the other criminals will think twice before doing illegal acts. While it is understandable that police should call for a tougher stance, especially when they are continually dealing with the same offenders, other stakeholders are equally convinced that this will do more harm than good (Anderson et. al 2002).

Youth awareness program for education

In this modern world today there are still many people who cannot recognize the importance of education, especially higher education. In addition to the steps to make higher education attainable for poor, there is a need of some youth awareness program that can highlight the importance of education in youth. Higher education will increase

the probability of the person to get employed which can reduce the chances of him to involve in crime (The Daily Jang, 2008).

Introduction of technologically advanced security tools

Criminals often know about the loopholes in the anti-theft security mechanism such as car trackers. Technologies used for such tools in developing countries like Pakistan are old and criminals are well aware of their weaknesses. In order to make sure that the tools actually works, new technologies are needed to be introduced such as GSM based tracking or Radio Frequency tracking which is used in South Africa and it is much more effective than the GPS system (Anderson et. al., 2002).

Summary

From the literature provided, it is clearly indicated that the relationship between material poverty and crime behaviours in both developed and developing countries is highly intact. The literature provides that there is no single factor that can be specified as the main cause of criminal behavior. This can more accurately be found in the way that multiple risk factors clustered together can interact in the lives of some individuals, while important protective factors are absent. Moreover, causes of crime differ from country to country, In western world, causes are directly related to the environment of the surroundings. These surroundings can be of school, home, neighborhood or playground. In contrast, causes of crime in Uganda particularly in Fortportal Municipality are not specified hence the need for this research to close that gap.

CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research methods the researcher used to collect data. It presents mainly the research design, population of the study, sampling procedure and techniques, sample size, data collection instruments, how data was analysed and ethical procedures observed by the researcher before collecting data.

3.2 Research Design

Research design in this study was a descriptive survey design. This method is suitable for this study because it aims at describing the extent and prevalence of poverty and how it is influencing crime increase in Fortportal Municipality in Kabarole District. This design is also found to be appropriate as it helps to gather data from a large population currently present in the area at a particular time. Nevertheless, survey is cheap to use and gathers large information within a specified time frame. In addition, the study also used qualitative and quantitative approaches.

3.3 Study Area and Population

Kabarole Districts' population is estimated at 331,100 people and Fortportal Municipality has a population estimate of about 59,600 people (UBOS, 2018). The study mainly focused on the local population in the Municipality. Specifically participation of local government officials and crime preventers i.e. the police and the civil society were targeted. Therefore the considered local people, police officers and representatives from the civil society. The diversity in this study population helped the researcher to generate a wide range of ideas and information which enabled the researcher to make comparison in views possible hence having comprehensive results at the end of the study.

3.4 Sample size

The study used a sample size of 60 respondents and this is determined by Krejcie and Morgan table for determining sample size for research activities.

According to Krejcie and Morgan (1970) presented by Amin (2005) table for determining sample size for research activities. The study considered local people, police, LCs, Local government officials, and the civil society in Fortportal Municipality. The following table explains the distribution of the study population according to the categories of respondents targeted in Fortportal Municipality.

Table 1: Distribution of the Categories of Respondents Targeted

CATEGORY OF POPULATION SAMPLED	TOTAL	SAMPLING TECHNIQUE
Local citizens	40	Simple random sampling
Local council authorities in the area	5	Purposive sampling
Civil society	5	Purposive sampling
Government officials	5	Simple Random Sampling
Police officers	5	Purposive sampling
TOTAL	**60**	

Source: Primary Data, 2015

3.5 Sampling Techniques

The researcher developed a list of all Parishes and zones in Fortportal Municipality with the help of the Kampala District Administration. From each Parish or zone a representative sample was sampled according to the number of occupants. The researcher made a survey of the Division to find out the civil society organizations and police stations under the local government such that they could also be sampled.

Simple random sampling was used to select a representative number of local people from the selected Parishes and zones. Local people were allocated numbers according to the names on uniform cards which were put into the container, shaken well to mix and the

researcher picked the numbers randomly until the sample number is obtained. This is important to avoid bias and give each respondent an equal chance to participate in the study.

