

**CHILD LABOR AND CHILDRENS' RIGHTS FOR WELFARE IN RURAL AREAS  
OF KWANYIY SUB-COUNTY KWEEN DISTRICT  
UGANDA**

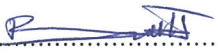
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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, OPEN,  
DISTANCE AND e- LEARNING IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF  
ARTS WITH EDUCATION OF KAMPALA  
INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**MAY, 2018**

## DECLARATION

I Chelangat Subeta declare to the best of my knowledge, this dissertation is my original work and has never been submitted for any degree or award in any University or for any publication as a whole or in part.


Signature.....

CHELANGAT SUBETA.

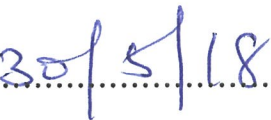
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## APPROVAL

This dissertation is hereby submitted by my approval as a University supervisor

Signature:  .....

LAAKI SAMSON

Date:  .....

## **DEDICATION**

This research is dedicated to the creator Almighty God, who gave me the physical and mental strength to undertake and accomplish it in the prescribed period of time.

I dedicate this piece of work to my beloved parents Mwanga James, Chemos Betty, brothers Kiplangat Isaac, Kiprotich Edwin, Chebet Abraham and sisters Cheptegei Lucy, Chebet Esther, Faith, Bilha and Naomi and my friends Kipruto Titus, Cherkut Stella , and Musiimenta Calium for their tolerance, patience, encouragement, and sacrifice throughout my struggle for this academic achievement. They have never lost hope in me.

My sincere appreciation should be extended to my mentors.

May God bless them all!

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**CHELANGAT SUBETA**

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## ACRONYMS

<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>ANPPCAN</b>	African Network for Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>CEDOVIP</b>	Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention
<b>CFPU</b>	Child and Family Protection Unit
<b>CHIN</b>	Children in Need
<b>COPE</b>	Complementary Primary Education
<b>CSEC</b>	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
<b>DFID</b>	Department for International Development
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GoU</b>	Government of Uganda
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immune Virus
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>ILO-IPEC</b>	International Labour Organization-International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour
<b>KII's</b>	Key Informant Interviews
<b>LC</b>	Local Councils
<b>M.D.Gs</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MoES</b>	Ministry of Education and Sports
<b>MoFPED</b>	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
<b>MoGLSD</b>	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
<b>NCC</b>	National Council of Children
<b>NER</b>	Net Enrolment Ratio
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>OVC</b>	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
<b>PEAP</b>	Poverty Eradication Action Programme
<b>PMA</b>	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
<b>SIMPOC</b>	statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour
<b>STD</b>	Sexually Transmitted Disease

<b>UBOS</b>	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
<b>UDHR</b>	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
<b>ULFS</b>	Uganda Labour Force Survey
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNCRC</b>	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
<b>UNPAC</b>	Uganda National Programme of Action for Children
<b>UPE</b>	Universal Primary Education
<b>UPF</b>	Uganda Police Force
<b>UPPC</b>	Uganda Printing and Publishing Corporation
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>USE</b>	Universal Secondary Education
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation

## **ABSTRACT**

Employment of children in the rural areas is an enormous problem in many parts of the world. It is estimated that Sub-Saharan Africa follows Asia-Pacific in having the largest number of child workers with 48 million. This study therefore explored from an ethical point of view the relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare, as well as its effects on health, safety and education of the children involved. . The study also sought to suggest strategies in tackling the causes of child labour so as to tackle child labor

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 Introduction

Children in any work that deprives children of their right to childhood, interferes with ability to attend regular school and that is mentally, physically, socially and morally dangerous and harmful. Attempts at establishing the exact challenges of child labor in the rural areas have not always been comprehensive, yet still they do not delve into a deeper analysis of the root causes of child abuse in form of child employment so as to find a substantial solution to the vice.

This practice is considered exploitative by many organizations

In Uganda, a case in point Kwanyiy child labor is a major issue especially among the peasants and the orphans who are forced to work in order to survive my study addresses the causes, effects and results of child labor among the disadvantaged children of Kwanyiy and the peasant communities

The study therefore was sought to analyze from an ethical point of view the relationship between child labor or children's welfare in war torn or rural northern Uganda, a case in point Kwanyiy district, with special emphasis placed on the challenges of child labour as well as its effects on health, safety and education of the children engaged in the vice

Qualitative and quantitative techniques of research were used during the study and these included; interviews, questionnaires, photography and observation methods. The information collected was organized according to six chapters in order to make a meaningful presentation, conclusion and recommendations

Chapter one of the study contained general background and introductory information including; statement of the problem, scope of the study, definition of key terms, objectives and justification of the study.

Chapter two gives related information to the study from various reviewed literature. Literature was organized based on the study objectives so as to make meaningful categorization of data.

Chapter three of the study contained the methodological aspects of the study that included; the

study design, study area, population of the study, sample size, sampling procedure and data collection methods and analysis.

Chapter four of the study presented the research findings based on the specific objectives.

Chapter five was the last chapter presented with the conclusions and recommendations

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

Kwanyiy is in Eastern Uganda. It is the commercial and administrative centre of Kween District. The city is located at 2°46'48N 32°18'00.

The effect of more than 25 years of internal fighting was terrible for the people of Eastern Uganda.

Child labor started with the beginning of the industrial revolution in the 1800's.

Until the 1990s, the effects of violent conflict on children were not acknowledged. Today, however, children and violent conflict are growing areas of literature. Graca Machel's (2001) *The Impact of War on Children* is one of the foundational literatures in the effects of conflict on children. Through a comprehensive analysis discussing child soldiers, health and HIV/AIDS, sexual violence against women, and the psychosocial consequences of war, Machel's report for the United Nations addresses the major areas that future studies have built on. Jo Boyden and Joanna de Berry (2004) also illustrate a general overview of the effects of war on children in conflict zones worldwide. The Women's Commission for Refugee Women & Children (2001) and the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) (2007) expound on such studies, focusing specifically on the experiences of adolescents and women, respectively, in the war-torn zones of Northern Uganda. These sources identify the effects of war on children in different categories, including economic, social, political, cultural, and psychological consequences.

So in the case of eastern Uganda, a case in point is Kwanyiy, the long civil war led by Alice Lakwena left in its wake shameful consequences and effects one of them being child labor. Its under this background that the researcher identified one of the effects of war Child labor

Many of the child laborers are children aged ten to seventeen. Findings indicate that most working



children have not attended formal education .In my findings child labor is as a result of the increase in the cost of living. This has forced the peasant communities to encourage child labor in order to survive. Some researches have also ignored the fact that some child laborers offer their service of their own free will and that they are not forced by their families as is usually perceived.

### **1.2 Statement of the problem:**

After the end of the long civil war led by the physical economic and social structure of Eastern Uganda took a nose dive for the worst never mind that northern Uganda was a poverty ridden region. The researcher identified the most common vice that arose a few years after the LRA war led by Alice Lakwena had ended ; that is child labor. This is where the researcher was able to identify the colossal damage that child labor was wrecking on the children in these communities since it was mostly ignored and the problem was rarely addressed due to its economic benefits to the participants and community at large .

It is evident that Uganda has several policies and strategies to eliminate the problem of child labour through its existing legal and institutional framework at the national, regional and international level. However, with all these legal instruments and institutions in place, the rate of child labour is on an increase in Kwanyiy, including the worst forms of child labor and nothing much is being done to help fight the situation .

Many rural families find it difficult to have and maintain good standards of living because of their lack of wealth as they are mostly peasants. Questions such as ;what are the different forms of child labor in Kwanyiy what is the relationship between child labor and children's welfare why are the numbers of child laborers in Kwenyiy increasing even with presence of government funds and also find solutions to help curb the vice .

### **1.3 Scope**

My research study covers the post war rural area of Kwenyiy in eastern Uganda where cases of child labor are rampant with children in the age bracket of 7 to 17 and over.

This study will include the peasant families and including orphans who lost their parents during the civil war led Alice Lakwena.

## **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

### **1.4.1. Main Objective**

To investigate the different forms of child labor in Kwanyiy.

### **1.4.2. Specific Objectives**

1. The study is to investigate the different forms of child labor in Kwanyiy
2. To find out the relationship between child labor or children's welfare in rural or war torn Eastern Uganda
3. To find out causes of child labor in the rural areas of Kwanyiy and the effects of child labor including its effects.
4. To find out ways on how to reduce child labor being employed in Kwanyiy.

## **1.5 Research questions:**

1. What are the different forms of child labor in eastern Uganda ?
2. What is the relationship between child labor and children's welfare in rural areas of Kwanyiy?
3. What are the causes and effects of child labor in the rural areas of Kwanyiy?
4. What strategies can be employed to reduce child labor that is being employed in the rural areas of Kwanyiy?

## **1.6 Significance**

My study will help bring to light the different forms of child labor.

My study will help uncover reasons for child labor in Uganda particularly Kwanyiy which had under gone intense war that lasted for about twenty years.

The study will also help find ways in which child labor can be curbed in Kwanyiy.

The study therefore will help to contribute to the existing knowledge on child rights especially with regard to the causes and effects of child labour and the measures of combating the vice. This work will thus be useful to policy makers and analysts, researchers and students.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

Many researchers have attempted to address the issue of child labor all over the world. A lot of Literature concerning the subject has accumulated

Even though many studies have been focused on Africa, child labor in Uganda has not been thoroughly addressed in east Africa particularly Uganda. The researchers' focus is on the northern parts of war ravaged eastern Uganda particularly Kwanyiy whose inhabitants have experienced the most intense form of human rights abuse.

Even though emphasis is placed on Kwanyiy it must be stressed that the information obtained is of great importance with regard to; scope, and magnitude of child labor in eastern Uganda. Its common knowledge that every person has to work and there's the saying that "Labor made a human out of a monkey. But nevertheless work does take a huge chunk out of a person's health and time.

