

**INFLUENCE OF NEGLECT ON ATTACHMENT AND DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR  
AMONG ADOLESCENT BOYS IN NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA**

**BY  
HARRIET KING'OO  
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## DECLARATION

I declare that this research thesis is my original work and has not been presented for the award of any degree or diploma in any other university.

Sign 

Date: **11.10.2021**

**HARRIET M KING'OO**

**C50/8503/2017**

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.

Sign: 

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

**PROF. LUKE O. ODIEMO**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

## **DEDICATION**

To my parents, who have been a role model for me on issues of parent-child attachment, to my spouse, who is purposeful about parent-child attachment, and to my children, siblings, mentors, and mentees who have walked beside me on this academic path, I dedicate this article.

I would also want to dedicate this work to all the organizations who work tirelessly to rescue street children, rehabilitate, and reintegrate them into their families, as well as provide family counselling and life skills to economically empower these boys and their families in order to reduce crime.

This simple effort expresses my desire to see functional families all around me.

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## ABSTRACT

The study focused on the influence of neglect on attachment to caregiver and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. The first objective of the study was to determine the extent to which neglect influences attachment to caregivers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi, the second objective was to investigate the influence of neglect on delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi and the third objective was to establish the relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among neglected adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. The study's first hypothesis was to assess the relationship between neglect and attachment to care givers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. The second hypothesis was to assess the relationship between neglect and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi and the third hypothesis was to assess the relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among neglected adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. The study utilized both purposive and snowballing sampling procedures. A sample of 112 street adolescent boys was used in the study. Purposive sampling procedure was used to attain sample for the Focused group discussions. Both descriptive and inferential statistics (Chi-square, T-test, Pearson's correlation, and Regression) were used to infer the sample results from quantitative data. Qualitative data was coded and analyzed for emerging themes and presented through narrations. The findings of this study showed that there was no statistically significant association between neglect and attachment ( $\chi^2=2.6239$ ,  $p=0.453$ ) at the 5% level of significance 0% levels of significance. There was statistically significant association between neglect and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=9.3969$ ,  $p=0.052$ ) at the 5% level of significance. There was no statistically significant association between attachment and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=16.7704$ ,  $p=0.158$ ) at the 5% level of significance. This study concluded that neglect does not influence attachment formation, that neglect influences involvement in delinquent behavior which meant neglected boys have a high chance of indulging in delinquent activities and attachment style does not influence delinquent behavior among the adolescent street boys of Embakasi, Nairobi County.

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ABS</b>	-	Australian Bureau of Statistics
<b>BDI</b>	-	Behavioral Problems Index
<b>CAI</b>	-	Child Attachment Interview
<b>CHRR</b>	-	Centre for Human Resource Research
<b>CSDD</b>	-	Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development
<b>CTQ</b>	-	SF-Child Trauma Questionnaire-Short Form
<b>IPPA-R</b>	-	The Inventory of Parents and Peer Attachments
<b>NLSY</b>	-	National Longitudinal Survey of Youth
<b>NN</b>	-	No Neglect
<b>PN</b>	-	Possible Neglect
<b>RSQ</b>	-	Relationship Scale Questionnaire
<b>SEM</b>	-	Standard Error of Measurement
<b>SPSS</b>	-	Statistic Program for Social Sciences

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

The failure to meet a child's basic needs is a global problem that has been deemed the common form of child abuse. It influences how a child's cognitive, psychological, social, intellectual, and emotional development, (Centre's for Disease Control and Prevention, 2016). Research has shown that a neglected child could exhibit anxiety, aggression, withdrawal, low self-esteem, academic delays, criminal activity among other developmental issues, (McCord, 1983). In Kenya, child neglect is prevalent with a total of 13,878 case of child neglect and abandonment reported over the last 10years, (Shawiza, 2017). It is also reported as the common form of child abuse here in Kenya and the root cause of all other forms of child abuse, (Susan, 2017). An estimation of 1296 incidents of child abuse and neglect were reported to a child helpline through phone calls. The most upsetting cases were from Kenya's most wealthy counties; Nairobi, Kiambu, Nakuru and Kisumu. Nairobi County recorded the highest number of cases at 255, Kiambu 98 cases, Nakuru 83 cases, Kisumu 59 cases and Kakamega 59 cases, (Shawiza, 2017).

Neglect has been defined as giving too little attention or respect to something or someone, (Merriam, 2018). However, in a deeper meaning refers to the ongoing /consistent failure to meet a child's basic needs. Neglect can occur in different forms. These include medical, emotional, educational, and physical neglect. This may occur from birth (privation) or later especially among truants (deprivation). Physical neglect involves failure to provide a child's physiological needs like food, clothing, shelter and failing to provide protection for the child. Educational neglect refers to failure to ensure that a child receives education. Emotional neglect refers to the failure to respond to a child's feelings by ignoring, humiliating, intimidating, or isolating them which hurts their feelings. Medical neglect is failure to provide appropriate health care and refusal of care or ignoring medical recommendations given to benefit a child, (Horwath, 2007).

Several causes have been established in relation to neglect. Financial instability, illiteracy, marital/relationship problems, lack of support from extended families, social segregation, poor housing, mental disorders or physical ill health and substance abuse have been listed as major

causes of neglect of children (Hugh, 2017). As much as neglect leads to serious developmental problems, it sometimes acts as motivation to the victim of neglect to become a better parent in the future, (Rich, 2016). In Africa, child neglect cases are under-reported. In South Africa, the main perpetrators of child neglect are biological mothers with majority of them single, under 20 years and have poor support network, (Karen, 2009). In the United States of America, 1,580 children were estimated to have lost their lives out of abuse and neglect, (Child Abuse Statistics, 2014).

Attachment to care givers is one of the developmental areas of a child that neglect may influence. Attachment is defined as a strong emotional bond that connects one person to another, (Ainsworth, 1973; Bowlby, 1969). Attachment is characterized by behaviors in children such as seeking closeness to their caregivers for their needs to be met and when upset or threatened for safety, (Bowlby, 1969). Attachment to a caregiver takes different forms. There exists a secure attachment and an insecure attachment and disorganized attachment. Secure attachment refers to the child being able to trust their parent/caregiver to meet their needs. This was termed as maternal sensitivity to a child's needs. Insecure attachment on the other hand could be avoidant or ambivalent. An insecurely attached child has no confidence in the parents' response to their needs. This was seen as maternal insensitivity. A disorganized attachment refers to a form where a child is in a dilemma or confusion whether the parent will meet their needs or not. This makes a child exhibit secure attachment sometimes and insecure attachment at other times, (Ainsworth, 1969). Neglecting a child's basic needs influences how a child forms attachment to the caregiver. This may easily lead to an insecure attachment, (Carla, 2011).

Among the rural Gusii community in Kenya, sensitivity was primarily exhibited nonverbally by a variety of caregivers in the form of (subtle) physical responsiveness, and it was most visible during newborn feeding. Insensitivity was observed when caregivers were preoccupied with housework and while bathing infants. Both warmth and harshness were noted, but only on rare occasions, (Judi et al, 2020). When a newborn is born, he or she has physical and safety requirements that must be fulfilled as soon as possible and on a continuous basis. However, babies and young children have emotional need as well. They require nurturing and comfort

from a reliable and attentive caregiver who can offer a safe foundation for their development. When caregivers are unstable or unresponsive throughout a kid's first few years of life, the youngster is more likely to develop an attachment problem. Reactive attachment disorder (RAD) is a common problem in children. Those who have it have frequently experienced trauma or neglect in basic care. Neglect happens when a child is under the age of five and does not establish a healthy bond to their caregiver or parent, usually their mother, (CBT-Kenya, 2021).

Neglected children are at a risk of involvement in delinquent behavior. Delinquent behavior is defined as a child's engagement in extreme antisocial behavior, (Bartol, 2011). Psychologists have repeatedly debated on the nature versus nurture relationship to delinquent behavior in children. Some argue that delinquent children reflect their environment, and they simply act out due to societal pressures, maltreatment and neglect they have experienced, (Sara, 2011). As youth age the count of delinquent acts increases, black and Hispanic youth had higher counts of delinquent behavior than youth with white, multi-racial or other racial identities. Youth out of home care have double the rate of delinquent behavior while those exposed to community violence engage more in delinquent behavior, (Susan et al, 2014) Childhood abuse increases the risk of adulthood crime by promoting antisocial behavior during childhood and adolescence, (Herrenkohl et al, 2017) Child Physical and sexual abuse are predictors of weakened social bonds and increased delinquent behavior during adolescence stage, (Stephen et al, 2016)

Delinquent behavior may also relate to the form of attachment a child has with their caregiver. The quality of attachment functions as parental control over a child's behavior. Authentic behavior of a child is achieved as from a strong child-parent attachment. Unconventional behavior however increases if the bond to the parent is weak. Strong and affective bonds decrease delinquent behavior involvement, (Hirschi, 1969). According to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquent behavior Prevention (2014), there is a crossover between child welfare and the juvenile justice system. In discussing the linkages between family and delinquent behavior, the study adds that children's welfare systems fail at home first, then minors disobey the law as a result.