3.6 Research Methods and Instruments

Considering that the fortportal municipality community is an urban setting, the assumption is that they are both literate and semi-illiterate. Therefore, the main tools for data collection shall be interviews and questionnaire.

Questionnaires:

The researcher used questionnaire to get data from the respondents and the information gathered through questionnaires was easy to analyze, responses were coded and themes assigned to them easily. Nevertheless, this method for data collection intended to collect data from the respondents within the area of study. This method was appropriate advantageous because it gives the researcher the ability to collect a large amount of information in a reasonably quick pace of time.

Interview Guide

An interview is a flexible way of getting information from the respondents; it is necessary for this study because it provides an in-depth inquiry of the information needed. This approach sought to address the hidden characteristics of the respondents which may reveal the truth of the matter at a given time. This is so because; the Researcher was noting down the responses from the respondents on spot. Equally so, this tool was relevant in the context of the respondents who could not read and write (illiterate). The researcher used this method because it helps to give firsthand information through direct interactions with the respondents.

The interview schedules enabled the researcher to explore commendable information through face-to-face interaction. Interview schedules were used get information from the key informants like Local council authorities, civil society and the police officers within the study area.

3.7 Data Collection Procedures

To undertake this study, the researcher was issued with the letter of authorization from the University's College of Humanities and social sciences. During the field visit, the researcher personally managed to collect data through the distribution of questionnaires as well as interviews throughout the field visit. This was so to monitor the destruction of questionnaire and avoid distortion of information.

3.8 Data Analysis

Data analysis involved data processing, data recording, summarizing, interpreting and converting it into usable information. This was done by editing the data and separating the information gathered into their respective categories thereby enable easy interpretation and understanding of the research findings.

The qualitative data were collected using interview guide and the responses were analyzed using Microsoft Excel. Similarly, quantitative data was also analyzed in Microsoft Excel to generate results that was presented in form of graphs and tables.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

The Researcher observe all ethical considerations during the period of this research. At every level where necessary, the Researcher had to acquire permission from the relevant authorities. This helped her in a way that enabled collection of information needed for the study. The Researcher assured the respondents of maintaining confidentiality to any information provided by the respondents following regulatory requirement as deemed necessary.

3.10 Limitation of the Study
The researcher might encounter the following limitations

Being a self-financed student, the researcher had some difficulties
Financial constraints; this was a limitation especially on the scope or depth of the research. This is because since some of the respondents are youths, they may ask for money to give in their views.

Suspicion; some of the respondents were suspicious of the motives of the researcher and hence could fail to cooperate in the instruments. The ethical consideration was taken into account and respondents were able to give priority during research and reaffirming that the information was being gathered for academic reasons.

Sensitivity of the topic; when it came to issues of drug abuse and crime rate, many respondents relaxed to give their responses for fear of the information being exposed.

Low levels of literacy of the respondents. Some respondents may be illiterate and unable to give the required information. The researcher used probe questions so as to get all the required information.

Lack of enough secondary data; the researcher ought to lack enough secondary data from the university library and the researcher was able visit public libraries and different websites plus reading articles and Newspapers to overcome lack of enough secondary data.

Cooperation; some respondents were not willing to spare time to respond to the interviews but the researcher assured them that their responses were to be treated confidential so the opportunity was given to respond to questionnaires.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

The data was collected using both quantitative and qualitative methods, which was then analyzed and processed to make it useful and understandable. The analyzing and the findings are presented below;

4.1   Social Demographic Characteristics

4.1.1   Age of the Respondents

Respondents were asked questions related to their age, results are shown in the table below:

Table 1: Age Distribution of Respondent

Age group	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-20	10	17
20-25	22	37
25 - 29	16	26
30 – 35	12	20
TOTAL	**60**	**100**

Source: Primary data, 2019

Table 1 above shows that 17% (10) of the respondents were between 18-20 years, 37%(22) were between 20-25 years of age, 26% (16) were between 25-29 years of age, and 20%(12) were between 30-35 years. Such results indicate that respondents within the age bracket of 18-25 and 25-29 dominated the study respectively. This is because the researcher's targeted group were the youths who basically fall within this particular age bracket.

4.1.2 Marital Status of the Respondents

Another variable which was important in respect to the situation of the people in the area was marital status. Information regarding marital status of the respondents was obtained by asking them whether they were married, single, divorced or widowed.