The question is, is it human and moral to condone child labor? Firstly, children should devote most time to education. Labor that distract them and dampens their desire to study. It may also negatively affect the young growing organisms and also worsens their future development. On the other hand, if a child is not taught to work and to try "grown up life", he or she may not adjust to it. In most instances well to do families are guarded from participating in hard labor.

There are some cases when child labor is always in admissible; the main of them is physical hard labor of children under the age of 12. It's evident that there are cases of age discrimination concerning, the amount of salary, the future (and possibly current) carrier growth, and cases of any other discrimination by age. Its evident that totally inadmissible cases should get very strong punishment, otherwise the tendency for using child labor and for paying them pittance will ever be stopped. The government is trying its hardest to see that child labor in war ravaged Kwanyiy is wiped out but so far this is not possible due to recurring

obstacles. From the challenges that have been reviewed in this regard, an important observation that has been made is that child labor is a characteristic of all economic systems.

At some stage, consequently, what happened in Europe and North America before and during the industrial revolution in the nineteenth century when children were employed in large numbers in industries commercial undertakings including street hawking and agriculture to an extent is similar to what is happening in developing countries like Uganda

At the turn of the twenty first century (Hindman 2002)

For example, children as young as 6 years and 9 years are working long hours with only an hour break in horrible conditions coupled with only an hours break in horrible conditions with meager payments or non at all. Most of these children are badly damaged, physically and psychologically in the long run as most of their health needs are neglected in favor of long working hours

#### **2.1.1 The different forms of child labor in Uganda.**

The two main forms of child labor in Uganda include apprenticeship, and bonded child labor which is at times referred to as forced labor. Booth forms of child labor are further elaborated as seen as below;

##### **2.1.1.1 Forced or bonded child labor**

This form of child labor is the most exploitative form of child labor. Bonded child labor is defined as a long time relationship between the employer and the employee that is cemented by a loan or by force that denies the employees various freedoms such as the right to choose his or her own employer or to negotiate the conditions of the contract. Children that are involved in this kind of labor have no choice to choose what they are willing to do or not, in other wards, it's the employers that determine child laborers' needs and preferences' concerning the job.

Forced labor is found primarily in the informal , unregulated or illegal sectors of the economy .its common among the economically vulnerable and least educated

members of the society such as the minority ethnic groups or the lowest caste members

Children are equally vulnerable to exploitation because of the tender ages they get into work They get side tracked so easily coupled with bullying and thereby are forced to ignore their rights .The researcher found that mostly the poor and orphaned children were most prone

to exploitation because in their bid to survive they'd do any thing asked of them ;even if it was in violation of their rights as children.

Child labor and exploitation in some context is akin to slavery .

Slavery is not an old phenomenon that only existed in the past traditional society , but is still existing albeit underground even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and is only referred to as modern day slavery. Many children have suffered silently since there's no outlet for them to communicate or air out there grievances. As an example, the story below may not represent the situation of Uganda or that of the child laborers of Kween district in eastern Uganda, but it helps to explain the characteristics and impacts of victims world wide. This is a story of Iqbal Masih a victim of child labor

Iqbal was only 4 years old when he was sold into slavery ;a child of bondage, Sold by his family to pay for a debt amassed. Though he was small, and a minor he was forced to work at a carpet factory for 12 hours per day. He was verbally and physically abused, and then chained in his loom for 6 years. The severe malnutrition and years of immobility in front of his loom stunted his growth. All this changed in 1992, when Iqbal and some of his friends from the carpet factory escaped to attend a freedom day celebration that was organized by a group of workers to help end bonded labor. With their help, Iqbal too was set free and soon became a well known critic of child labor. In December 1994, Iqbal visited the United States to receive a human rights award. Soon after his return, Iqbal was killed by a gun man hired by factory owners. Iqbals' story is just over millions of child laborers world wide, but his story has inspired many people to act for change.

Forced child labor further includes those children whose parents have pledged them as collateral (debt bondage), child soldiers and prostitutes, domestic servants among others. Children who for instance work in unseen domestic service are barely visible and their rights are constantly infringed upon. The researchers noted that children with ages ranging from as low as 12 years worked house holds under harsh treatment that was not only limited to beatings, earning peanuts with little breaks, but also are subjected to sexual harassment by their male employers. Further evidence by ILO indicates that children in forced service work in conditions that have no resemblance to free employment relationship. These

children have no control or what so ever over their daily lives and have no way of escape when they enter into forced labor.

Unlike other countries around the world , debt bondage in Uganda is almost non existent . Denis Odoch , the district police commander of Kween is quoted to have said that the number of orphans and vulnerable children who are selling and working on the streets is alarming .He however says the majority of children cannot be arrested and questioned since they have no one to turn to support . Some of the children are the heads of families and therefore arresting them will make their siblings suffer. He says statistics from the Initiative For The Community Concern Uganda a local CBO which caters for orphans and vulnerable people in Kween shows that in last year , 60 children in the streets who smoke banned substances, sell bottles, jerry cans and hardware like padlocks for survival.

Child labor is common in Eastern Uganda because many parents are ignorant of the laws and faced with extreme poverty which leaves them with no option but to send them to the streets .unless the different households find alternative sources of income , many children will continue being exploited. On many occasions Kwanyiy Police has arrested children vending merchandise on streets but released them since they were orphans .research by the IRC( International Rescue Committee) found that the inability to pay school related costs was the main reasons why 52% of school children were not educated in Eastern Uganda.

Forced or bonded labor is the most intolerable and exploitative form of child labor according to the International Programme On the Elimination Of Child Labor. While it appears more pronounced on the continent of Asia , bonded labor exists in other parts of the world. Bonded or forced labor is also contrary to several regional national and international legislations that are against child labor and the universal declaration of human rights.

#### **2.1.1.2 Apprenticeship**

This is a controversial form of child labor where its claimed that the child is learning skills of an occupation which will later be used later in his or her life career. In reality , many employers do exploit apprentices as free labor while giving the excuse that they

are giving skills to a new generation . According to the ILO, an apprenticeship is carried out under a formal contract of employment , usually its within a formalized Programme under the supervision of national education authorities . This has stayed as a subject of intensive and detailed regulation these two forms of labor (bondage and apprenticeship) represent a situation of child labor in the rural parts of post war rural regions of Kween in Eastern Uganda

## **2.2 The relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare**

### **2.2.1 Child labor and children's rights**

In recent decades some extreme forms of violence against children, including sexual exploitation and trafficking, are the worst forms of child labor and the impact of armed conflict in Eastern Uganda have provoked international outcry and achieved a consensus of condemnation, although no rapid remedy. But in addition to these extreme forms of violence, many children are routinely exposed to physical, sexual and psychological violence in their homes and schools, in care and justice systems, in places of work in their communities. All of this has devastating consequences for their health and well-being now and in the future. Child labor is a form of Child abuse and a harm that befalls children that violates the rights of children . Children throughout the world suffer from a multitude of harms- malnutrition, starvation, infectious disease, congenital defects, abandonment, economic exploitation, the violence of warfare, to name a few. Not all harm that befalls children is child abuse.” Child abuse is harm resulting from intentional human action. The most fundamental attribute of child abuse is that it is harmful to the child and detrimental to his/her well-being. There is also an important difference between unintentional and intentional harm. “It has been observed that what is so destructive about child abuse and neglect (as opposed to other forms of injury) is that the betrayal of the child's trust leads to defective socialization.” Child abuse is correlated with unemployment and poverty. “Rates of abuse and neglect can be thought of as indicators of the quality of life for families, and maltreatment can be viewed as a symptom, rather than a cause, of difficulties in family and individual functioning.” Thus, overall rates of child abuse are higher in regions characterized by a higher proportion of low-income families and in regions with unusually high rates of unemployment.

There are four main categories of child abuse: physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse, all which are effects of child labor.

### **2.2.2 Physical Abuse and emotional abuse**

Studies from countries around the world suggest that up to 80 to 98 % of children suffer physical punishment in their homes, and it is estimated that 57,000 children under the age of 15 die as a result of physical abuse per year. Physical abuse can range from minor bruises to severe fractures or death as a result of punching, beating, hitting, shaking, or otherwise harming a child. One of the most common types of physical abuse in infants includes Shaken Baby Syndrome. In war torn Eastern Uganda , child labor is a form of physical abuse as children are coerced into doing labor activities that are physically psychologically and emotionally harmful to the children.

Emotional abuse is behavior that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-esteem. It may include threats, constant criticism, as well as withholding love, support, or guidance. Neglect is a pattern of failing to provide for a child's basic physical and emotional needs. Neglect is a very common type of child abuse, and according to Child Welfare Information Gateway, more children suffer from neglect than from physical and sexual abuse combined. Children in Eastern Uganda who are coerced into participating in labor activities end up feeling emotionally abused and neglected.

### **2.2.3 Sexual Abuse and Child Prostitution**

Prostitution is another form of child labor in violation with children's rights and welfare. Sexual abuse of a child is any sexual act between an adult and a child which may include sexual intercourse, incest, rape, oral sex, sodomy, inappropriate touching, or kissing. "An overview of studies in 21 countries (mostly developed) found that 7-36% of women and 3-29% of men reported sexual victimization during childhood, and the majority of studies found girls to be abused at 1.5-3 times the rate for males. Most of the abuse occurred within the family circle."