Most of the delinquent behavior research have focused on what causes delinquent behavior, how to rehabilitate delinquents, and how to avoid delinquent behavior. These studies have primarily been done on delinquents in penal institutions, but some have also been undertaken in secondary schools where delinquent behavior is considered widespread. The major focus in Kenya has been on alleviating and dealing with the problem of delinquent behavior. This has resulted in a lack of understanding of the underlying causes of adolescent misbehavior (Scholastica, 2020). This study adds to the current body of knowledge on delinquent conduct among teenagers by focusing on delinquent behavior among adolescents who have truanted and others who have been kicked out by their caretakers, leaving them homeless. The existing literature also lacks studies that simultaneously investigate how different forms of neglect by caregivers differentially influence delinquent behavior among adolescent street boys, something that this study sort to highlight by pointing out how those who suffer privation and those who suffer deprivation get involved in delinquent behavior.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Several theorists, both social and psychological theorists, have documented a lot that revolves around developmental issues among children and adolescents. The transition from childhood stage to adolescence stage is highly determined by the childhood experiences one had. Attachment as documented by John Bowlby determines development in several life aspects. Attachment is defined as a bond that a child forms with their caregiver. According to this theory, attachment to a caregiver act as an avenue for a child to explore the world. It highlights that a child may form a secure attachment, insecure attachment, avoidant and disorganized with their caregiver depending on how the caregiver responds to the child's needs, (Bowlby, 1969). The failure to meet the child's needs is termed as maternal insensitivity, (Ainsworth, 1971). Attachment to a caregiver is not the exclusive bond that a child may form; societal bond also determines one's behavior according to social control theory by Hirschi. Attachment theory argues that a child-caregiver bond may influence their involvement in delinquent behavior. The social control theory states that when one's bond to the society weakens, they engage in criminal activity. It focuses on three key aspects: absentee parents, truancy, and unemployment (Hirschi, 1969).

Adolescents are the most vulnerable and according to Sarah Blakemore, they are unique and vulnerable. She documents on the adolescent brain with key regard to brain development and behavioral development. Adult mental disorders like anxiety disorders, eating disorders, addictions, depression among others trace back their onset to adolescence stage. Adolescents are high risk takers, where they are driven by the urge to impress their peers and becoming independent from their parents. The need to become more independent often leads to truancy, (Blakemore, 2006) Truancy boys are often characterized by anti-social behaviors like petty theft (Fergusson et al., 1995), insecure and anxious behavior (Tyerman, 1958) and emotional instability (Kvaraceus, 1964). Since they are alienated from their families, and they lack attachment to a specific caregiver. Bonding with the world around them makes them vulnerable to criminality, an aspect that can be explained by the social control theory by Hirschi. Adolescents are characterized by curiosity and the urge to explore the world Truancy adolescents lack a primary caregiver thus bond with the society around them, in most cases are criminal gangs.

Neglect of children being so common in Kenya and globally, is the most common form of child maltreatment, (Susan, 2017). Neglect is the failure to meet the basic human needs of a child, (Carla, 2011). 13, 878 cases of child neglect and abandonment having been reported over the last 10 years is evident that most cases are not reported, (Vera, 2017). Lack of care by parents has been reported as the origin of teenage-related problems. Some run away from home or become involved in risky behaviors, (Phil, 2016). Neglect of the duty to meet a child's needs may lead an insecure attachment to a caregiver, (Ainsworth, 1969) Delinquent behavior among other behavioral problems has been recorded as common among neglected children and youths, who have poor attachment to their parents, (Hirschi, 1969). In most cases, neglect has negative impact on a child. However, neglected children may learn ways to survive on their own and end up being motivated to become better parents in the future, (Rich, 2016). Parents' failure to provide basic needs to their children was at 9.9% in 2009, (Radford et al. 2011). In the United Kingdom, a quarter of young people fled their homes. This was triggered by their parents. Truancy teenagers claim that their parents do not care about them, (Farrington & Welsh, 2003)

Neglect in whatever form often leads to antisocial behavior among adolescents, something that is evident among adolescent boys in Embakasi. Many fled their homes or were thrown away at a tender age and found residence in the streets. These adolescents are majorly characterized by dirty rugged clothes a clear sign that their basic needs are not under anyone's care. Their daily activities involve petty theft, violent behavior and drug abuse in small gangs which reflects their daily involvement in delinquent behavior. A good number of them does not go back to their parents every evening while some visit their kins occasionally. Their daily involvement in delinquent activities hardens them and kills their self-conscience. Their continuous stay on the streets breeds them into more experienced criminal gangs who are a threat to the rest of the society. The longer they stay in the streets the more they become seasoned criminals and some even advance to armed robbery or murder as they try so hard fend for themselves and the young new members on the streets.

Attachment and delinquent behavior have been studied in a number of places with key consideration on infant and adolescents' attachment among children with parents, however a consideration of adolescent attachment in more extreme populations such as maltreated or severely deprived lacks in Kenya. This study sought to bring to light the influence of deprivation and privation on development of adolescent among truanting adolescent boys and those neglected from birth. Such a study had not been conducted before in Embakasi where several adolescents loiter while supposed to be in school and in worst cases many get involved in criminal activities

### **1.3 Aim of the Study**

To determine the influence of neglect on attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi

### **1.4 Objectives**

The objectives of the study were to:

- i. Determine the extent to which neglect influences attachment to caregivers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.
- ii. Investigate the influence of neglect on delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.
- iii. Establish the relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among neglected adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.

### **1.5 Research Questions**

- i. To what extent does neglect influence attachment to caregivers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi?
- ii. In what ways does neglect influence delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi?
- iii. What is the relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among neglected adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi?

### **1.6 Hypotheses**

**Ho1:** There is no relationship between neglect and attachment to care givers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.

**Ho2:** There is no relationship between neglect and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.

**Ho3:** There is no relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among neglected adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi.

### **1.7 Justifications**

The findings of this study could potentially demonstrate the importance of child-parent attachment for adolescents, then demonstrate the suitability and applicability of CAI in a Kenyan setting to identify attachment styles formed by children that influence their development, and lastly provide basis for further epidemiological research and development of specific intervention strategies that can help curb the problem of neglect. This study is hoped to build on attachment theory and social control theory. The key aspects of attachment theory revolve around meeting a child's needs for attachment to develop between a parent and a child, (Bowlby,

1969). Neglect is the failure to respond to a child's needs that attachment theory emphasizes on. This failure to fulfill a child's needs breeds an insecure child-parent attachment, (Ainsworth, 1969). A neglected child would therefore experience difficulties forming a secure attachment to the caregiver since their basic needs are not met.

Neglected children are reported to be more vulnerable when it comes to delinquent behavior involvement. Most of the children who have been neglected often run away from their parents at adolescence stage (Rees and Siakeu, 2004). Truancy can be associated to the urge to become more independent from parents at adolescence stage, Sarah Blakemore This explains the high numbers on the streets that we see every day. Some end up being homeless after running away from their families that have neglected them. Their being homeless forces them to engage in risky activities to at least feed and clothe. Some also engage in risky behaviors to impress their peers and fit in, (Sarah, 2006). These risky activities include petty theft, robbery and other criminal activities rated as delinquent in the society. Social control theory explains people's involvement in law breaking activities due to weak societal bonds. Where societal bonds are weak there is poor attachment to others and the more people break the law. Strong societal bonds on the other hand mean less crime (Hirschi, 1969). The researcher shall be interested in the kind of bond or attachment that exists between an adolescent and a parent, how neglect has contributed to the formation of such attachment and how delinquent behavior relates to neglect and attachment.

### **1.8 Significance of the Study**

Results yielded from this study are of great help to both governmental and non-governmental organizations. This is to help them as they seek to curve the menace of neglect of children as well as educate parents on their relationship with children.

This study laid a basis for other scholars who would want to study further the issue of neglect, its influence on attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among children and youth.

Community service workers and community authorities like area chiefs who seek to reduce cases of neglect also benefit from this study. This is because it gave a clear picture of the child-caregiver relationship and would enable them to address the issue of poor parental care. It also helps them understand the process of attachment and delinquent behavior.

A member of parliament with an intention to push for a motion in parliament on reduction or eradication of neglect in Nairobi also benefits from the findings of this study. This would help in advocating for parental care and rights of children to basic needs.

Teachers and caregivers in alternative care institution will be able to understand behavioral problems like delinquent behavior among children who have been rescued from neglect. This makes it easier for the alternative care institutions to rehabilitate delinquents.