Table 2: Marital Status of the Respondents

Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Married	10	16.7
Single	42	70
Divorced	5	8.3
Widowed	3	5
TOTAL	**60**	**100**

Source: Primary data, 2019

The above table (2) shows that 42 (70%) of the respondents were singles, 10(16.7%) were married, 5 (8.3%) were divorced and only 3 (5%) were widowed. This therefore meant that majority of the respondents were singles and this was attributed to the fact that they were youths, most of whom were either new in the job market, still students and others had just dropped out of school.

4.1.3 Sex of the Respondents

Sex was another factor which was considered during the study. This is because the researcher was interested in finding out the number of females and males in the whole study respondents as was the sample size and compared the percentage composition of the two.

Table 3: Sex of the Respondents

Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	35	58.3
Female	25	41.7
TOTAL	**60**	**100**

Source: Primary data, 2019

The above table (3) showed the sex of the respondents and it was found that 35 (58.3 %) of the respondents were males and 25 (41.7%) were females. This means that male respondents dominated the study with 58.5% compared to 41.7% for the females.

4.1.4 Educational Status of the Respondents

Respondents were asked questions related to their educational status, their responses are shown in the table below;

Table 4: Educational Level of the Respondents

Education levels	Frequency	Percentage
Uneducated	8	13%
Primary	4	6%
Secondary	22	37%
University	14	27%
Tertiary	6	10%
Others	4	6%
Total	**60**	**100**

Source: Primary Data, 2019

Table 4 above showed educational levels of the respondents, it was revealed that 13% of the respondents were uneducated, 6% were of primary level, 37% had secondary education, 27% were university students, 10% had tertiary education and 6% fell under other levels of education. This therefore shows that the majority of the respondents were secondary and university students. This was attributed to the fact that majority of the

respondents had received formal education given the environment they are in and thus were able to give the researcher the required information without struggling hard to translate as most of them understood the media of communication (English language). Also, key informants like police officers and local leaders, had the required educational attainment.

4.2 Extent of poverty in Fortportal municipality

This was intended to established the level at which poverty is prevalent in Fortportal municipality. Findings are summarized below;