Child prostitution "involves offering the sexual services of a child or inducing a child to perform sexual acts for a form of compensation, financial or otherwise." Worldwide, approximately 1 million children are forced into prostitution every year, and it is estimated that the total number of child prostitutes is as high as 10 million. "Generally children do not commit child prostitution but the adults who engage in prostitution or offer a child's sexual services to others force them. It is estimated that at least 1 million girls worldwide are lured or forced into this scandalous form of child exploitation. Child prostitution is more frequent in developing countries such as Brazil and Thailand where more than 200,000 children are exploited."<sup>(12)</sup> Child prostitution is not only a



cause of death and high morbidity for millions of children, but also a gross violation of their rights. Prostitution negatively affects children's sexual health, causes psychological harm, and puts them at risk for enduring increased violence. In Kwanyiy sexual abuse is common among child laborers, this is manifested through defilement, rape, among others.

#### **2.2.4 Sexual Health**

Child prostitutes are at a high risk of contracting HIV. HIV infection rates in prostituted children range from 5% in Vietnam to 17% in Thailand. One study reports that 50-90% of children rescued from brothels in Southeast Asia are infected with HIV. Prostituted children are also at a high risk of acquiring other STDs. For example, one study found that child prostitutes have STD rates in Cambodia of 36% and in China of 78%, compared to the 5% yearly incidence of STDs in adolescents worldwide.

#### **2.2.5 Psychological Harm:**

Child prostitution also causes serious long-term psychological harm, including anxiety, depression, and behavioral disorders. Prostituted children are at a high risk of suicide and post-traumatic stress disorder. A study conducted in the U.S. found that 41% of pregnant prostituted adolescents reported having seriously considered or attempted suicide within the past year. In Kwanyiy children who practice prostitution are prone to contracting sexually transmitted diseases. As noted above prostitution is a form of child labor

#### **2.2.6 Violence**

Prostituted children are at a high risk of enduring injuries and violence. The children may be physically and emotionally abused into submission, while girls may be beaten to induce miscarriages. A study of 475 child prostitutes in five countries found that 73% of participants had been physically assaulted while working as a sex worker, and 62% reported having been raped.

### **2.3 What are the reasons for increment of child labor in the rural areas of Kwanyiy?**

Child labor in Kwanyiy is caused by several factors the most significant of which include the following;

#### **2.3.1 Parental ignorance regarding the bad effects of child labor**

The ineffectiveness of child labor laws in terms of implementation, non-availability and non-accessibility to schools are some of the other factors which encourages the phenomenon of child

labor. It is also very difficult to immature minds and undeveloped bodies to understand and organize themselves against exploitation in the absence of adult guidance.

### **2.3.2 Orphanage**

This is another reason of child labor. Children born out of wed-lock, children with no parents and relatives, often do not find anyone to support which forces them to work for their own survival.

### **2.3.3 The industrial revolution.**

This has also had a negative effect by giving rise to circumstances which encourages child labor. Sometimes multi-nationals prefer to employ child laborers' in developing countries especially in garment industries only because they can be recruited for less pay and more work can be extracted from them and there is no problem of union with them. This attitude also makes it difficult for adults to find jobs in factories, forcing them to drive their little ones to work in factories.

### **2.3.4 High population growth rate:**

According to the Uganda Demographic Survey report (2005/2006) shows that Uganda has one of the highest growth rate at 3.2%. this exacerbated by the high fertility rate of 6.7 per women compared to the sub-Saharan average 4.8. The high population growth and fertility rates has also resulted in large families and a high dependency ratio, which compels some school going age children to go to work at an early age to supplement income.

### **2.3.5 Poverty.**

Poverty and child labor are inextricably linked and poses the greatest challenges to many countries. The UNHS 2009/2010 report estimates that 24.5% representing 7.5 million of the population is poor. Out of the 7.5 million, 5.8 million chronic poverty and mostly in rural areas. After the intense war waged by the LRA against the people of Eastern Uganda, many lives property were lost. People in the rural areas of Kwanyiy lost their meager money making businesses and thereafter resorted to employing child laborers to earn income; for those families who had a large number of dependants. As for those children who lost their parents, they instead sought employment where unskilled labor force was employed.

### **2.3.6 Growing trends in HIV/AIDS:**

The scourge of HIV/AIDS contributed to the vicious cycle of child labor in Kwanyiy by exacerbating the poverty levels of many rural house holds and thereby adding to the supply child laborers in the labor market. Child prostitutes have also increased the growth of HIV/AIDS in Kwanyiy. A higher burden is placed on girls who often have to provide care and house hold services for the family when their parents become ill or die. According to the UNAIDS Global Report 2009/2010, its estimated that 1.2 million people are currently living with HIV in Uganda (including 150,000 children) and an estimated 64000 people died of aids in 2009.

### **2.3.7 Vulnerability of children:**

Child labor in Eastern Uganda is linked to the multiple vulnerabilities and in adequacies of social protection mechanism to reach and support them. Vulnerable persons' included orphans disabled and young people who often times have to take care of themselves without the help of elders .thereby forcing them to resort to child labor ,since most of their relatives were either killed by the LRA or have disappeared.

### **2.3.8 Natural hazards wars and internal conflicts**

Natural hazards in Kwanyiy particularly droughts and floods lead to crop failure, subsequent recurrent hunger and starvation which drives the children to work . such hazards have led to influence of people migrating to urban areas in search of employment and survival . these displacements have led to a significant number of children being out of school at the risk of child labor and abuse.

### **2.3.9 Wars and internal conflicts**

These have contributed to the displacement of families destruction of property and death of thousands of innocent people. Insurgencies caused by Alice Lakwenas LRA resulted in high proportion of death especially for young males and the internal displacement of people. Armed conflicts has also been associated with high levels of domestic violence, exploitative sex and child headed households.

### **2.3.10 Socio cultural aspect:**

This has played a crucial role in the escalating rate of child labor in Kween district. Traditional African societies view children as property and thus the larger the number, the wealthier their parents, with this assumption, children were therefore supposed to work. There was equal distribution of labor where by the boys went to hunt with their peers and some elders, while the girls were expected to do the household chores that included cooking, cleaning the home among others. This traditional trend still exists today because of the belief that participation in domestic activities nurtures and prepares them for the future. However, some of the household chores tend to be exploitative in nature and can thus be categorized under child labor.

Traditionally in Africa, it was unacceptable for girls to acquire education, a belief that is advocated for today by the rebel group based in northern Nigeria known as the 'Boko Haram' literally translated as 'western education is evil'. Its with this belief in Uganda today particularly in Kwanyiy that girls are denied their rights to education. Instead they are prepared for marriage the moment they clock puberty where the family acquired bridal wealth. The more girls a family had, the more bride wealth the family collected. Parents also deny their daughters education, citing that an educated girl would only benefit her in-laws and not her parents as she will go and live with her new family.

### **2.3.11 Socio economic aspects:**

Modern socio economic developments have diminished the traditional role of women. Women in the days of old were not allowed to work outside their homes; that is to get employment and work as an employee with a salary. This change in women's status has thus brought about strains in family life and decreased value of children. Children are no longer an asset but a liability to most working class parents.

### **2.3.12 Single parenthood:**

The study indicates that children who reported their parents as no longer staying together or those who had lost a parent or both in most instances wallowed in poverty engaged in child labor. The increase in number of orphans and also children raised by single parents necessitated the employment of children in the labor force.

Single parenthood includes the raising of children single handedly without the help of a partner.

#### **2.3.13 Gender:**

It was observed that female children tended to dominate in both domestic life and work in their homes. In many families girls labor is not only on demand, but is also absolutely necessary for family survival as reported on CNN and Aljazeera world reports 2009. the males on the other hand dominate the streets or rather 'run the streets' as they like to refer to it and other informal activities demanding hard labor.

#### **2.3.14 Characteristics of the family:**

Family characteristic have also played a major role in the employment of children basing on the type of family (monogamous and polygamous). In the study findings, children from poor families with unemployed parents were in labor activities to supplement their miserly family income. Child labor becomes a major option for most families whose survival was at stake it ends up affecting the academic performance of some children.

In the long run, the children are damaged both physically and psychologically. The age of children also played a role in the employment of child labor. The number of children involved in child labor increase with age and peaks off at the age of 13 to 17 before decreasing. The researched uncovered during the study that children with the ages of 7 did not engage so much in hard labor unlike their older counterparts who in most cases worked to earn a living. Children that were 7 years and below represented 20% , 34.3% of child laborers aged between 8 and 12 years and over represented 45%. It was also noted that as children grow older, they tended to diminish from certain activities. This information was also gleaned from the Central Intelligence Agency fact book 2011.

#### **2.3.15 Political factors:**

Political factors refer to the conditions that cause civil and national unrest including civil wars. In Uganda, especially in Kween, street children have increased due to the past civil war. These children sometimes go unaccompanied by their parents, some are orphans. Most war zones have forced children of all ages to move to the streets to earn a living especially the orphans' in attempt to survive. Khartoum, Sudan has the largest number of

street children in Africa mainly because of the wars between the government and SPLA soldiers. Consequently, Sudan was split up into two, south Sudan whose capital is Juba and Sudan whose capital is Khartoum.

Moreover, willingness to exploit children is the most responsible cause for child labor. This is the root of the problem. Even if a family is very poor, the incidence of child labor will be very low unless there are people willing to exploit these children.

### **2.3.1 Effects of child labor administration in Kween**

Child labour has both negative and positive implications on the child and these include;

#### **2.3.1.1 Negative effects:**

The number and proportion of children affected is not the only indicator of the prevalence of child labour, but also the type of work children do, the conditions under which they work and abuses the children face are significant factors of input. The study significantly noted that the challenges faced by children in this country are uniform, and thus the data collected represented the general situation regarding child labour in this country. Some of the challenges that were spot-on included: exploitation, meagre payments, sexual harassment, psychological and physical ineptness, dropout from school and health risks. Such challenges were tailored to specific activities in the informal sector that were highly detrimental to the children's health.

#### **2.3.1.2 Health and safety hazards**

This is basically related to the nature of work that the children engage in and the conditions under which they work. Children who engage in work are exposed to physical chemical biological and psychological hazards which are often found in combination in the work place.