### **1.9 Scope of the Study**

This study focused on the influence of neglect on attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys. This is because adolescents make up the largest part of the children who have been neglected and found a shelter on the streets. The study investigated only emotional and physical neglect which are evident in Embakasi. Adolescents are the target group because attachment style adopted at infancy stage manifests more in adolescence stage. It sought to investigate run-away or throw away young boys settled on the streets for shelter while their families still exist somewhere in the city. The study was conducted only in Embakasi area part of the Nairobi County.

The concept of attachment was investigated in the different styles of attachment as given by an attachment theorist, John Bowlby. These styles included secure, insecure ambivalent, insecure avoidant and disorganized attachment. Parents' sensitivity to the needs of these boys was used to predict a secure attachment. On the other hand, parents' insensitivity to these boys was directly used to interpret an insecure attachment to the caregiver.

Delinquent behavior was interpreted from the boys' day to day activities to earn a living. Activities like petty theft, robbery and other antisocial behaviors like hostility, aggression and violence were termed as delinquent. Some of the antisocial behaviors like violence and aggression were observed as the boys interacted among themselves. This was believed to have a relation to the kind of attachment to caregiver hence investigation of the relationship that may exist between attachment and delinquent behavior. Parents' involvement would have yielded more information on the attachment styles but accessing each of them would have been a challenge. Information given by the boys was highly relied on.

### **1.10 Limitations and Delimitations**

Personal interviews were the most suitable data collection instruments in this study. However, they would have been time consuming. Questionnaires were administered to the respondents, and each assisted to understand the questions and fill them for accuracy. Focused group discussions were conducted in small cohorts to help capture more detailed descriptive data. These helped collect more accurate data within the stipulated timelines for data collection.

Sampling to attain the desired sample size was a challenge to the researcher. This is because the target population was of the street boys and only the willing ones made the sample population. The researcher used snowballing and purposive sampling procedures to attain a sample population for the study. This was made possible by one community worker who invested his time to help the researcher congregate the boys. A word of mouth was sent across their small joints some days prior to the data collection day and each boy brought along several others.

### **1.11 Assumptions of the Study**

This study assumed that there were neglected adolescent boys with attachment disorders among street boys in Embakasi. Lack of parental care influenced a child's emotional development. Those neglected from birth grew under the care of strangers and never developed a secure attachment with their parents.

Neglected adolescent boys were at a risk of involvement in delinquent behavior. Adolescents' risk-taking nature and urge to please their peers made them vulnerable to influence by criminal gangs. Neglected adolescents lacked moral care either from birth or after running away from their families. This was because many were truants seeking to become independent from their parents.

It also assumed that attachment to caregivers among neglected adolescent boys related to their delinquent activities. Attachment to a caregiver act as an avenue for adolescents to explore the world. Lack of attachment leads many to exploring the world through their peers as they also seek identity. This made them lack empathy and thus antisocial behaviors.

### **1.12 Definition of Terms**

**Neglect-** continuous failure to meet the basic human needs of a child like shelter, clothing, education, food, medical care, and emotional support

**Attachment-** an emotional bond that connects one person to another

**Delinquent behavior-** a child's engagement in extreme antisocial acts

**Socio-economic background-** Referred to an individual's occupation, income as well as social status in the society.

**Family background-** Referred to the family structure, family size, parenting and upbringing of an individual

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

In this chapter, a summary of scholarly work related to neglect, attachment and delinquent behavior, theories to guide the study and a conceptual framework are presented. Socio-economic background, education and family background are the key contributing factors to be considered in this study.

#### **2.2 Neglect and Attachment**

This section captures literature review related to the first objective on the influence of neglect on attachment to caregivers. It presents different forms of attachments children form with their caregivers.

##### **2.2.1 Socio-Economic Background**

A qualitative study on attachment styles was conducted among children aged from 8 to 14 years in Nairobi County .Two private schools were chosen: one in a low socioeconomic environment (a slum) and one in a moderate socioeconomic setting (middle class school). The study's goal was to interview 20 kids. The youngster has to be between the ages of 8 and 14 and enrolled in one of the selected schools to be eligible. Priority was made to identifying two-parent families in order to collect children's opinions on both parents. To find and recruit the 20 youngsters, a purposive sampling approach was utilized. After getting authorization from the principal of a middle-class school, the researcher met with teachers from classes 2 through 8 and planned interviews with little involvement in the educational process. Children from two neighboring classrooms were invited, thus students from classes 2 and 3 were invited together.

For both parents, the four primary attachment styles: Secure, Insecure-Preoccupied, Insecure-Dismissing, and Insecure-Disorganized were utilized to characterize children's attachment. Six out of ten children in the middle-class sample were classified as Securely Attached to their mothers, one boy as Borderline, and two children as Insecurely Attached: one boy as Insecure-Disorganized and one girl as Insecure-Dismissing. Five out of ten youngsters in the middle class were classified as Securely Attached to their fathers, two children: one girl and one boy were labeled as Borderline, and two were labeled as Insecurely Attached: one boy was labeled as Insecure-Disorganized, and one girl was labeled as Insecure-Dismissive. In the slum class sample, 8 out of 10 children were classified as Securely Attached to their mothers, one boy as Borderline, and one girl as Insecure Preoccupied. In a low-income group, eight children were classified securely attached to their dads, whereas two children, one girl and one boy, were rated borderline. The CAI tool not only provided significant information regarding attachment security distribution in late childhood and early adolescence, but it also allowed us to observe many elements of parenting through the eyes of a kid, (Annastacia, 2014). Investigation of the meaning of attachment in medium and low-income Anglo-American and Puerto Rican mothers, moms in both groups and across income levels regarded secure behaviors to be more desirable than insecure behaviors. What varied between the two cultural groups' moms was the meaning they attributed to various attachment practices. Secure behaviors were favored by Anglo moms and were regarded as showing the child's "autonomy" and "self-maximization" (Harwood et al., 1995). Whereas secure actions were desired by Puerto Rican moms, they were regarded as demonstrating the child's usage of "appropriate manner" and displaying "respect" for the mother (Harwood et al., 1995). These findings show that the same set of actions can be perceived as desirable across cultures yet have different meanings in various ecological situations. Posada, Gao, Wu, Posada, Tascon, Schoelmerich, Sagi, KondoIkemura, Haaland, and Synnevaag (1995) investigated the notion of a secure basis across cultures.

Using the Q-sort approach for evaluating attachment, they compared mothers' assessments of the ideal kid within and across cultures (i.e., China, Colombia, Germany, Israel, Japan, and the United States) (Waters & Deane, 1985). The study concentrated on mothers' preferences for stable base behavior. There was a lot of overlap, both inside and across cultures, with all moms

favoring stable basic behavior. However, cultural variations in the precise characteristics of secure base behavior were discovered (i.e., smooth transitions, proximity to mother, physical contact with mother and interactions with other adults). Colombian moms, for example, received higher scores on the closeness to mother dimension than mothers from other ethnic groups. Thus, while the basic notion of attachment was comparable within and across cultures, there were considerable variations in the details of the concept. This study, as well as the study by Harwood et al., emphasize the necessity to investigate attachment in diverse cultural situations. Attachment in African American Infants: A Case Study Much attachment research in American culture has been performed with White, middle-class groups and very little with African American samples.

As previously stated, a meta-analysis of attachment and culture discovered greater within cultural variance than between cultural variation. Thus, studying the attachment patterns of White American newborns does not necessarily teach us anything about African American infants or other ethnic/racial groups in America. Second, few research have looked at attachment patterns in African American households. When African Americans have been included in research samples, it is frequently in clinical samples or in comparison to other ethnic groups (Jackson, 1984; Peters, 1988). Only a few research have focused on within-group analyses. Third, family structure among African American households is considered to differ very regularly from the "traditional" nuclear family form found in White middle-class families. Females head a significantly larger proportion of African American families than other ethnic or racial groupings. Furthermore, African American families are considered to rely on extended relatives for social and instrumental support, allowing their children to contact with a diverse range of individuals daily. Varied sorts of family settings may have different effects on the formation of early relationships. Few research on attachment in African American babies that focus on aspects of African American family life have been published (Bell, cited in Ainsworth et al., 1978; Jackson, 1986; Jackson, 1984; Kennedy & Bakeman, 1984; & Randolph, 1989). However, in Kenya a study on attachment among street adolescent boys has not yet been done.

### **2.2.2 Education**

In a study that sought to establish the association between styles of attachment and childhood trauma, participants were randomly picked in Mugla Sıtkı Kocman University. Participants of the study were 940 students. A standardized questionnaire was used to collect data regarding children's early abuse experiences in life. The questionnaire had 28 items which were to evaluate some of the hard life encounters in childhood. These were physical violence, emotional neglect and sexually related violence.