Extent of poverty in Fortportal Municipality

- Very high extent
- high extent
- low extent
- very low extent

13%

17%

33%

37%
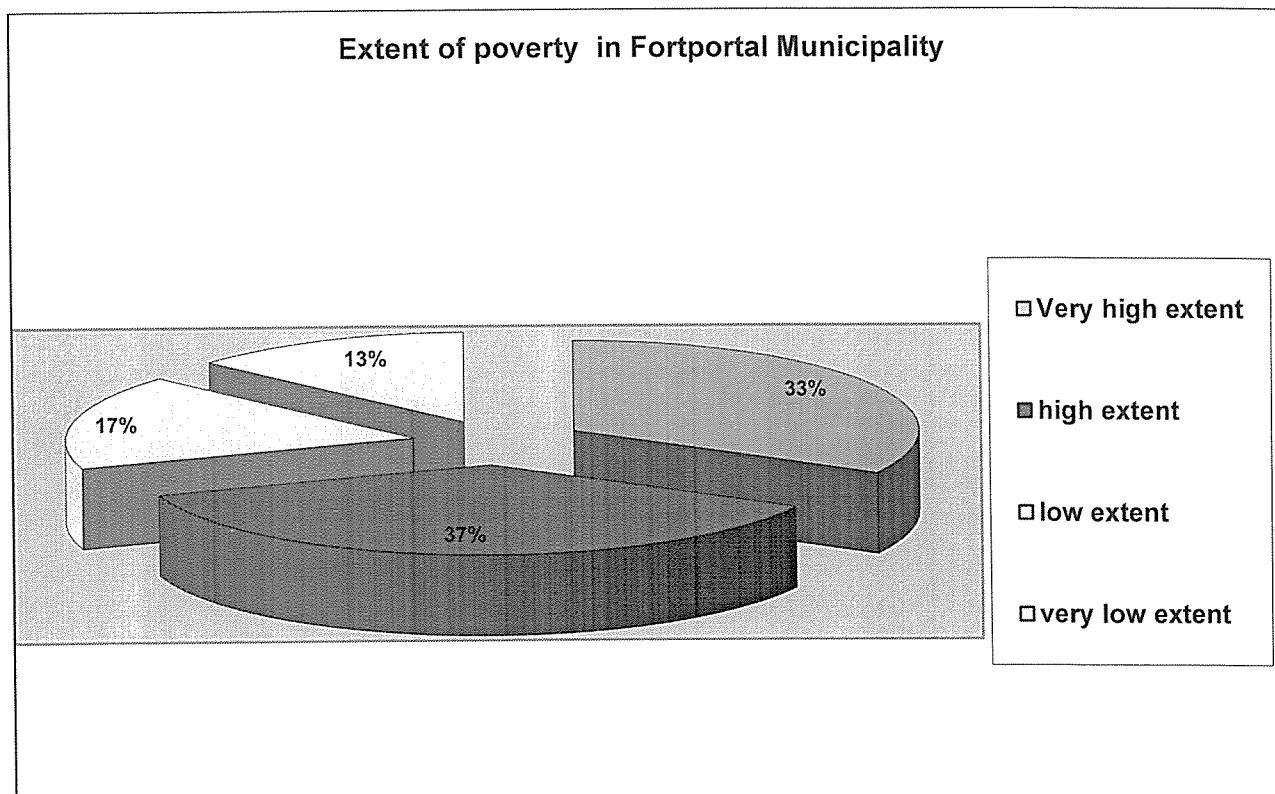
Source: Primary data, 2019

Findings from the study indicated that 33% (20) of the respondents noted that the level of poverty in Fortpotal was very high. They explained that many people especially the youths have no jobs, people hardly get what to eat and many are suffering from health complications yet they cannot afford treatment. The respondents also noted that many people are instead fond of consuming a lot of alcohol, marijuana and other illicit drugs.

25

On the other hand, majority37% (22) of the respondents noted that poverty in the area is high. Only 17% (10) of the respondents said that level of poverty is low and the other 13% (8) of the respondents said that the level of poverty is very low. Given the study findings, it was noted that poverty among the people of fortportal municipality is high as expressed by 37% and 33% of the respondents in the study.

4.3 Impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal municipality, Kabalore District

The first objective was to assess the impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal. This study found out that poverty impacts or influences crime in a number of ways as there is increasing crime among populations struggling with poverty compared to the rich people. Findings are summarized in the graph below;

Figure 2: Impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal Municipality
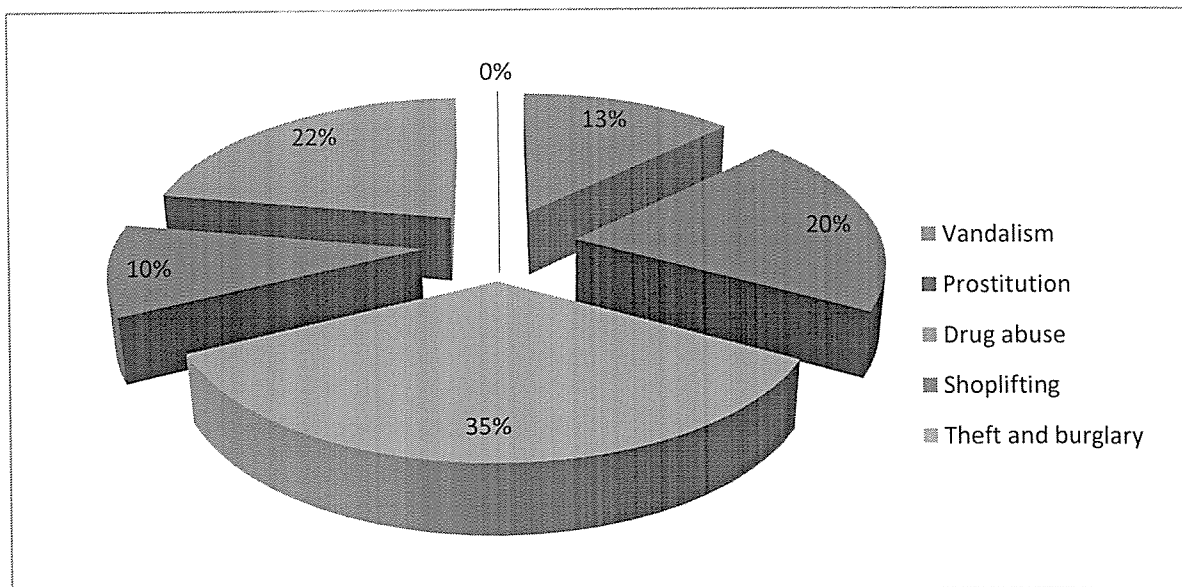
According to the figure above, the findings revealed that, poverty has caused many people especially youths to commit crimes like drug abuse. This was submitted by 35% (21) of the respondents, they cited that because many young people are idle and redundant, they end up developing anti-social behaviours like abusing drugs within their peers. A respondent explained that this begins as a social action, to take the drugs to be a part of the group, to be accepted and it ends up misleading them to commit other crimes. It was reported that police has arrested some of these young people and are in prisons.