Studies by UNICEF and ILO indicate that children are more vulnerable to harm in many work places since they have not developed so well, as quoted; A growing body of research indicates that, because of anatomical, physiological and psychological differences between children and adults, child workers are considerably more vulnerable to work place health hazards. Age seems to be an important factor in the effect of toxic chemicals, and children who are exposed to them early tend to become ill or disabled much more quickly than the adults do with similar exposure. Children are more susceptible to thermal stress and environmental temperature changes, and are more sensitive

to ionizing radiation. They are also more vulnerable to carcinogens, and if exposed to them, the probability of them developing cancer is greater than that of adults having equal exposure. Furthermore, children who work are more likely than adults to suffer occupational injuries owing to inattention, fatigue, poor judgment, insufficient knowledge of work processes and the fact that equipment, machinery and tools used are designed for adults

#### **2.3.1.3 Children in commercial agriculture.**

Children form a substantial part of the labor force in agriculture. according to the ILO /Uganda Bureau of Statistics , understanding children work ,(2008)the majority of working children (96%) is found in the agricultural sector in various hazardous and dangerous activities on tea, sugar and coffee plantations. Tobacco is widely in Kwanyiy which requires a lot of laborers. Such activities are hazardous as the tobacco processing may include hazardous risks such as mixing handling and application of toxic chemicals.

#### **2.3.1.4 Child trafficking:**

The authorities in Kwanyiy have launched an investigation into the alleged child trafficking in the district. Milton Odongo, the acting resident district commissioner says that his office has recovered information that a woman has been luring children out of the internally displaced peoples camp and selling them to south Sudan as sex slaves .

Joseph Omondo Nyanga, the chief magistrate sentenced two teachers in jail for child trafficking reported in the Red paper news paper of Uganda. Daniel Lutwala, the head teacher of Kwanyiy primary school to two years in jail for child trafficking after he pleaded guilty for the crime. An ILO/IPEC study 2007 however confirmed that trafficking of children us a growing problem mainly fueled by intermediaries who make false promises concerning employment opportunities and better life to children.

#### **2.3.1.5 School drop out:**

There is also a strong relationship between child labour and school attendance. Children who engaged in child labour activities had few hours of study which subsequently led to poor performance and eventually dropping out of school. Above a certain threshold, which varies according to age and type of activity, work has a detrimental effect on children's ability to learn. According to a research in the United States, school performance of persons between the ages of 12

and 17 can be negatively affected after long hours of work between 15 and 20 hours per week. Children worked long hours in order to meet their fees, scholastic materials and lunch upkeep basically attributed to the lack of them, the urge to work and refusal by parents to educate their children.

#### **2.3.1.6 Psychological work hazards:**

The work that children engage has not only physical harm but also psychological harm in form of stunted intellectual development (intellectual ineptness). The work separates them from educational opportunities and thereby fritters away their chance to develop the essential skills they need to improve their prospects as adults. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century modern societies, most opportunities to escape from the most grinding poverty depend on the acquisition of at least basic literacy, numeric, and social skills through basic education. Functional illiteracy the usual result of missing school or other educational opportunities, may be catastrophic to the later life prospects of a working child. Lack of schooling therefore is properly defined as a work hazard when the lack is work-induced.

Observers have also noted that in many working children, there is an underlying sense of worthlessness and generalized apathy and coldness that do not bode well for their future as adults. Children for instance who have not been loved and therefore not learnt to love do not make good parents. Their children end up being like their own parents as they were also treated violently and as such, unloving adults.

The workplace was also noted as a place that puts children into situations that are not conducive for psychological development. Children are in a far weaker position than adults which leaves them particularly vulnerable. Their lack of authority and physical power combined with lack of protection offered to them by the law, means that they have the lowest status as workers. In worse conditions, they may be subject to rigid discipline intimidation, and physical abuse against which they cannot defend themselves, as well as having little resource for obtaining compensation in the event of injury or injustice. These conditions are not propitious for the development of self esteem, confidence, and feelings of personal efficacy that are necessary bedrock for other aspects of normal psychological development.

A study of psychological characteristics of child rag pickers was described as follows; Barred from entering into large social life and deprived of a congenial environment, the rag pickers develop a strong sense of insecurity which makes their personality weak, incapable and withdrawing. This



sense of insecurity creates in them a sense of persecution, which manifests itself in rebellious, aggressive, violent outbursts against individuals and institutions. The world around them exhibits active hostility and rag pickers seldom receive love and affection. Hence, their response to love is totally unnatural and mechanical. They do not believe in love or being loved. The cold, callous and unsympathetic attitude, the lack of parental communication, and the absence of any provision for school life, creates a deep sense of psychological and social insecurity, which in turn hampers the natural growth of their personality.

#### **2.3.1.7 Moral hazards:**

These are generally dangers arising from the illegal activities in which children engage. These activities are morally repulsive in themselves and affect the sense of uprightness of the children. Such activities include; drug trafficking, commercial sex (child prostitution) and production of pornographic materials. The study indicated that children who engaged in commercial sexual activities and those who were sexually abused in domestic service were highly exposed to the risks of catching HIV/AIDS, STD's and early pregnancies.

#### **2.3.1.8 Commercial sexual exploitation:**

This is the worst form of child labor. The number of children who are sexually exploited in Kwanyiy are not known owing to the hidden nature of the practice. Children that are sexually exploited are in most cases abused by their care givers comprising of their guardians teachers and others who have the responsibility of looking after the children. The retrospective survey carried out by the African Child Policy Forum(ACPF) in 2006 established that 89% of Ugandan girls faced verbal sexual abuse.

### **2.3.2. Positive effects of child labor**

#### **2.3.2.1 Socio cultural development**

The family being the first stage of development of the child, participation of children in economically productive activities within the context of the family, is traditionally one of the most common and useful ways in which children are socialized into particular social and cultural milieu. When for instance parents apportion and oversee the children's work with affection and sensitivity to the needs of their children, this builds a sense of efficacy and high self esteem in the child who performs it.

### **2.3.2.2 Moral development of the children**

Children feel that they are needed, useful and contributing to the family in a way. This is supported by the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child which provides inter alia. ‘The child subject to his age and ability and such limitations as may be contained in the charter shall have the duty’ to work for the cohesion of the family to respect his parents and elders at all times and to assist them in case of need.

### **2.4. Possible Solutions for containing the situation of child labor**

The measures that were suggested by the respondents regarding child labour in the rural areas shall be conducted against the background of the following Ethical standard: the duty to update and enhance the general understanding of issues affecting children.

Once again, the overarching argument is: when the above mentioned ethical standards are realized, the welfare of children is guaranteed and children would most probably not end up working; but when the same standards are neglected, there is a correlated result of children ending up in labour.

Elimination of poverty, free and compulsory education, proper and strict implementation of the labor laws, abolishment of child trafficking can go a long way in solving the problem of child labor.

#### **2.4.1 Giving loans to LDC’S to fight child labor.**

The World Bank, International Monetary Fund can help in eradicating poverty by providing loan to the developing countries. Various poverty elimination programmes have been introduced by our Government as well for the cause.

After the 86th Amendment of the Constitution in the year 2002, the provision for free and compulsory education between the age group of 6 to 14 years has been included as fundamental right under Article 21A. Children irrespective of their race, caste, sex, economic condition, religion, place of birth, and parents to whom they born of need to how to read and write. They need social and professional skills that only a school and nurturing environment can provide.

The most essential part in this regard is the effective implementation of the policies and strict enforcement of the labor laws. The Government must take strict measures against those employing child laborers' in hazardous works and other industries.

#### **2.4.2 The NGOs also have a big role to play in this regard.**

Various NGOs are working for the cause of child labor. MVF in Andhra Pradesh is a striking example. They have been working for the welfare of children in various respects.

Compulsory education can help eradicating the problem of child labor up to a large extent. Statistics also show that education has helped in reducing child labor in Western Countries up to a large extent.

Most importantly the incidence of child labor would diminish considerably even in the force of poverty, if there are no parties willing to exploit them. Strict implementation of child labor laws and practical and healthy authorities to replace this evil can go a long way to solve this problem of child labor. Along with this, participation of the common educated citizens in the process of eliminating child labor can help out a lot. As common people also, we can help the poor uneducated children in getting at least some idea about the alphabets also. In the words of Bill Gates, we can say that “Until we’re educating every kid in a fantastic way, until every inner city is cleaned up, there is no shortage of things to do.” Inclusion of Child Labour Laws in Legal Education and other branches of education can also be regarded as effective steps as it creates awareness among the student communities. As a student of law, we can at least make the downtrodden aware of the needs of formal education system and the cause of elimination of child labor so as to provide those helpless children a chance to enhance their capacities to the fullest extent possible and enable them to contribute their best for making this world a better place to live in.

#### **2.4.3 The Duty to update and enhance the general Understanding of Issues affecting Children**

The welfare of the child being supreme, institutional organizations including the Government as the supreme body, international organizations, CSO’s and NGO’s with or without the support from the donor community, have the duty to update and enhance the general understanding of issues affecting children. The institutional bodies that were contacted through this research suggested solutions on how children’s involvement in the labour force in Uganda and in particular Kwanjyiy can be reduced or still done away with. (Chapter 4, Table).

Let us take the case of explaining to the general Ugandan public laws, policies and programmes on child labour which have been endorsed by the state. The government of Uganda for instance has enacted and ratified both national and international laws and formulated policies and programmes to address the issue of child labour. These include the mother of all laws – the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995), the Children’s Act, the Employment Act (2006), Education Act (2008), United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, ILO Convention No 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, Universal Primary and Secondary Education and the National Child Labour Policy.