Statistical analyses were done using the SPSS AND LISREL package programs. Pearson product-moment correlation and structural equation modeling were applied in analyzing association between childhood traumas and attachment styles children exhibit.

Difficult life encounters in childhood and attachment styles had a noticeable relationship. Whenever physical violence and neglect, emotional abuse, emotional neglect, and sexual abuse sub dimensions of childhood trauma increased fearful, preoccupied, and dismissing attachment styles would develop. Decrease of physical abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, emotional neglect, and sexual abuse sub dimensions of childhood fear triggering events would yield secure attachment style.

An evident increase of physical abuse and neglect, emotional abuse and neglect and sexual abuse sub dimensions of childhood fear triggers led to an increase of insecure types of attachment. Participants portraying relatively high levels of physical abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, emotional neglect, and sexual abuse sub dimensions of childhood disturbing experiences seemed to portray insecure types of attachment. This suggested that childhood disturbing encounters could trigger insecure attachment which revolves around one's anticipation that people around them will not fulfill their emotional needs, (Atilgan, 2016).

Virtual Headteachers for Children in Care, a statutory position in local authorities since 2014, recognize that one important part of their role is to ensure that schools and other educational settings understand the unmet attachment needs and childhood trauma that affect the learning of

children in care and many others. The phrase "attachment-aware schools" refers to a variety of programs that promote this essential task as well as educational settings that use these methods. Creating a secure attachment and learning successfully are intimately intertwined. Great teaching frequently includes attachment, such as bonds between instructor and students: the teacher and class working together to improve their understanding of the world.

We know that not all children, and not all people dealing with them, find this "brain-building" process simple, which is why, when faced with the task of being in the classroom and learning, some fall into a condition of "fight, flight, or freeze. "Attachment is at the heart of learning, and it must be included into the entire school's learning strategy as well as teacher training in order to minimize the alarming dropout rate of new teachers. The good news is that "attachment-aware" techniques work well for children in care and for the estimated 40% of children who will find learning challenging due to unmet attachment needs and early trauma, and they are also excellent for general learning. This is a "hearts and minds" issue: we know we need to show strong proof that employing a school's resources to address attachment difficulties makes a difference, in addition to fighting for the individual kid, (Derren, 2016)

### **2.2.3 Family Background**

An article on close affection and attachment in neglected children, three key observations were made in abusive and neglectful families. Rejected children would portray several developmental issues like difficulty emotional development. It is prevalent to have the problem of rejection and abuse run from one generation to another (trans-generational). Parents may also tend to treat children as adults due to their lack of information and immature character. This makes may participate in minimal activities with their peers whom they see as "immature." This feeling of being more mature than other children often affects building peer relations.

The other recurring problem was the trans-generational attachment-related issues. Previously secure attachments had the possibility to become insecure ones suddenly due to mistreatment and abandonment. The child's view of an always caring and protective world may not align with their current situation. The good perception of adults may become altered in children if

physically abused by their caregiver. Majority of problems related to child-parent bond are mostly contributed by parents' assumption of their children's growth in different aspects other than mistreatment. Many parents lack information on the importance of the experience's children have in the first three years of their lives. This is so prevalent that approximately 1 in 3 people has insecure form of attachment, (Perry, 2001).

A study on the impact of family structure on teenagers aged 13 to 18 in Saudi Arabia investigated psychological well-being (self-esteem, life satisfaction, depression), bullying, and victimization among teenagers from polygamous and monogamous homes were compared. A series of studies looked at the impact of family structure and a variety of demographic factors on teenagers' psychological well-being and behavior. Also studied was the mediating influence of parent-adolescent interactions as indicated by parent-adolescent bonding and father availability.

Adolescents from polygamous households reported greater issues with their psychological well-being, bullying, and victimization than adolescents from monogamous families, according to the findings. A second research sought to validate the Parental Bonding Instrument for use with teenagers in Saudi Arabia. With 301 participants aged 13-18 years, the parental bonding measure was validated for use in Saudi culture. The results showed that the 'care' component of the parental bonding instrument was culturally acceptable for use in Saudi Arabia, but the 'overprotection' dimension was not because of distinct cultural patterns seen in Saudi culture. A third research used a validated parental bonding measure to compare 266 adolescents from polygamous and monogamous homes. The findings revealed that adolescents from polygamous homes had lower 'care' scores than those from monogamous ones. Furthermore, comparisons by age group and gender revealed no impacts of age or gender on father care, mother care, self-esteem, life satisfaction, bullying, or victimization.

Depression levels differed significantly among age groups. A fourth study, which included 500 teens, utilized structural equation modeling to assess the influence of parental attachment on adolescent self-esteem, life satisfaction, depression, bullying, and victimization. In polygamous families, parental care was a significant mediating variable between adolescent outcomes and the family factors of father availability and the mother's status as the first or later wife. In

monogamous marriages, parental care predicted adolescent outcomes, while family variables had little influence on parental care. A fifth study was a qualitative investigation of the perspectives of 30 students and 10 teachers on father justice, family functioning, views toward polygamous marriage, and academic achievement. Polygamous homes experienced challenges such as a lack of father justice and family unity, emotional and behavioral problems, and poor academic performance. Finally, this is the first study to investigate the effects of polygamous family structure on Saudi teens, as well as the first to provide a culturally validated measure of adolescent-parent attachment relations. Polygamy has been linked to teenage psychological well-being and conduct. Adolescent perceptions of parental care and the fairness with which they believe their father treats them have a significant impact on their relationship with their parents, their sense of well-being, and their behavior, (Mohammad, 2016)

## **2.3 Neglect and Delinquent Behavior**

In this section, literature related to the second objective on the influence of neglect on delinquent behavior is reviewed. This focuses on the extent to which neglect leads to delinquent involvement.

### **2.3.1 Socio-Economic Background**

A study done on, ‘social and financial stress, child neglect and Juvenile delinquent behavior’ used data from NSW Department of Community Services neglect and abuse reports. The Department provided data collected from 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1991. Participation in crime was based on prosecution of children under sixteen years, in Court for delinquent activities like stealing of property and violence. The 1991 census was used to attain the socio-economic background of the respondents.

The cases of neglect and abuse seemed high where socio-economic stress is high. The participation of young people in crime is highly linked to both neglect and abuse. This indicates that engagement of young people in crime is high among those who have been neglected and abused.

Lack of basic needs, families with one parent and congested residential areas explained about the same difference in the rates of child neglect and abuse as they do for the variation in juvenile participation in crime. The study concluded that if parental neglect had influence on child delinquent behavior, then neglect should be a determining factor of juvenile participation in crime, (Don, et.al., 1997).

### **2.3.2 Family Background**

In a cross-sectional study on Child Neglect and Adolescent Violence that sought to establish the effects of self-control and peer rejection, data was drawn from Children of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth.

The effects of educational, physical, and emotional neglect were evaluated independently in the studies. When the children were 3 to 5 years old in 1988, all neglect and demographic variables were evaluated. To identify instances of neglect, home-based evaluations were done, which included either mother self-reports or observer-based observations of maternal behavior. Five questions were used to determine whether family members assist the kid learn and how frequently the mother read to the child each week. During the home evaluation, an observer rated the mother-child relationship as emotional neglect. Observers reported if the mother spoke about the kid with a pleasant tone of voice and whether she spoke to the child at least twice throughout the interview. Emotional neglect was measured on a scale of 0 to 2, with low results suggesting emotional neglect. The mean for emotional neglect was 1.80, indicating that just a small proportion of the children in the sample were emotionally ignored in 1988.

Physical neglect was also an observer's judgment on the child's living conditions, such as whether the inside of the home seemed safe, gloomy, or boring, relatively clean, and minimally cluttered.

Because different kinds of maltreatment overlap, it was critical to account for the consequences of physical abuse while grading child neglect. Poverty status was derived from Child Neglect and Adolescent Violence as a measure of the youth's familial poverty condition. Responses varied from never having been poor during these years to having been poor during any of these years. The mean for poverty status was .328, indicating that 33 percent of the moms were poor

during 1987 to 1988. In 1988 and other family configurations, family structure assessed whether children lived with both biological parents. In 1988, the mean for family structure was .591, suggesting that 59% of children lived with both biological parents. To assess children's self-control, parents' reports on their children's behavior were used. The sample's mean level of self-control was 17.9, with a range of 7 to 21, indicating that it had rather high levels of self-control. Two items on which the moms were asked to reply were used to assess peer rejection. Peer rejection ranged from 2 to 6, with a mean of 2.45, indicating that there was relatively little peer rejection in this sample. Because child maltreatment has been linked to higher rates of serious delinquent behavior and violence rather than minor delinquent behavior, a measure of violence was included in the analyses. The range of violence was 0 to 2, with a mean of .438, indicating that only 44% of the teenagers in the sample were involved in violence in the preceding year. Violence, emotional abuse, physical neglect, and peer rejection were all distorted and altered before to the analysis.