The study also found out that poverty influences crime in form of causing people into acts like theft and burglary. This is showed by 22% (13) of the respondents who said that such practices i.e. burglary are common characteristics among people and areas affected by poverty. It was reported that people from lower income groups in most cases feel miserable therefore they end-up committing crimes like shoplifting to get a living for themselves and their families.

Another way in which poverty influence crime is through prostitution. Results from the field indicated that many young girls and women are resorting to prostitution due to lack of access to basic necessities. 20% (12) of the respondents attributed this to the fact that the number of girls going for commercial sex has increased because many of them are school drop outs while others are young mothers who have been dumped with no support from either the father of the child nor the family hence, they end-up on streets to earn a living through prostitution.

In addition, the respondents noted that shoplifting has become a common vice in fortportal municipality, 10% (8) of the respondents said that due to large family size, the some areas in the municipality have become slums, where people who are unemployed are always overcrowded in small households – a situation that have forced majority of them to be caught in criminal cases.

Similarly 13 % of the respondents said that the situation of poverty has rendered people to smuggling drugs in town which drugs have been abused as people get drunk and end up fighting, vandalizing people's property and fueling the problem violence in the municipality. The respondents said that *"if one wants to get drugs, you won't have to look far because they are everywhere in the village. High school students can tell you this"*.

4.4 Causes of increasing crime in Fortportal municipality
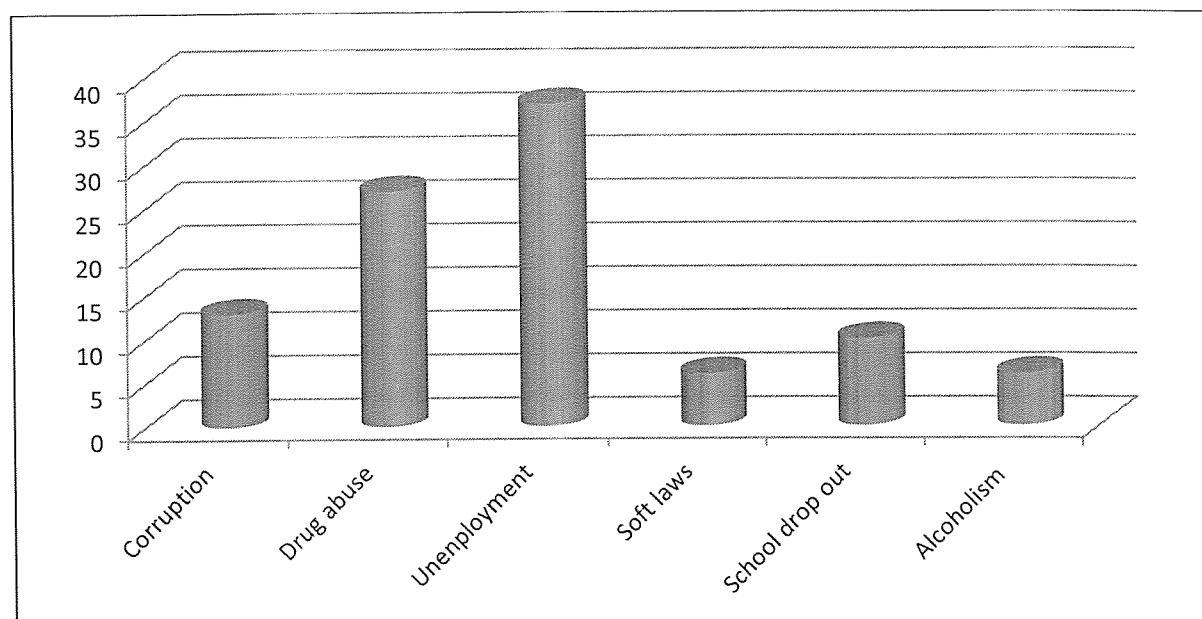
Source: Primary data, 2019