#### **2.4.5 Review existing programmes**

The government should review existing programmes of MoES from a child Labour perspective and proposes ways of strengthening them to give more focus to Children. These existing programmes should be pressured to put in place strategies to fight child labor.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the research methodology and also gives results of how the research was conducted. This chapter therefore presents the study design study area and methodology population of the study, sampling size sampling procedure ,data collection methods and analysis anticipated constraints and ethical considerations.

### **3.1 Study design**

The researcher adopted both quantitative and qualitative method of investigation , inclusive were the case study designs and descriptive analysis.

#### **3.1.1 Case study design**

The researcher used a case of one county of Kwanyiy in Kween district as the area of study to find and analyse the child labor issues in post war Kween rural areas. The study was also carried out to find solutions to the vice. According to Feagin et al, (1991) a case study is an ideal methodology, when a holistic in-depth investigation is needed. A case study therefore is more exhaustive and thus appropriate for the given study.

#### **3.1.2 Descriptive design**

Under this design the researcher carried out a descriptive survey. This involved collecting primary information by interviewing a sample of 40 working child laborers and 6 key informants. Each respondent was able to give their own views , the data of which was highly reliable for the study at hand. Their views helped achieve a deeper understanding of the world of the respondents and the consequences of their actions and how they were affected. The field facts also enabled the researcher to find appropriate recommendations as listed in the proceeding chapters below;

### **3.2 Study area**

The researcher's study covered in Kwanyiy.Sub-County This was chosen as it was also hit by the LRA war insurgency staged by Alice Lakwena in Eastern Uganda.

### 3.3 Population of study

The researchers study focused on a total of 46 respondents, 40 of which were working child laborers and 6 of which were key informants representing the state and Non Governmental Organisations, key informant interviews were conducted with Uganda Police Force and NGO's.

### 3.4 Sample method and size:

A total of 46 respondents were interviewed which included; 40 child laborers who were victims of circumstances and 6 key informants who were representing the state and NGO. The children who were interviewed were identified from around the streets and busy areas with a lot of activity going on such as construction sites and around market areas.

Their selection was however based on convenience sampling because these child laborers were mostly mobile. Key informants on this issue of child labor included Uganda Police Force and the state representatives. The representative institutions were appropriate for the study and the following information was used in the study.

**Table 1: showing number of respondents in Kwanyiy Sub-County**

Location	Number of respondents	Total
Kwanyiy County	40	40
TOTAL	40	40

**Table 2: showing the number of key informants in Kwanyiy Sub-County county**

Category of informants	Institution	Number of respondents	Total
Government	Uganda Police Force	3	3
NGO	ILO	2	2
	UNICEF	1	1
TOTAL	3	6	6

### **3.4.1 Sampling selection procedure**

The study covered child laborers who were engaged in rural informal sector activities. A pre study visit was taken in the Sub-county of Kwanyiy so as to identify specific locations where these activities were being carried out. The information got from the children engaged in the informal activities was done using snow balls technique and convenience sampling because children are highly mobile.

A total of about 46 respondents were interviewed, 40 of whom were child respondents including 6 key informants. Government Institutions were represented by 4 members.

### **3.5.1 Pre -testing procedure**

The key informant interview guides and questions were asked to specific categories of the students, which helped the researcher to interpret difficult questions. This procedure enabled the researcher to collect accurate data as per the set objectives since most of the child laborers were illiterate.

## **3.6 Data Sources**

### **3.6.1 Primary Data.**

The required primary data was collected directly from the respondents involved in various labor activities . This was done through administering a structured questionnaire. Respondents were guided through the questionnaires to ensure high level of accuracy in the data collection process.

### **3.6.2 Secondary data**

Secondary data was used to support the empirical findings of the study. This data was obtained from existing literature in previous research paper findings, news papers and conference proceedings the internet and library . This literature relates to child labor, its effects on the child laborers and consequences.

## **3.7 Data collection instruments.**

The researcher collected primary and secondary data from various categories of respondents and also documentation respectively. For secondary data, the researcher made reference from print media (Newspapers magazines) an books with relevant literature, internet and also legislation. Other methods of data collection used included; questions which were used sample categories like child laborers who were mostly illiterate, interview guides were used

for the key informants like representatives of the NGO's and some government officials, magazines, and photographs that were depicting activities that the children were involved in as seen below.

### **3.7.1 Questionnaires**

The researcher mainly used questionnaires during the study especially for the child laborers/ respondents. The questions were carefully identified and written down so that the respondents would find them easy to answer. The researcher asked the same questions to all respondents so as to get accurate information about the objectives of the researchers study. The use of the questions applied to those respondents who were mostly illiterate and because it would be easy to observe respondents and tell whether their answers were genuine or false.

### **3.7.2 Interviews.**

The interview method was used which involved coral communication with key informants. The information given was very useful to the study that included both quantitative and qualitative data.

### **3.7.3 Research instruments:**

The researcher used several research instruments that included questionnaires ,question guides, pens, pencils, note book, ruler, tally and sheet.

## **3.8. Data management:**

During the study the researcher used both quantitative and qualitative statistical approaches' so as to make clear and meaningful presentation and conclusions. The data that was collected from 46 respondents was examined and also arranged according to the researchers study objectives.

### **3.8.1 Data processing analysis:**

So as to make a meaningful presentation of the collected data and to also align it with the objectives of the researchers study and the research questions , the data collected also underwent several steeps that included ;editing to erase spelling mistakes, eliminate unwanted data and identifying missing data. As in the statistical method ,analysis of child labor data



was focused on children engaged in labor in the rural areas and this was done according to the steps as seen below;

The researcher described the population of the study that ranged from the ages of 6 to 17 years most of whom were minors .

Child labor participation in rural Kwanyiy county, nature of labor done ,causes and effects of child labor.

Tabulations were also carried out about child labor in Kwanyiy county too.

The finalized compiled data was tabled to ensure effective presentation to provide a basis for of statistical compilation using SPSS .

### **3.9 Ethical considerations.**

The researcher took various steps during the study for example; the researcher withheld names of child respondents to protect their identity . this in turn gave them the confidence to reveal data that facilitated the research. Permission was also sought from the government officials seeking permission to carry out interviews with their representatives.; the same applied to NGO`s

### **3.10 Limitations of the study:**

When conducting the study the researcher encountered a few limitations especially with the child laborers'; some of them refused to part with information for fear that the researcher would hand over their responses to their superiors and risk loosing their jobs in case they criticised their jobs. This was especially so with the construction child laborers.

The researcher also found it difficult to find resources after running out of them. Despite all these limitations the researcher managed to find the information that she was looking for.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

#### 4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the research findings which the researcher compiled regarding child labour in rural areas for Kwanyiy. The presentation of these findings is divided into the following sub-sections based on the research objectives: different forms of child labor ,the relationship between child labour and children's rights or welfare in war torn Eastern Uganda , an assessment of the effectiveness of the existing strategies on child labour and suggested and recommended measures to the situation of child labour.

This section also presents the findings of different variables in reference to the rural informal sector . These include; gender, age, place of birth, family characteristics, community variables and the activities the children engaged.?

This section represents the findings of different variables in reference to gender , age, size of family, respondents abode. These factors are further explained as below.

#### Descriptive Statistics of Background Information

##### 4.1 The relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare in war torn Eastern Uganda

###### 4.1.1. Gender of respondents

The number of respondents that the researcher interviewed in the two villages was 40%. The research results showed that out of the 40, 35 % were boys and 65% were girls.

**Table 3: Respondents working by gender**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage	Valid percentage	Cumulative percentage
Female	26	65	65	65
Male	14	35	35	100
Total	40	100	100	

###### 4.1.2 Age of respondents

The statistics that were compiled by the researcher are indicated as the following ; according to the study, the results indicated that the number of working children tends to increase with the advance in age; accordingly the percentage of respondents between the

ages of 7 and under were 25%, those who were 7 -13 years were 32.5% while the children whose age ranged from 13 years and over was 12.5% as indicated as below.

**Table 4: Age of Respondents**

Age	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
7 Years And Under	10	25	25	25
7 Years To 13 Years	13	32.5	32.5	57.5
13 Years And Over	17	42.5	42.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.3 Size of the family of respondents.

The researcher's findings brought to light the falsity of the general thinking that the number of siblings of the children that are participating in child labor is the only key factor that drives them to work at a tender age. As the table below shows ; the percentage of respondents ( children involved in child labor activities) with two or less siblings was 42.5%, Children with 3 to 5 siblings were 27.5%, children with 5 and more siblings were 22.5% and those without any siblings were 7.5%.

**Table 5: Number Of The Siblings Of The Respondents**

Number Of Siblings	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Two Or Less Siblings	17	42.5	42.5	42.5
Three To 5 Siblings	11	27.5	27.5	70
Six Or More Siblings	9	22.5	22.5	92.5
None	3	7.5	7.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.4 Respondents abode

There were a variety of answers to this question; do you live with your parents?, guardians?. While 22.5% lived with only their parents, 27.5% lived with their guardians, while 40% lived with their siblings. 10% living alone.

The statistics show that siblings played a major role in the employment of their fellow siblings since they were orphans . The information is tabled as below.

**Table 6: Who the respondents(children involved in child labor) stay with.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Living With Parents	9	22.5	22.5	22.5
Living With Guardians	11	27.5	27.5	50
Living With Siblings	16	40	40	90
Living Alone	4	10	10	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### **4.1.5 Commercial activities of the respondents.**

Activities that the children included gardening hawking prostitution, vending . According to the researchers findings, many of the children engaged in gardening which was 20%, 22.5% were hawking prostitution was at 32.5%, vending was at 25% as can be seen in the table below.