The study discovered that the detrimental consequences of child neglect persist into adolescence, even after a 12-year lag, and are not reduced by self-control. Children who were physically ignored were more likely to be rejected, according to previous study on the connection between neglect and peer rejection; children whose moms were emotionally connected were more likely to be rejected. Peer rejection predicted teenage aggression, which was more common in boys, children from dysfunctional households, and younger adolescents. The study findings also showed that children's experiences with peer rejection affected the detrimental consequences of physical neglect on teenage violence. When poverty and family structure were taken into account, the detrimental consequences of physical neglect were not confined to children from impoverished or dysfunctional households.

Child neglect does not predict self-control, and while self-control impacts teenage violence, it has no effect on the connection between neglect and violence. Peer rejection has an impact on the connection between physical neglect and aggression. The study's findings were consistent with previous studies, indicating that physically mistreated children are more likely to be rejected by their classmates, (Constance, 2005).

### **2.3.3 Education**

In a longitudinal study on, 'relationship between childhood neglect and juvenile delinquent behavior' 411 men from a working class were examined. The key measures of delinquent behavior were self-reports and official records of convictions. These were available between ages 10 and 50 for offenses like theft, robbery, assault, insulting, possession of a weapon illegally, sex offenses, drug abuse, arson, vandalism, and driving under the legally allowed age. Offenders were rated as juveniles up to the age of 16.

Offenses measured among adolescents included various forms of theft, assault, vandalism, and fraud. Measures of parental characteristics included a social worker-based rating of the education level of the mother, severe uneasiness of parents and the parents' poor health at the time of the interview. The study suggested that higher chances of childhood issues were among the neglect group, particularly with parental crime involvement, risky family environment, problem behavior, inability to cope in school, and intellectual ability.

Boys who were neglected in childhood were more likely from disadvantaged families, exhibited behavioral disorders both at home and in school, and had limited intellectual abilities. These neglected boys were had a variety of serious childhood experiences that placed them at risk of involvement in delinquent activities. An experience of neglect in childhood increased the chances committing an offense in teenage. Negative effects of stigma were associated to children identified as neglected or from dysfunctional families. A group of boys in the were pointed out as neglected from their early life (Lila, et.al., 2011).

### **2.4 Attachment and Delinquent Behavior**

In this section, literature related to the third objective on the relationship between attachment and delinquent behavior is reviewed. This focuses on any relationship that may exist between the two.

#### **2.4.1 Socio-Economic Background**

A study on parent-child attachment, attachment to peers, and delinquent behavior involvement was done among teenagers in a Malaysia state. 480 teenagers 13-17 years participated in the study. Urban settlement was chosen because there are more criminal activities than in the rural. Teenagers in urban areas had a higher risk of involvement in crime due to economic hardship in urban areas.

Questionnaires were the main data collection instrument used in this study. Items for attachment to mother, father and peers included “My mother respects my feelings.” and “I feel my mother does a good job as a mother.” attachment to father, “My father accepts me as I Am.” and “I like to get my father’s point of view on things I’m concerned about.” attachment included “My friends can tell when I’m upset about something” and “When we discuss things, my friends care about my point of view.” The items for delinquent behavior included, “Driven an unregistered car?”, “Stolen things or parts out of a car or a motor bike?”, and “Done something that your parents did not want you to do?”

According to the study findings, attachment to mother, father, and peers, as well as gender determined an adolescent’s involvement in delinquent behavior. Gender was found to be the strongest in predicting delinquent behavior. Males are more delinquent than females. This showed that gender was more in determining delinquent behavior than attachment. Gender differences between boys and girls made boys more aggressive and active.

The study being cross-sectional, data was collected in only one stage of life, adolescence. The key contributing factors to adolescents’ delinquent behavior were not assessed. Longitudinal research could probably help understand the cause of delinquent behavior among adolescents (Lim, et.al, 2013).

#### **2.4.2 Education**

In a study that examined the association between parental attachment and delinquent behavior among young offenders, quantitative approach was employed. This was in centers of rehabilitation in Kota Kinabalu and Keningau Sabah. A total of 92 young people involved in

crime aged from 16-21 years were purposively selected to participate. Self-administered questionnaires were used to gather information from the respondents. A revised 'Junger Delinquent behavior Scale', (Baharom, 2006) was used to ascertain the degree of delinquent behavior by recording the number of times one was delinquent before being sent to rehab by the authorities. Four types of delinquent behavior were measured by this scale: physical, antisocial, sexual and verbal. The correlation findings showed that there was a weak negative and significant relationship between parental attachment and delinquent behavior. The higher the parental attachment, the lower the delinquent behavior, (Siti, et, al., 2015).

Children with low-education parents are more prone to participate in delinquent conduct. One argument is that parents who are more likely to get an education are more likely to raise their children in ways that are less favorable to crime. Alternatively, greater parental education may modify parents' conduct, reducing their children's proclivity to commit crime. We find that increasing compulsory schooling decreases delinquent conduct among their offspring, using data from the NLSY79 and variance caused by changes in compulsory schooling legislation in the United States. An extra year of combined parental education reduces the likelihood to damage property by 6 percentage points, assault by 4 percentage points, and theft by 4.5 percentage points. Higher parental education also leads to smaller family sizes, a higher predicted number of years of schooling, less TV time, and higher levels of self-control, indicating multiple processes by which these intergenerational benefits are passed down, (Monica, 2019)

## **2.5 Literature Review Summary**

Generally, attachment styles identified in different studies include secure, insecure, and insecure-disorganized, insecure dismissing. Neglect in any form is seen to be a cause of insecure attachment in children towards caregivers. Negative experiences in childhood like child abuse and neglect breed fearful, preoccupied, dismissing attachment styles. Attachment styles are seen to be trans-generational, passed from one generation to another.

Neglect places children at a risk of involvement in delinquent behavior. Insecurely attachment in children led to vulnerability to get involved in delinquent behavior. High parental attachment lowers delinquent behavior.

Socio economic background, family background and education are key contributing factors to different forms of neglect, attachment, and delinquent behavior.

## **2.6 Theoretical Frameworks**

In this section, the theoretical framework that was chosen to inform this study is presented. Attachment theory by John Bowlby is outlined first followed by social control by Travis Hirschi.

### **2.6.1 Attachment Theory**

This study was based on ‘The Attachment theory’ by John Bowlby (1977-1980) and Mary Ainsworth (1991). John Bowlby developed the basic concepts of this theory while Ainsworth built on them. He sought to change the perception of a child-mother tie and how it’s disrupted by separation. Ainsworth argued that ‘children use the attachment figure as a secure haven from which they can learn and interact with their environment.’ Attachment theory states, ‘There is a necessity for people to attach to others and if alienated, stress occurs’. Children alienated from their parents have difficulties socially, emotionally, and intellectually. Bowlby categorized attachment into four styles: secure, avoidant, ambivalent and disorganized. He also highlighted two major outcomes if attachment does not occur; the failure to feel guilty or show concern to others which leads to delinquent behavior and retarded growth which he linked to low intelligence. He does not show clear distinction between the concepts of deprivation and privation in his theory. Bowlby assumed, an attachment must occur between a parent and their child and if separation happens a negative outcome, excessive fear occurs in the child. In some cases, the bond may not have existed as Bowlby assumes, thus privation. Attachment with key focus on how mothers respond to a child’s needs by Ainsworth basically pointed out mothers as the caregivers.

Schaffer in collaboration with Emerson established many forms of attachments in children, with relatives and peers. However, they agree with Bowlby's response to a child's needs and affectionate bond with parents. Carlson (1998), Showing no concern and care to children is equated to adulthood problems. Scroufe (2005) identified an extension of infant attachment into teenage stage and later emotional /social behavior.