According to the findings, unemployment is responsible for increased crimes in Fortpotal municipality based on 37% of the respondents who participated in this study. They said that unemployment leads people into the state of being extremely poor, where one cannot provide oneself with the three basic needs for life which is food, clothing and shelter, this makes them become desperate and eventually engaging in criminal activities such as theft, shoplifting, among others.

Additionally, the above figure shows that 27% of the respondents said that drug abuse accelerates the problem of crimes among the addicted persons. This was linked to poverty as some people look at dealing in drugs as a means of making money which may be closely connected to other major problems, such as the illegal use of guns, various forms of violence and murder. Respondents added that the age group with the highest frequency of drug use was often 18- 35 years, although wide variation exists between different villages.

Findings further indicated that corruption is area is equally responsible for increased crime. According to 13% of the respondents, high rates of corruption in courts of law and the judiciary at the municipality have led to increased crimes instead of the opposite. They explained that criminals when taken to police and/or courts of law, they pay some money in form of bribe and released which further lead to violence against them when caught in a similar case. Some of them repeat the crime because they were not punished by the law.

Findings further established that high rates of school dropout contribute to increased crime in Fortportal municipality. According to the study, 10% of the respondents said that young people are dropping out of schools due to lack of school requirements including fees while others have been expelled from school due to immoral behaviours. This problem worsens the whole situation of poverty and dependency ratio, leading to vices like teenage pregnancy, fornication, prostitution and drug abuse.

Another factor raised by 7% of the respondents was the issue of ineffective law and order system in the country. They said that there are no strong and serious punishments to some crimes which make suspects continue with their habits. For example crimes like theft and assault or trespass usually are not given serious attention at the police posts thus rendering culprits unaccountable for their criminal acts. This has increased crime in the area because sometimes criminals go without being charged.

Finally, the study revealed that alcoholism is another factor contributing to increased crime in Fortportal. This was according to 6% of the respondents who said that excessive drinking of alcohol is responsible for crimes especially t hose related to domestic violence like wife beating, rape, incest and child abuse. In addition, there is increased number of bars operating day and night throughout the year.

4.5 Possible measures on how to reduce crime in Fortportal municipality.
The third and last objective of this study was to come –up with possible measures on how to reduce crime in Fortportal municipality. Results from the field are summarized in the table below;

Table 5: Possible measures on how to reduce crime in Fortportal

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Education	8	13%
Strict laws	8	13%
Sensitisation programs	22	37%
Job creation	15	29%
Eliminate corruption	7	10%
Total	**60**	**100**

Source: Primary data, 2019

According to the findings in table 5, 22(37%) of the respondents said that there should be sensitization programs extended towards the youth in particular since in many cases are the ones caught in crimes. Implying that youths should be sensitized on consequences and socio-economic impact of involving in crimes and that youths needs to be sensitized and trained in proactive ways of keeping free from crime and violence.

Similarly, findings established that the issue of job creation needs to be emphasized. This was according to 15(29%) of the respondents who said that many young people today are redundant which force them to get involved in criminal activities like shoplifting and burglary in search for survival, hence creating jobs form them will help to reduce on such crimes.

Further still results indicated that there should be strict laws against any type of crime. This was raised by 13 % of the respondents as they explained that some crimes are not taken serious or have no proper description of punishment which makes criminals go unpunished. Therefore if police is given full authority to give proper punishment to the offender, the other criminals will think twice before committing a similar crime.

Another 13% of the respondents said that education can be an appropriate measure to reduce crime. They said that this can be done in form of ensuring that all young people are retained at school until they graduate in either a vocational institute or university.