**Table 7: Activities in which children are involved.**

Activities	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Gardening	8	20	20	20
Hawking	9	22.5	22.5	42.5
Prostitution	13	32.5	32.5	75
Vending	10	25	25	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### **4.1.6 School attendance of the respondents**

The level of school attendance by the respondents also determined the rate at which the children engaged in work .the research indicates that only 15 % of the respondents attended school on a daily basis , those children who attended twice a week were 20%, those who went to school thrice a week comprised 25%.overall , with 40% not attending school at all.

This indicates that children did not attend school frequently because of the need to earn a living.

**Table 8: Level of school attendance by the respondents**

Response	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Attend School Daily	6	15	15	15
Attend School Twice A Week	8	20	20	35
Attend School Thrice A Week	10	25	25	60
None Attend School	16	40	40	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.7 Reasons for missing school

In regard to the research findings, the children gave different reasons as to why they were not in school at that very point of contact. These ranged from being orphans, lack of scholastic materials, lack of sanitary towels for the girls, lack of school fees, no interest in studies. Other reasons that were given included: long distance, some were refused to go to school by their parents, peer influence, influence of the parents among others as seen in the table

**Table 9: Respondents reasons for missing school**

Respondents Reasons	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Lack Of Scholastic Materials	13	32.5	32.5	32.5
Lack Sanitary Towels	3	7.5	7.5	40
Others	2	5	5	45
Not Interested	4	10	10	55
Peer Influence	6	15	15	70
Long Distance	7	17.5	17.5	87.5
Parents Say School Useless	5	12.5	12.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.8 Career aspirations of the working children.

Despite lack of education of most of the child laborers that were interviewed by the researcher, they had various career aspirations and some shared with the researcher what they wanted to be in future. For instance, 5% wanted to be lawyers ,15 % wanted to be teachers, 7.5 % wanted to mechanics, 10% wanted to be engineers, 5 % wanted to be nurses, 15% wanted to be footballers, 10% wanted to be police, 5% wanted to be musicians, 7.5% wanted to be mid wives, 12.5.% wanted to be boda boda cyclists as shown on the table below

**Table 10: Career aspiration of the working children**

Career Aspirations	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Lawyer	2	5	5	5
Teacher	6	15	15	20
Mechanic	3	7.5	7.5	27.5
Engineer	4	10	10	37.5
Nurse	5	12.5	12.5	50
Footballer	6	15	15	65
Police	4	10	10	75
Musician	2	5	5	80
Mid Wife	3	7.5	7.5	87.5
Bodaboda Cyclist	5	12.5	12.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.9 Daily earnings of the laborers

The children who participated in various labor activities earned not more than 10,000 shillings per day. For example those who earned about 2,000 sh to 4,000 sh were 30%, those who earned about 3,000 to 5,000 were 15% those that earned 6,000 sh to 7,000 sh were 20% those that earned between 1,500 sh to 2,500 sh were 22.5%, meanwhile those that earned between 8,000 sh to 9,500 sh were 12.5% as indicated in the table below.

**Table 11: Daily earnings of the laborers**

Amount Earned	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
2,000 To 4,000	12	30	30	30
3,000 To 5,000	6	15	15	45
6,000 To 7,000	8	20	20	65
1,500 To 2,500	9	22.5	22.5	87.5
8,000 To 9,500	5	12.5	12.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.10 Night residence of respondents

The researcher asked the children about their respective places of abode. Others lived in IDP camps, the percentage was 42.5% those that lived with their parents were 15% those that were living with their guardians were 25% and those that were homeless were 17.7% as is shown in the table below

**Table 12: Night residence of respondents**

Residence	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
DP Camp	17	42.5	42.5	42.5
With Parents	6	15	15	57.5
With Guardians	10	25	25	82.5
Street	7	17.7	17.7	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.11 Community's perception of child labor:

According to the responses given by the community residents of Kwanyiy Sub-County county, child labor is common. Child labor is not scorned or discouraged, instead it is viewed as a positive sign that the young stars have become independent of their parents and also to take care of their families with what little is earned. In African traditional societies, girls were expected to work a lot harder to get 'training' which would train them how to be responsible for the future. Labor was divided along sex and age of the children.

#### 4.1.12 Correlations

The following table highlights the relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare in the rural war torn Eastern Uganda in the case of Kween district using the Pearson's correlation method

**Table 13: Correlations**

		Child labor	Rural informal sector
Child labor	Pearson correlation	1	
	Sig.(2tailed)	.	
	N	40	40
Rural war torn areas	Pearson correlation		1
	Sig.(2 tailed)		
	N	40	40

#### **4.1.13 Major causes of child participation in child labor in Kwanyiy**

The researcher's study indicated the major causes of child labor / why the children engaged in child labor in the rural and war torn areas of Eastern Uganda. Several reasons were outlined ranging from weak laws to being orphans, lack of basic needs and poverty.

**Table 14: Major causes of children's participation in child labor**

Causes	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Weak Laws	6	15	15	15
Orphans	10	25	25	40
Lack Of Basic Needs	7	17.5	17.5	57.5
Poverty	17	42.5	42.5	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### **4.1.14 Positive effects of children's participation in child labor as viewed by the children and the community**

The rural community in general were not against child labor as the children basically provided a cheap means of labor in the rural areas of Kwanyiy. The participation of children in child labor meant supplementing of labor shortage, apprenticeship, supplementing family income . These views are tabled as below

#### **4.1.15 Negative effects of children's participation in child labor in regards to the community**

According to the findings in the table below, children were widely exposed to risks that would affect them in the long run. Young children have fallen victim to health risks like HIV/AIDS infections , criminal activities such as theft, prostitution , among others. The community as a whole has benefited a lot out of this vice , as risky and hazardous it is to the lives if the participants.



**Table 15: Negative effects of child labor according to the community**

Effects	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Sexual Abuse	7	17.5	17.5	17.5
Accidents	6	15	15	32.5
Contracting Diseases	8	20	20	52.5
Defilement	4	10	10	62.5
Exploitation	9	22.5	22.5	85
School Dropout	6	15	15	100
Total	40	100	100	

#### 4.1.16 Institutions addressing child labor in Kwanyiy

The researcher interviewed a total of 6 key informants that represented both the state informants that represented the international organization; the Uganda Police Force for the former and ILO and UNICEF for the later a table showing the number of key informants is as below

**Table 16: Institutions' addressing child labor**

Institution	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
UNICEF	1	16.6	16.6	16.6
UPF	3	50	50	66.6
IO	2	33.3	33.3	100
TOTAL	6	100	100	

#### 4.1.17 Principle goals of both the national and international institutions' in regards to child labor

Both the state and international institutions basing on their mission statement had the major goal of protecting the rights of children. The researcher discovered that the key informants aimed at improving children's welfare and fighting for children's rights as seen in the table.

**Table 17: Principle goals of institutions that are addressing child labor**

	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
ving Children's re	2	33.3	33.3	33.3
ng Law And Order	1	16.6	16.6	50
ting Life And Property	1	16.6	16.6	66.6
Violence Against en And Improving ional Status Of en	2	33.3	33.3	100
	6	100	100	

**4.1.18 Way forward on reducing child labor in Kwanyiy**

According to the researchers study , there were various suggestions that were volunteered so as to address the problem of child labor in Kwanyiy's rural areas .The details are as seen below.

**Table 18: Way forward on reducing children's involvement in child labor**

suggestions	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
titutional Reformation To sure There's Peace In The mmunity	2	33.3	33.3	33.3
courage Children To end School	1	16.6	16.6	49.9
sitize Political Leaders The Dangers Of Child or And To Create wareness About The Vice	3	50	50	100
al	6	100	100	

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents a summary and the recommendations of the study. It is hoped that those recommendations will help contribute to future making policies geared towards combating child labor in general, particularly the relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare in rural / war torn Eastern Uganda; a case in point Kween district

#### **DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

The discussion of the findings is in relation with the objectives of the study

##### **5.1 Strategies on how to reduce Child Labor**

###### **5.1.1 Obligation to serve children regardless of gender and place of birth:**

The research findings presented a high percentage of the child respondents to be girls (Table 3, Chapter Four). This finding of a study conducted by the researcher tends towards substantiating the results of major studies, which exhibited a voluntary disregard of the education of girl children by parents; that is, parents favouring girl child labour in the place of girl child education Holmes (2003) and Odaga O. and Heneveld W (1995).

Notwithstanding the fact that the research was conducted in a rural area, the results of this research work showed that most of the working children were born in a community which highly embraced child labour. employment opportunities during school days. The study further indicated that the community's perception of child labour was seen more as a positive investment than negative (Table 23, Chapter Four).

The above given instances based on the gender and place of birth of the working children present situations where by the welfare of the child is certainly not a priority. The Children's Act in Section 5 (1) provides for duties to maintain a child and provides specific rights to include that on education and guidance (Section 5 (1) (a)), and protection from discrimination, abuse, violence and neglect (Section 5 (2)). In Section 6 (1) and (2) and Section 31 (1), the Act further provides for parental responsibility and an alternative to foster parentage, relatives and approved homes in case of death of biological parents. However, the evidence listed in the literature and research findings indicates that there is sheer negligence of responsibility to protect and care for the child. Who, then, should

the responsibility of realizing the demands of this principle vis-à-vis the situation of children in child labour?

The Children's Act, Cap 49 presents the state's responsibility in child protection. In Section 10 (1) (a) and (b), the local government councils are supposed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within its jurisdiction and designate a secretary for children's affairs. The local council is to mediate in those circumstances where the rights of the child are infringed upon... (Section 10 (3)). This however means that; both the parents and the state share the responsibility of realizing the welfare principle through making the wellbeing of children a priority.

Accordingly, the above given instances of children engaged in work indicate that both the parents and the state have in various ways neglected their duties and obligations towards the children who were interviewed. One could even argue that the bigger blame should be put on the state, which has obviously seen the failure of parents to fulfil their parental responsibility and done little to reverse the sad state of those children's affairs. In this regard, the Children's Act demands that where there is failure in the discharge of parental duties and obligations, the state steps in by assuming the responsibility or the position of the parents.