### **2.6.2 Social Control Theory**

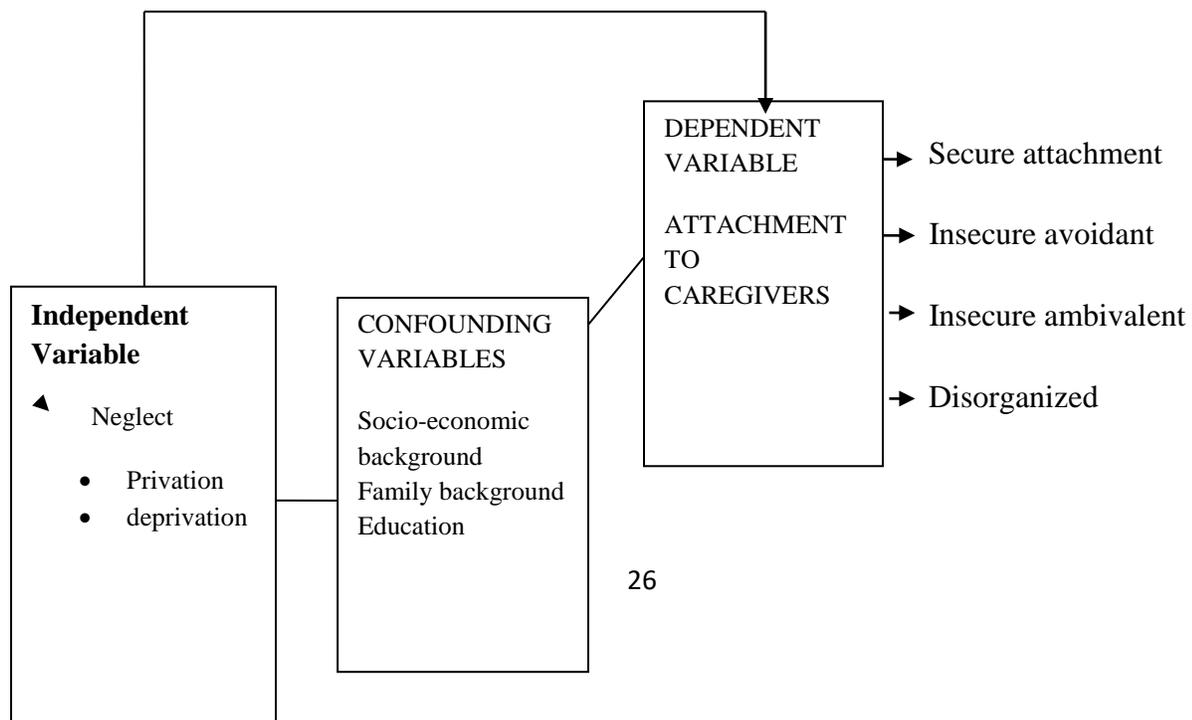
In cases of where a child had been neglected from the time they are born, attachment to the larger society becomes their only option. Attachment theory does not capture how such children connect with the larger society its consequences which social control theory takes into consideration. Bonds in the society greatly influence one's actions. Social control by Travis Hirschi (1969), points out need for strong societal attachment. It focuses on the absent caregiver, truanting behavior, and lack of occupation. Deviance is as result of the social institutions' inability to regulate individual behavior.

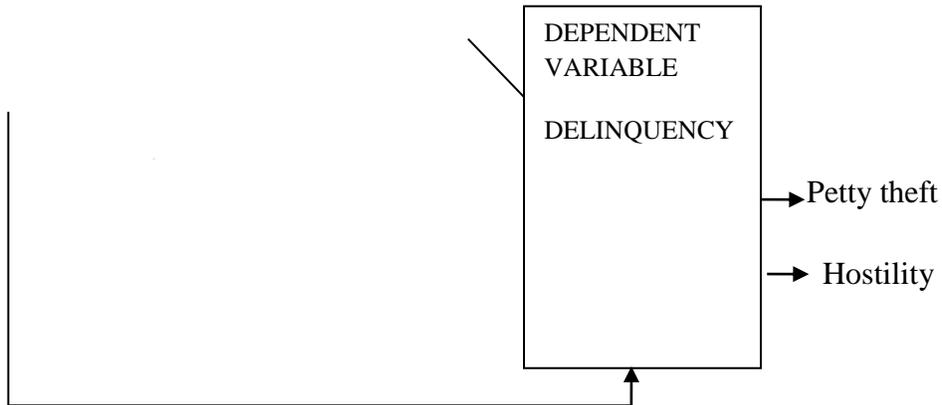
Alienation from their caregivers could be because of; death of parents, desertion, truancy which lead to neglected children. Children need attachment to a caregiver for them to normally develop socially and emotionally (Sigelman & Rider 2009). Social control theory shall complement the concept of attachment theory. The target population for this study is characterized by constant dropping out of school and dismissal by parents thus lacks caregivers, with an evident relationship to the society around them, peers and social institutions like churches and schools.

The separation from caregivers from the time they were born or after a stay with the caregiver for a short time of their life makes them more vulnerable to get involved in delinquent behavior. The kind of bond a child has with the caregiver may raise or lower their risk of involvement in delinquent behavior. Securely attached children are at a low level of risk when it comes to involvement in delinquent behavior while insecurely attached are at a high level of risk of being delinquents. Attachment theory helps in understanding the attachment neglected children form and the relationship that may exist between attachment and delinquent behavior.

## 2.7 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework below shows the relationship between variables that guided this study. In employing attachment theory, the study assumed that children's developmental issues like different attachment styles with caregivers and delinquent behavior were the possible outcomes of the influence of child physical and emotional neglect among boys in Embakasi.





**Figure 1: Conceptual framework**

## **CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter gives the research methodology that the researcher used in this study, the research design, target populations, sample size, sampling procedures, data collection instruments, data collection procedures and methods of data analysis.

### **3.2 Research Design**

The researcher employed mixed method design. Qualitative and quantitative approaches were used with a survey applied in data collection. Qualitative because the researcher focused on the experiences of the adolescents and were not numeric. Quantitative because it utilizes numerical data and enabled the researcher to analyze data collected.

### **3.3 Target Populations**

Physically neglected adolescents living on the street were the researcher's target population. These consisted of those neglected from birth and truanting adolescents. In Embakasi, there were approximately 150 adolescents who had found residence on the streets and lived in small groups.

### **3.4 Sample Size**

The anticipated sample size for this study was 80 to 100 adolescent and managed 120 boys because of snowballing sampling method. This was because the sample was scattered and had no permanent residence.

### **3.5 Sampling Procedures**

Purposive sampling procedure was used to get a sample for the focused group discussions. The respondents were then grouped into two categories, those neglected from birth and those who had truanted. Snowballing sampling was applied when the sample population was not adequate because the target population had no permanent residence.

### **3.6 Data Collection Instruments**

Focus group discussions and questionnaires were the main instruments to collect data. Questionnaires had two sections where the first section captured demographic data of the respondents and the second section captured the respondents' experiences with regard to their relationships with caregivers and delinquent behavior involvement. The focused group discussions had a structured guide to capture further details on the respondents' experiences.

### **3.7 Data Collection Procedures**

The researcher personally went to the sampled area, Embakasi, Pipeline Estate and sought permission first from the relevant authority to conduct the study on the boys before coming back on the appointed date to collect data. Questionnaires were administered to the respondents for filling and returning on the same day for a period of one week. The respondents were assisted to complete the questionnaire because some were unable to read and write. Focused group discussions were conducted by the researcher with the help of a research assistant.

### **3.8 Data Analysis**

Data collected was counter checked and edited by the researcher; data was coded to facilitate analysis using the Statistical Package for Social Scientist software for the quantitative data while means, frequency distributions and dispersions were used for descriptive data for the three hypotheses. T-test was used to compare the means between the two groups of respondents, neglected from birth and the truants. Pearson's correlation coefficient was used to show the strength of the relationship between neglect and attachment and attachment and delinquent behavior and regression to show cause and effect for first and second hypotheses. A three-way chi-square was used to assess the association between the variables and describe the relationship in percentages to show whether the patterns could be generalized for the third hypothesis. Regression was used to show how education, family background and socio-economic background contributed to attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior involvement among neglected adolescent boys.

### **3.9 Ethical Considerations**

An official letter from the relevant authorities was acquired from the university and a research permit from NACOSTI. The researcher observed high confidentiality of the information received from the respondents assuring the respondents of anonymity. The researcher explained to the respondents the aim of the research, time frame of the study as well as the procedures prior to collection of data. The researcher reported accurate information from the research without falsifying or fabricating the data. The researcher respected the dignity of the respondents throughout the study. Since the researcher was dealing with adolescent boys on the streets, the researcher took practical security measures throughout the study by having research assistants who were well versed with the lifestyle of the street boys and could communicate with them without triggering any form of violence or hostility towards the researcher.

### **3.10 Validity and Reliability**

The proposal was be piloted prior to fieldwork to establish the validity and reliability of the instruments.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA ANALYSIS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the results on data analysis. There are objectives which were analyzed in this chapter. The first objective sought to determine the extent to which neglect influences attachment to caregivers among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. The second objective sought to investigate the influence of neglect on delinquent behavior among the adolescent boys in the same study area. The third objective sought to establish the relationship between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior among the neglected adolescent boys in the same study area. Analysis of the first and second objectives was done through use of multinomial logistic regression, Chi-Square analysis, and generation of Pearson's correlation coefficient. The third objective was purely be analyzed through use of Chi-Square and Pearson's correlation coefficient. Descriptive statistics was equally generated to show the variation between neglect, the confounding variables, attachment, and delinquent behavior. Summary statistics were

generated to ensure the number of observations for every variable is known, as well as the maximum and minimum values for every variable and what they mean.