This implies that young people involved in crime because they dropped out of school would have been catered for hence reducing crime.

Lastly, results showed that corruption should equally be eliminated if crime has to be eliminated. This was submitted by 10% of the respondents who said that Corruption among some law enforcement officials makes criminals continue with their offenses because they know that if they get caught, they'll be released immediately they pay some money, meaning that fighting corruption among police officials will help to reduce crime in Fortportal Municipality.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction
This chapter is concerned with presenting the summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations in line with the study objectives.

5.1 Discussion of Findings
The study was conducted in Fortportal Municipality, Kabarole District. The summary of findings is presented based on the study themes which were to assess the impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal municipality, to identify the causes of high crime rates amongst the people of Fortportal municipality and to come up with possible measures on how to reduce crime.

5.1.2 The impact of poverty on crime in Fortportal Municipality
The prevalence of poverty in Fortportal was found to be relatively high and its impact towards crime is evident in various ways as people living in poverty have a greater susceptibility to engage in crime. Findings established that crimes such as theft, prostitution, drug abuse among others are on the increase and poverty according to this study was identified as a root cause. Results indicated that people with no or little income are strained as individuals many of whom are forced and/or tempted to commit crimes like prostitution, theft and burglary to get cash. In addition, it was clear that because of poverty, many people especially the youths are redundant which leads them to substance abuse and this further complicate matters because this is equally a common characteristic among majorly the poor and they are more likely to break the law while under the influence of drugs. Other aspects that were identified to happen as a result of poverty were school dropout, alcoholism, vandalism and shoplifting rape which all results in increased crime Rates.

5.1.2 Causes of increased crime rate in Fortportal municipality
The study findings indicated that the major cause of crime is basically unemployment, drug abuse, alcoholism, ineffective laws and corruption. It was identified that factors like drug abuse accelerate the problem of crimes among the addicted persons; they look at

dealing in drugs as a means of making money which may be closely connected to other major problems, such as the illegal use of guns, various forms of violence and murder. In addition the study established that corruption is spreading like wild fire among law enforcement officials, this makes criminals go freely and continue with their illegal acts because when taken to police and/or courts of law, they pay some money in form of bribe and released on spot.

Other causes established were school dropout and alcoholism as they become redundant in the community which makes them vulnerable to committing crimes. Ineffective laws also lead to crime because some crimes for example those related to theft have no proper description of punishments. This has increased crime in the area because sometimes criminals go without being charged.

5.1.3 Possible measures to reduce crime in Fortportal municipality

The study established that there should be sensitization programs extended towards the youth in particular since in many cases are the ones caught in crimes. Similarly, findings established that the issue of job creation needs emphasis because many people today are redundant with no jobs to keep them busy and earn income. This forces them to get involved in criminal activities like shoplifting and burglary or theft in search for survival. In addition the study established that there should be strict laws against any type crime such that criminals can be lawfully punished not to repeat the offense. However, emphasis needs to be put on retaining young people in school to ensure that they acquire skills necessary for employment purposes. Lastly, results established that the issue of corruption should equally be handled ironically and eliminated. This is because according to this study, ccorruption among some law enforcement officials makes criminals continue with their offenses as they know that they can pay some money and get leased. Hence, fighting corruption the authorities/officials will help to reduce crime in Fortportal Municipality.

5.2 Conclusions

Based on the study findings, prevalence of poverty in Fortportal is relatively high and the resultant impact is the issue of increased crime through crimes like shoplifting, theft, drug abuse, among others. Whether the impact of poverty on crime is direct or indirect, poverty greatly influence people to engage in crime as per this study findings. Besides, the main causes of increased crime were unemployment, drug abuse, corruption of which poverty is said to be a major determinant. According to this study impoverished individuals lack resources for basic needs and this makes them vulnerable to crime and they tend to be victims both victims of assault and abuse. However, with such elements, it is possible to eliminate crime through sensitization programs like youth socio-economic empowerment in form of job creation, education by retaining them in schools for acquisition of skills, enforcement of strict laws on every crime considerably as well as fighting corruption among law enforcement officials.