#### **5.1.2 The Responsibility to Hold Paramount the Welfare of Children and Families**

The research findings further on presented us with information about the size of the family, parentage and place of abode, and the employment of the parents. In the case of the available research findings, it was observed that these matters regarding the child's family could turn into determining factors that alter the welfare of the child (Chapter 4, Tables 6, 7, 8 and 9).

This point of observation appears to be supported by evidential literature in the secondary data; for instance, the Central Intelligence Agency Fact Book (2011), in which it is observed that child labour in Uganda grows its roots in the family. The family is seen as a contributing factor to the causes of child labour especially with regard to family functioning and stability. The factors that threaten both the nuclear and extended families weaken family ties and facilitate child labour. According to the Central Intelligence Agency Fact Book (2011), Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Uganda is estimated at 6.69 children born per woman. The large size of the family be it polygamous or monogamous, is a

contributing factor to child labour given the fact that the bigger the number of children, the less the affordability of school fees for poor families is.

Other contributing factors to the situation of child labour in respect to family characteristics included, poor parenthood, education of the parents, and employment. The findings in Chapter 4, Table 8 indicated that 47.1% of children had their parents employed/working, 41.4% were unemployed and the remaining 11.4% worked sometimes. These findings are augmented by the Eliezhah Foundation Initiative Uganda Report (2010) which indicated that individual and household poverty limits people's choices in life. The report further indicates that more than 70% of the population in Uganda earns less than 2000 UGX a day and over 80% of the total population depends on the remaining 19.9%. This explains the fact that the looming household poverty at times drives children to "labour for survival" and thus hinders them from attaining education in school.

Like it was mentioned previously, the Children's Act Cap 59 demands that where there is failure in the discharge of parental duties and obligations, the state takes over that responsibility. In this case the state is charged with the responsibility to hold paramount the welfare of children and families. Where the state fails in discharging this responsibility, the welfare of the child is not guaranteed. The findings which are analysed in Chapter 4, Tables 6, 7, 8 and 9 highlight this failure on the part of the state.

### **5.1.3 The Duty of Prioritising the Delivery of Services to Children**

As the findings in Chapter 4, Table 10 indicate, many children engage in several work activities. The participation of children in these activities means that many of them were not receiving formal education, while others attended school irregularly. Findings in Chapter 4, Table 11 indicate that 45.7% of the respondents were not attending school.

The factors therefore that predispose children to child labour are many and are somehow interrelated. Luska (1989) supports the above given findings, when he notes that children work because of economic reasons. This was due to the fact that these children came from poor family backgrounds. Another point of view on this matter is presented by Bequele (1991) who notes that it is not only economic reasons alone that cause or reduce child labour. He argues that economic

growth of some countries has not been associated by the reduction in child labour, but largely on policies and how its run.

Further findings in Chapter 4, Table 14 indicated that children were not in school due to lack of school fees (32.9%), employment (child labourers) at 18.6% and also due to the limited affordability of scholastic materials (11.4%). For children hailing from rural areas (10%) of the respondents - Chapter 4, Table 4), the lack of school fees and scholastic materials could form part of the set of reasons for migrating to urban areas. This view is supported by findings of the ILO in its Uganda Decent Work Programme Final Report of 2007, which noted that the poverty situation in rural areas pushes children to urban areas to look for work.

Although the majority of children did not pursue an education as a result of lack of school fees and scholastic materials (Chapter 4, Table 14), many of them had career aspirations (Chapter 4, Table 12). According to findings in Chapter 4, Table 13, 45.7% of the respondents said that they would achieve their career aspirations as most of them did not require qualifications, while 54.3% said they would not achieve their dreams since their dream aspirations required qualifications acquired through formal education.

Recognising the aforementioned challenges, one wonders as to whether the state takes seriously its duty of delivering formal education as a service to children. Following the welfare principle, the delivery of services to children should be a priority. The welfare principle demands that the welfare of children shall be supreme. Section 8 of the Children's Act prohibits the employment of children in any activity that will be harmful to their health, mental, physical or moral development and those that will deter them from having an education. Section 4 (2) of the Education Act, 2008 further states that basic education shall be provided and enjoyed as a right by all persons. Section 4 (1) provides that the provision of education and training to the child shall be a joint responsibility of the state, the parent or guardian and other stakeholders. The prevalence of children in child labour therefore depicts a negligent society where the prioritization of the delivery of services like education to children is highly compromised.

#### **5.1.4 The Task of Engaging in Study and Research that could lead to Developing Ethical Practice**

The importance of literature/data on child labour is very essential if child labour is to be addressed from an ethical point of view. The lack of data, especially gender disaggregated data may hinder the ability to find solutions to the child labour problem in Uganda. This highlights the importance of study and research on the issue of child labour to avail statistics and viable information; such statistical information could be very instrumental in developing ethical principles and practice in response to child labour. Let's consider the following information on child labour and how it could for instance inform ethical practice.

According to the research findings for example, the magnitude of child labour in the rural sector is rated (Chapter 4, Table 3), with girls being rated at 65% and boys at 35% (Chapter 4, Table 20). According to ILO (2007) 3.8 million children are estimated to be engaged in child labour. Among the reasons identified as the major cause of children's participation in rural areas included; poverty, orphanage and weak national laws as lead factors (Chapter 4, Table 14). Contrary to the findings in Table 14, Luska (1989) is of the view that economic reasons are the main cause of child labour. However, Bequele (1991) refutes this argument and asserts that economic reasons are simply not enough on their own to cause or reduce child labour. Morris Class (1980), in line with our findings notes that early practitioners in the field of child welfare were of the assumption that physical abuse was associated almost exclusively with poverty.

Moreover, the children who were interviewed engaged in several informal activities like ;gardening ,hawking , commercial sex and vending (Chapter 4, Table 7). While a significant number of key stakeholders were not in support of children's participation in the labour force, some noted that it was positive since it encouraged child responsibility and skills development (Chapter 4, Table 15). In no way however can we appreciate children's involvement in the labour force since it is detrimental to their health and deters them from attaining an education. Studies by the ILO (1996), note that child workers are considerably more vulnerable to work place hazards. For instance, children are more susceptible to thermal stress, environmental temperature and ionizing radiation.

Children's involvement in labour is contrary to several existing national and international laws regulating child labour like the Constitution of Uganda, the Children's Act and the UNCRC. The above instances based on the magnitude and causes of child labour are a manifestation that the welfare of the child is not of paramount importance, although the welfare principle demands that the welfare of the child should be supreme. Those in authority should consider child labour as an ethical/moral issue and examine possible solutions to its exploitive nature. Further still, to find viable solutions to child labour, it is very important to go beyond the relatively limited concept of 'work hazard' and expand it to include ethical aspects of child labour, and this can best be done through engaging in study and research that could lead to developing ethical principles and practice.

The Tenet that: Financial Gain should never take Precedence over the Protection of a Child

Child labour has both positive and negative effects on the child and the respective society as a whole. With regard to the law, children are supposed to engage in only light work and work that will not be injurious to their health and deter them from having an education.

According to the research findings on the community's perception of child labour, the community here in question largely embraced child labour since children were seen as a means of supplementing meagre family incomes. Several respondents accepted child labour as a means to acquire skills, responsibility and to reducing crime among children. This view which appears to be an exaggeration of what is contained in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in Article 31 which provides that the child subject to his age and ability and such limitations as may be contained in the charter, shall have the duty to work for the cohesion of the family to respect his parents and elders at all times and to assist them in case of need.

The community's perception on child labour also tallies with the positive effects of child labour between the child, family and community. Children may not have a single option left for survival but to engage in work. However, financial gain should not take precedence over the protection of the child, especially where he/she will be distracted from having an education or will engage in such risky work that will be hazardous to their health. This is in line with Section 8 of the Children's Act that provides that no child shall be employed in any activity that may be harmful to his/her health, education, or mental, physical, or moral development.



The number and proportion of children affected is not the only indicator of the prevalence of child labour, but also of its negative implications. Aside the positive effects, it is the fact that children in general are affected by their involvement in labour physically, psychologically or mentally. Children in the labour force are exposed to high risks of contracting HIV/AIDS, sexual exploitation, accidents, failure to pursue an education and exposure to crime (Chapter 4, Tables 16). Such activities are contrary to the provisions of the ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour and those of the Children's Act.

Admittedly, children by the day around the world are exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development. They suffer immensely as casualties of war and violence, aggression, victims of racial segregation, refugees and displaced children, victims of neglect, cruelty and exploitation and therefore forced to abandon their homes and roots. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century however, the effects of child labour are becoming noticeable. Children as future leaders have an important role to play in shaping the world when they grow up. Accordingly, finding a solution to child labour will enable us have educated and healthy contributing members to the world's economy, rather than entrusting it to uneducated and crippled people.

## **Conclusions**

An investigation into the relationship between child labor and children's rights or welfare in rural Eastern Uganda revealed that child labor was on the increase among the rural communities. Although more girls than boys participated in the informal sector. It was observed that this was so as to supplement the poor/meager earnings of the family income or inadequacy of scholastic materials is the major reason as to why children are not in school.

Children that were engaged in different informal activities were exposed to health risks and their rights to education compromised since the level of school attendance was affected by the time spent at work.

The research findings also indicated that despite the existence of national, regional, and international laws on child labor, there was a general lack of enforcement and

implementation of legislation. This further facilitated a breeding ground for the phenomenon on child labor.

Further more according to the research findings, there was a general wave of indifference among members of the community and the state. On the other hand, the fact that members of the community viewed child labor as apposite investment thus over looking its negative implications, little was done to report such cases and to deter from providing employment opportunities to the children.

On the other hand, children's ignorance of their own rights further facilitated the persistent increase of children to participate informal labor activities .