## 4.2 Summary/Descriptive Statistics

**Table 1: Summary/Descriptive statistics**

Variable	Observations	M	SD	MIN	MAX
Age	103	2.8447	1.8298	1	6
Education	112	1.8661	.6367	1	4
Family structure	112	1.9196	0.9313	1	3
Family size	114	1.9386	0.7199	1	3
Caregiver	59	2.0508	0.5389	1	4
Caregiver marital status	110	2.0636	0.8597	1	3
Caregiver occupation	108	1.9259	1.2052	1	4
Neglect	112	1.1429	.3515	1	2
Delinquent behavior	114	0.8596	.3489	0	1
Attachment	114	2.3158	1.0669	1	4

Table 1 presents the summary statistics on the variables used in the analysis. The statistics indicate whether data entry was done properly and that there are no outliers that could have emanated from errors. Since that data is categorical in nature, mean and standard deviations have no special meaning. The only aspects of the summary statistics that have meaning are the number of observations, minimum, and maximum values respectively. The number of observations serve to indicate the sample size that was used in the analysis for each of the categories. There actual sample size comprised of 114 respondents. The variables that have few observations indicate missing values that emanate from non-response in questions touching those specific aspects of the variables. Age had a minimum and maximum values of 1 and 6 where 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 represent respondents aged 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 years respectively. Education had a minimum and a maximum of 1 and 4 where 1, 2, 3, and 4 represented 0-3, 4-8, 9-12, and 13-and above years of schooling respectively.

Family structure had a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 3 where 1, 2, and 3 represent nuclear, extended, and single-parent family structures respectively. Family size had a minimum of 1 and a maximum value of 3 where 1, 2, and 3 represented a family of less than 3, 3-6, and more than 6 members respectively. Caregiver had a minimum and maximum of 1 and 4 where 1, 2, 3, and 4 represented orphaned, parents, foster care and relative respectively. The marital status of caregiver was categorized into three where 1, 2, and 3 represent married, single, and separated respectively. The occupation of caregiver was categorized into four categories where 1, 2, 3, and 4 represent casual labor, wage labor, formal employment, and self-employment respectively. Neglect was categorized into two where 1, and 2 represent the deprivation and privation categories of neglect respectively. Delinquent behavior was categorized into four where 1, 2, 3, and 4 represent theft, hostility, drug abuse and non-delinquent respectively. Attachment was categorized into four categories where 1, 2, 3, and 4 represent secure attachment, insecure attachment, avoidant attachment, and disorganized attachment respectively.

### 4.3 Analysis of General Information

**Table 2: Variation between neglect, age and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Privation</b>	Age				
	13 years	40.9%	43.8%	26.7%	41.2%
	14 years	9.1%	18.7%	6.7%	11.8%
	15 years	18.2%	6.3%	6.7%	23.5%
	16 years	13.6%	9.4%	26.6%	5.9%
	17 years	13.6%	0%	20.0%	0.0%
	18 years	4.6%	21.8%	13.3%	17.6%
<b>Total respondents</b>		22	32	15	17
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those respondents who portrayed a secure attachment, were 40.9% (13 years), 9.1% (14 years), 18.2% (15 years), 13.6% (16 years), 13.6% (17 years), and 4.6% aged 18 years. Those with an insecure attachment were 43.8% aged 13 years, 18.7% aged 14 years, 6.3% aged 15 years, 9.4% aged 16 years, 0% aged 17 years, and 21.8% aged 18 years. Those with avoidant attachment were 26.7% aged 13 years, 6.7% aged 14 years, 6.7% aged 15, 26.6% aged 16, 20.0% aged 17 and 13.3% aged 18 years. Those with disorganized attachment comprised of 41.2% aged 13, 11.8% aged 14, 23.5% aged 15, 5.9% aged 16, 0% aged 17, and 17.6% aged 18 years.

**Table 3: Variation between neglect, age and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Deprivation	Age				
	13 years	0.0%	28.5%	0.0%	20.0 %
	14 years	50.0%	14.3%	0.0%	20.0%
	15 years	50.0%	14.3%	0.0%	20.0%
	16 years	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	40.0%
	17 years	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	18 years	0.0%	14.3%	100.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	7	1	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 0% (13years) ,50.0% (14years), 50.0% (15years) , 0% (16years) , 0% (17years) and 0% (18years) .Those with an insecure attachment were 28.5% ( 13years) , 14.3% (14years), 14.3 % (15years),14.3% (16years), 14.3% (17years) and 14.3% (18years). Those with an avoidant attachment were 0% (13 years), 0% (14years), 0% (15years), 0% (16years), 0% (17years) and 100% (18years). Those with disorganized attachment comprised 20.0% (13years). 20.0% (14years), 20.0% (15years), 40.0% (16years), 0% (17years) and 0% (18years).

**Table 4: Variation between neglect, age and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
Privation	Age				
	13 years	33.3%	37.8%	34.8%	42.9%

	14 years	16.7%	15.0%	8.7%	14.3%
	15 years	16.7%	12.4%	13.0%	14.3%
	16 years	0.0%	7.4%	26.1%	14.3%
	17 years	0.0%	5.0%	13.1%	7.1%
	18 years	33.3%	22.4%	4.3%	7.1%
<b>Total respondents</b>		6	40	23	14
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed delinquent behavior in form of theft were 33.3% (13years), 16.7% (14 years), 16.7% (15 years), 0% (16 years), 0% (17 years) and 33.3% (18 years). Those who portrayed hostility were 37.8% ( 13 years) , 15.0% (14 years), 12.4% (15years), 7.4% (16years), 5.0% (17 years) and 22.4% (18 years).Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 34.8% (13 years), 8.7% (14 years), 13.0% (15 years), 26.1% (16 years), 13.1% (17 years) and 4.3% (18 years). Those who were non-delinquent comprised 42.9% (13 years), 14.3% (14 years), 14.3% (15 years), 14.3% (16years), 7.1% (17 years) and 7.1% (18years).

**Table 5: Variation between neglect, age and delinquent behavior**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent</b>			
<b>Deprivation</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Theft</b>	<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Drug abuse</b>	<b>Non-delinquent</b>
	13 years	0.0%	16.6%	100%	14.3%
	14 years	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	15 years	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	28.5%
	16 years	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%
	17 years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%
	18 years	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	14.3%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	6	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed delinquent behavior in form of theft were 0% (13 years) , 0% (14 years), 0% (15years) , 100% (16 years) , 0% (17 years) and 0% (18 years). Those who portrayed hostility were 16.6% (13 years), 50% (14 years), 16.7% (15 years), 0% (16 years), 0% (17 years) and 16.7% (18 years). Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 100% (13 years), 0% (14 years), 0% (15 years), 0% (16 years), 0% (17 years) and 0% (18 years). Those who were non-delinquent comprised 14.3% (13 years). 0% (14 years), 28.5% (15 years), 28.6% (16 years), 14.3% (17 years) and 14.3% (18 years).

**Table 6: Variation between neglect, education and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Privation</b>	Education				
	0-3 years	23.1%	25.7%	11.7%	29.4%
	4-8 years	76.9%	71.4%	76.5%	64.7%
	9-12 years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%
	13 and above years	0.0%	2.9%	11.8%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		26	35	17	17
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 23.1% who have attended school for a period of (0-3 years), 76.9% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12years) , 0% (13 and above years). Those with an insecure attachment were 25.7% ( 0-3years) , 71.4% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 2.9% (13 and above years). Those with an avoidant attachment were 11.7% (0-3 years), 76.5% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 100% (13 and above years). Those with disorganized attachment comprised 29.4% (0-3 years). 64.7% (4-8years), 5.9% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years).

**Table 7: Variation between neglect, education, and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Deprivation</b>	Education				
	0-3 years	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	40.0%
	4-8 years	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	40.0%

	9-12 years	50.0%	16.7%	0.0%	20.0
	13 and above years	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	6	2	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 0% who have attended school for a period of (0-3 years), 50% (4-8 years), 50% (9-12years) , 0% (13 and above years). Those with an insecure attachment were 33.3% (0-3years), 50% (4-8 years), 16.7% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years). Those with an avoidant attachment were 0% (0-3 years), 50% (4-8years), 0% (9-12 years), 50% (13 and above years). Those with disorganized attachment comprised 40% (0-3 years). 40% (4-8 years), 20% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years).