5.3 Recommendations

The researcher came up with the following recommendations based on the findings above;

Creation of employment opportunities should be a priority by the government to ensure that altleast majority of the people -youths in particular have jobs so that they are able to meet their basic needs with their families.

Efforts should also be geared towards fighting corruption among the authorities such that criminals are legally punished and law is enforced efficiently.

Furthermore, the researcher recommends that the government should construct rehabilitation centers so that the youths helped in terms of counseling especially to those who are already addicted to drug abuse- this will help to reduce crimes committed under drug influence.

There should be sensitization programs designed to help the youths particularly those dropped out of school to cope up with life in Fortportal municipality. The programs should be designed to help them acquire practical skills in different fields like carpentry, entertainment, mass media, information technology, among others

Community based organisations with genuine objectives to fight poverty should be promoted for people to engage in development activities other than theft, prostitution among others.

Areas for further research

Further research can be conducted on the impact of poverty on drug abuse among youths.

Research should be conducted on the effects of substance abuse on the psychosocial development of youths in Kampala district.

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APPENDICES
APPENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondent,

Iam KAJUMBA ASSUMPTA, a third year student of Kampala International University pursuing a bachelor of Development Studies. I would like to conduct a research related on the influence of poverty on crimes in Fortportal Municipality, Kampala.

Dear Sir/ Madam, you have been chosen to participate as a respondent in this research by kindly filling this Questionnaire and your cooperation will be highly appreciated.

PART A: BACK GROUND OF RESPONDENT.

Name ....Sex ....Age ....

Religion...

Level of Education ....

Marital Status...

No. of Children: Girls ....Boys..

Source of income..

EXTENT OF POVERTY

1. Families are able to have atleast two meals per day with a balanced diet

    Yes ☐   No ☐

2. All residents have access to quality health services in Fortportal Municipality

    Yes ☐   No ☐

3. Most households are able to send their children to school with all the necessary scholastic materials

    Yes ☐   No ☐

4. Most of the households are able to provide their children with better sleeping facilities (e.g. nice beds)

    Yes ☐   No ☐

5. Majority of the population in Fortportal Municipality are employed

    Yes ☐   No ☐

If no, please explain why?

PART B: POVERTY AND CRIME

1. The people who are poor are generally characterised by:

    a) Anger   ☐

    b) Isolation with peer groups   ☐

    c) unemployed   ☐

    d) Do not attend school   ☐

    e) Trauma   ☐

2. Crimes in Fortportal are on the increase because of the major problems like?

    a) Drug abuse   ☐

    b) Lack of basic necessities   ☐

    c) Illiteracy   ☐

    d) Unemployment   ☐

                                       ☐

3. Because of poverty, there is increased crimes such as:

    a) Vandalism   ☐

    b) Robbery   ☐

    c) Shoplifting   ☐

    d) Prostitution   ☐

4. The biggest percentage of youths in Fortportal Municipality are found of;

    a) Abusing drugs   ☐

    b) Involved in theft and assaults cases   ☐

6. What do you think are the effects of poverty in Fortportal Municipality ?

....

....

7. Please suggest possible measures that can be implemented to reduce high crimes rates in Fortportal Municipality.

....

....

8. What role should the following play in addressing the effects of poverty in relation to crime increase in Fortportal Municipality?

1. Police ....

2. Community members ....

3. Local councils ....

4. Government ....

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: INTERVIEW GUIDE

Questions on poverty

1. What is your form of employment and what is your average monthly income?
2. Are you in position to pay your Basic needs?
   Please explain
3. What is the size of your family and how many dependants do you have? Are you able to feed all of them?
4. What is the distance from your house to the nearest government health centre?
5. Do you always find the needed drugs in the health facilities
6. What is the distance to the nearest government primary school?
7. In your view, what is the rate of drug abuse in your area and why?

Questions on Crimes

1. Do you know any child who was abducted in Fortportal Municipality since this year began?
2. Do you know any incident of rape in your area? Of yes, what do you think is the major cause of this?
3. In your view what is the rate of drug abuse in Fortportal Municipality and at what age group is most affected.
4. In your view, what is the rate of theft in your area? If so what should be done to reduce this crime?
5. What is the role of police and other community members in preventing crimes in your area?
6. In your view, what should be done to reduce crime in Fortportal Municipality?