The factors that have facilitated the persistent increase of children to participate in the rural areas that have been mentioned in the proceeding paragraph are further elaborated as below:

## **5.2 Recommendations for combating child labor**

### **5.2.1 A body of ethical principles against child labor.**

Earlier on in the background of the study (Section 1.2), we noted that the main organ of the state responsible for matters regarding labour in Uganda is the Department of Labour Employment and Industrial Relations in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. This organ should compose, subscribe to and educate the population about a body of ethical principles against child labour.

### **5.2.2 Composing the Ethical Principles**

The Department of Labour Employment and Industrial Relations should compose a set of ethical principles which are in accordance with internationally, regionally, nationally and socially recognized or accepted children's rights. Such ethical principles ought to be derived primarily for the benefit and protection of children and families where the possibility of engaging persons below 18 years of age exists.

### **5.2.3 Subscribing to the Body of Ethical Principles**

It is suggested that all employers in the formal and informal sectors should be legally led towards recognising that they are ethically responsible to children and families who are potential victims or donors of child labourers. Such employers ought to subscribe to the above mentioned Body of Ethical Principles once it is put in operation.

### **5.2.4 Educating the Ugandan Population about the Role of Ethical Principles against Child Labour**

The above given Department of Labour Employment and Industrial Relations should be charged with the duty of educating the population about the benefits and protection of children and families that the Body of Ethical Principles against child labour offers.

### **5.2.5 Political will of the state officials**

Acknowledgement of the child labour problem by the government of Uganda should be a significant move and considered paramount in addressing the problem of child labour in Uganda. Child labour should be criminalised and massive awareness about the law by those in authority through print and electronic media should be done in all sections of society and included in development plans.

### **5.2.6 Supportive National Political, Legal and Institutional Framework**

There is need for political commitment to ensure that child labour is mainstreamed into broader development plans and programmes. For instance, integrating child labour as an explicit concern in the Millennium Development Goals and Education for all plans, poverty reduction strategies and labour legislation consistent with international child labour standards, is necessary both as a statement of national intent, and as a legal and regulatory framework for efforts against child labour. As child labour is an issue that cuts across different sectors and areas of ministerial responsibility, progress against it requires that institutional roles are clearly delineated and that effective coordination and information sharing structures are put in place.

### **5.2.7 Mass Awareness Programmes about Child Labour Laws and Policies**

Mass awareness and advocacy campaigning programmes should target employers, community leaders, policy makers and civil society. Children working for instance in the urban informal sector as domestic servants are not readily 'visible' but 'invisible'. An effective effort to protect children

from such workplace hazards or abuses must begin by making the ‘invisible’, ‘visible’. The government of Uganda should develop an effective means of investigation in order to criminalise child labour and promote supervision by labour inspectors in order to detect and prosecute cases of exploitation of children.

There must be government support to journalists and other media professionals who may contribute to social mobilization by providing information of the highest quality, reliable and ethical standards concerning all aspects of child labour. The print media is also an effective asset for ensuring public awareness. For instance the New Vision which is a national paper and Uganda’s leading daily. Employers of children in activities legal for admission for a particular age of a child should be compelled to provide protective gear.

#### **5.2.8 Increase budgetary allocation for government institution**

It was observed that the major government institutions – Uganda Police Force (CFPU) and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development had limited financial resources to foster their activities on child labour. Government should increase this funding so that these institutions execute their duties as mandated by the law. Public accountability of the allocated funds should be done as a matter of fact, and monitoring and evaluation of programmes done by an independent institution from the state. On the side of the institutions, budgetary allocation should give priority to address child labour in the urban informal sector.

#### **5.2.9 Stake holder collaboration**

Different institutions have worked hand in hand with the state to address the problem of child labour. These include; international organizations, CSO’s and NGO’s. In order to fully address the challenge of child labour and therefore to promote the welfare of the child and protect child rights, multi-stakeholder collaboration is vital. Legislators, civil society, academicians, researchers, the international community, educationists and the community should jointly develop and implement effective and efficient preventive measures if the welfare of the child is to be guaranteed and their rights upheld.

### **5.2.10 Revise Universal Education Programme**

Education is a constitutional guarantee under Article 34 (2) of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda; thereby it is stated that: ‘A child is entitled to basic education which shall be the responsibility of the state and the parents of the child’. Ironically, many children especially in the rural areas and urban outskirts have not been able to go to school because of household poverty. This constitutional establishment by the government of Uganda is not enough to argue that every child has a right to education, when they do not have sufficient means for its implementation. Revision of education programmes to suit today’s challenges is vital if child labour is to be addressed. This can be done through;

### **5.2.11 Enforcement of Compulsory UPE**

The researcher is of the view that primary education should be completely free, universal and compulsory to every child in the family and should not only be restricted to poor children. UPE should encompass comprehensive policies indicating the current percentage of GDP allotted to basic education and a target percentage for future allocations and plans for improvement of education in coverage, quality and relevance. UPE should be made more attractive to the learners so as to minimise child dropouts (increase retention) and facilities should be provided as well. While we can applaud the government for introduction of the USE, it is sad to point that those that have dropped out before completion of the primary level cannot proceed to the secondary level. It is therefore important to address the several challenges at the primary level to fully attain the goal of universal education.

### **5.2.12 Establishment of Community Polytechnics**

These will enable access to vocational training and education for primary school dropouts. These polytechnics need to be made more accessible, well equipped and attractive to children and parents. These children should also be provided with tailor made skills especially those in the urban informal sector. These will enable the children gain experience and therefore earn a decent income for survival.

## **5.2.2 Other recommendations that are not necessarily in line with the objectives have been listed and these include;**

### **5.2.2.1 The implementation of labor laws and also policies in Kwanyiy**

To be able to create a country free of child labour and its exploitive nature, the aforementioned laws (6.1.4) have to be implemented as a mandate for the welfare of the child. With proper guidelines, these laws have to be translated into various vernaculars for easy interpretation by the citizens of Uganda. Institutional organizations and the Government of Uganda with support from the international community should then sensitize the general public right from the grassroots level about the laws and policies on child labour. Childhood training should also be encouraged right from the home and still, these laws should be included in the schools' curricular so that the children are aware of their rights. This will put them in position to report cases of child labour to those in authority.

### **5.2.2.2 Poverty reduction**

The Government of Uganda should create and implement an explicit policy on poverty alleviation, which may include the enforcement of socioeconomic policies to promote economic growth. Uganda has for the fact poverty alleviation programmes like the PEAP and PMA, but these have specifically targeted the rural setting and ignored the urban setting. The urban sector should be put to consideration in these programmes to target its poor communities especially those in the informal sector.

The recently introduced Social Protection Programme by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (2010) should target such poor households to augment income generation, strengthening of the unity of the family and promotion of health for household members. The programme should particularly target female headed households and those with orphans. The fee that is currently at 22, 000 Uganda Shillings (approximately US\$ 5) should be doubled. This will enable large poor families to survive and reduce the involvement of children in child labour

### **Further reading**

Although the study has been exhaustive, the researcher recommends further studies on the phenomenon of child labour given the very dynamic society we live in. Studies should be conducted to ascertain why, despite concerted efforts in terms of policy and legal interventions, child labour was on an increase. The studies will not only widen the knowledge base, but also provide a viable way forward.

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**APPENDICES**  
**QUESTIONARE FOR WORKING CHILDREN**

1. Gender

- Male
- Female

2. Place of birth.....

3. How old are you?

- 6 years and under
- 7-11
- 12 years and over

4. How many brothers and sisters do you have?

- 2 and less
- 3-5
- More than 5

5. Do you live with your parents or a guardian?

- Parent
- Guardian
- Place of safety

6. Do your parents work?

- Yes
- No
- Some times

7. How many persons live in your house?

- 2 and less
- 3-5
- More than 5

8. Why are you not in school today?

.....

9. How often do you attend school?

- Everyday
- Once or twice a week
- Three times a week
- Not at all

10. What would you like to become?

.....

11. What do you do when you are on the streets during the day?

.....

12. How much do you earn every day?

.....

13. Where do you sleep at night?

- At home
- In a camp
- On the streets

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR KEY INFORMANTS**

1. Name of institution.....

2. What are the principal goals/functions of your institution?

.....  
.....

3. What is your perception of children’s participation in the labour force especially in the rural areas?

.....  
.....

4. What in your view is the community’s perception of child labour?

.....  
.....

5. What are the main child labour activities that children engage in the rural areas?

.....  
.....

6. In your view, what are the main causes of children’s participation in child labor in the rural community?

.....  
.....

7. What are the advantages of children’s participation in child labour in general basing on the child and the community?

.....  
.....

8. What are the positive effects of children’s participation in child labour as regards the rural areas?

.....  
.....

9. What are the negative effects of children’s participation in child labour activities basing on the child and the community?

.....  
.....

10. What are the negative effects of children’s participation in child labour?

.....  
.....

11. What initiatives have been taken by your institution to address the issue of child labour in these rural areas?

.....  
.....

12. In you view, how effective have these initiatives been, in reducing the child’s involvement in the labour force and urban informal activities?

.....  
.....

13. What in you view is the way forward for reducing children’s involvement in the labour force in general and in particular the rural areas?

.....  
.....

## APPENDIX A: WORK PLAN

Activity	Duration	Commencement
Pre-study visit and preparation for the field	One Week	1 <sup>st</sup> April -9 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Data Collection	Three Weeks	20 <sup>th</sup> April – 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Editing	Five Weeks	24 <sup>th</sup> May – 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Data Analysis	Four Weeks	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2014– 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2018
Report Writing	Three Weeks	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2014 – 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
Literature Review	Throughout the Study	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
Miscellaneous – One Week		Total time=23 Weeks

## APPENDIX C: A MAP OF UGANDA SHOWIN



Thank you!