**Table 8: Variation between neglect, education and delinquent**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent</b>			
<b>Privation</b>	Education	Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
	0-3 years	14.3%	35.5%	7.4%	23.1%
	4-8 years	85.7%	64.4%	92.6%	46.2%
	9-12 years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.6%
	13 and above years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	23.1%
<b>Total respondents</b>		7	45	27	13
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed delinquent behavior in form of theft were 14.3% who had spent (0-3 years) in school , 85.7% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years) , 0% (13 and above years). Those who portrayed hostility were 35.5% (0-3 years), 64.4% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and

above years). 0% (17 years). Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 7.4% (0-3 years), 92.6% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years). Those who were non-delinquent comprised 23.1% (0-3 years), 46.2% (4-8 years), 7.6% (9-12 years), 23.1% (13 and above years).

**Table 9: Variation between neglect, education, and delinquent**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent</b>			
<b>Deprivation</b>	Education	Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
	0-3 years	100.0%	16.7%	100.0%	28.6%
	4-8 years	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	42.9%
	9-12 years	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	14.3%
	13 and above years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	6	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed delinquent behavior in form of theft were 100% who had spent (0-3 years) in school, 0% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years). Those who portrayed hostility were 16.7% (0-3 years), 50% (4-8 years), 33.3% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years), 0% (17 years). Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 100% (0-3 years), 0% (4-8 years), 0% (9-12 years), 0% (13 and above years). Those who were non-delinquent comprised 28.6% (0-3 years), 42.9% (4-8 years), 14.3% (9-12 years), 14.3% (13 and above years).

**Table 10: Variation between neglect, family structure and attachment**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Attachment</b>			
<b>Privation</b>	<b>Family structure</b>	<b>Secure</b>	<b>Insecure</b>	<b>Avoidant</b>	<b>Disorganized</b>
	Nuclear	57.7%	45.7%	31.3%	47.1%

	Extended	3.8%	14.3%	18.8%	23.5%
	Single	38.5%	40.0%	50.0%	29.4%
<b>Total respondents</b>		26	35	16	17
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 57.7% from nuclear families, 3.8% from extended families and 38.5% from single-parent families. Those with an insecure attachment were 45.7% from nuclear families, 14.3% from extended families and 40% from single-parent families. Those with an avoidant attachment were 31.3% from nuclear families, 18.8% from extended families and 50% from single parent families. Those with a disorganized attachment were 47.1% from nuclear families, 23.5% from extended families and 29.4% from single-parent families.

**Table 11: Variation between neglect, family structure and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Deprivation	Nuclear	0.0%	57.1%	50.0%	60.0%
	Extended	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	Single	100.0%	14.3%	50.0%	40.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	7	2	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 0% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 100% from single-parent families. Those with an insecure attachment were 57.1% from nuclear families, 28.6% from extended families and 14.3% from single-parent

families. Those with an avoidant attachment were 50% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 50% from single parent families. Those with a disorganized attachment were 60% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 40% from single-parent families.

**Table 12: Variation between neglect, family structure and delinquent behavior**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent behavior</b>			
<b>Privation</b>	<b>Family structure</b>	<b>Theft</b>	<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Drug abuse</b>	<b>Non-delinquent</b>
	Nuclear	85.7%	36.4%	61.5%	28.6%
	Extended	0.0%	6.8%	11.5%	50.0%
	Single	14.3%	56.8%	26.9%	21.4%
<b>Total respondents</b>		7	44	26	14
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 85.7% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 14.3% from single-parent families. Those who portrayed hostility were 36.4% from nuclear families, 6.8% from extended families and 56.8% from single parent families. Those who portrayed drug abuse were 61.5% from nuclear families, 11.5% from extended families and 26.9% from single parent families. Those who were non-delinquent were 28.6% from nuclear families, 50% from extended families and 21.4% from single parent families.

**Table 13: Variation between neglect, family structure and delinquent behavior**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent behavior</b>			
<b>Deprivation</b>	<b>Family structure</b>	<b>Theft</b>	<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Drug abuse</b>	<b>Non-delinquent</b>
	Nuclear	100.0%	28.6%	100.0%	57.1%
	Extended	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%
	Single	0.0%	57.1%	0.0%	28.6%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	7	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 100% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 0% from single-parent families. Those who portrayed hostility were 36.4% from nuclear families, 6.8% from extended families and 56.8% from single parent families. Those who portrayed drug abuse were 61.5% from nuclear families, 11.5% from extended families and 26.9% from single parent families. Those who were non-delinquent were 28.6% from nuclear families, 50% from extended families and 21.4% from single parent families.

**Table 14: Variation between neglect, family size and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Privation	Family size				
	Nuclear	15.4%	37.1%	41.2%	33.3%
	Extended	61.5%	42.9%	35.3%	50.0%
	Single	23.1%	20.0%	23.5%	16.7%
<b>Total respondents</b>		26	35	17	18
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 15.4% from nuclear families, 61.5% from extended families and 23.1% from single-parent families. Those with an insecure attachment were 37.1% from nuclear families, 42.9% from extended families and 20% from single-parent families. Those with an avoidant attachment were 41.2% from nuclear families, 35.3% from extended families and 23.5% from single parent families. Those with a disorganized attachment were 33.3% from nuclear families, 50% from extended families and 16.7% from single-parent families.

**Table 15: Variation between neglect, family size and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Deprivation	Family size				

	Nuclear	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	20.0%
	Extended	50.0%	57.1%	50.0%	40.0%
	Single	50.0%	14.3%	50.0%	40.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	7	2	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment were 0% from nuclear families, 50% from extended families and 50% from single-parent families. Those with an insecure attachment were 28.6% from nuclear families, 57.1% from extended families and 14.3% from single-parent families. Those with an avoidant attachment were 0% from nuclear families, 50% from extended families and 50% from single parent families. Those with a disorganized attachment were 20% from nuclear families, 40% from extended families and 40% from single-parent families.

**Table 16: Variation between neglect, family size and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
Privation	Nuclear	42.9%	26.7%	25.9%	50.0%
	Extended	42.9%	51.1%	51.9%	28.6%
	Single	14.2%	22.2%	22.2%	21.4%
<b>Total respondents</b>		7	45	27	14
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 42.9% from nuclear families, 42.9% from extended families and 14.2% from single-parent families. Those who portrayed hostility were 26.7% from nuclear families, 51.1% from extended families and 22.2% from single parent families. Those who portrayed drug abuse were 25.9% from nuclear families, 51.9% from extended families and 22.2% from single parent families. Those who were non-delinquent were 50% from nuclear families, 28.6% from extended families and 21.4% from single parent families.

**Table 17: Variation between neglect, family size and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent
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Deprivation	Family size	Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
	Nuclear	0.0%	14.3%	100.0%	14.3%
	Extended	100.0%	71.4%	0.0%	28.6%
	Single	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	57.1%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	7	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 0% from nuclear families, 100% from extended families and 0% from single-parent families. Those who portrayed hostility were 14.3% from nuclear families, 71.4% from extended families and 14.3% from single parent families. Those who portrayed drug abuse were 100% from nuclear families, 0% from extended families and 0% from single parent families. Those who were non-delinquent were 14.3% from nuclear families, 28.6% from extended families and 57.1% from single parent families.

**Table 18: Variation between neglect, caregiver and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Privation</b>	Caregiver				
	Orphaned	0.0%	5.6%	20.0%	16.7%
	Parents	85.0%	83.2%	80.0%	83.3%
	Foster care	15.0%	5.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	Relative	0.0%	5.6%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		20	18	10	6
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment 0.0% were orphaned, 85.5% had parents as caregiver, 15.0% were fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those with an insecure attachment 5.6% orphaned, 83.2% had parents as caregiver, 5.6% were fostered and 5.6% had a relative as the caregiver. Those with an avoidant attachment were 20% orphaned, 80% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those with a disorganized attachment were 16.7% orphaned, 83.3% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver.

**Table 19: Variation between neglect, caregiver and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Deprivation	Caregiver				
	Orphaned	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	Parents	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
	Foster care	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Relative	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	3	0	0
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Among those who portrayed a secure attachment 0.0% were orphaned, 0% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 100% had a relative as the caregiver. Those with an insecure attachment 33.3 % orphaned, 66.7% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0 had a relative as the caregiver. Those with an avoidant attachment were 0% orphaned, 0% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those with a disorganized attachment were 0% orphaned, 0% had parents as caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver.

**Table 20: Variation between neglect, caregiver and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
Privation	Caregiver				
	Orphaned	40.0%	3.2%	6.7%	0.0%
	Parents	60.0%	83.9%	86.7%	100.0%
	Foster care	0.0%	9.7%	6.7%	0.0%
	Relative	0.0%	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		5	31	15	2
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 40% orphaned, 60% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed hostility as a form of delinquent behavior were 3.2% orphaned, 83.9% with a parent as the caregiver, 9.7% was fostered and 3.2% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 6.7% orphaned, 86.7% with a parent as the caregiver, 6.7% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed delinquent behavior were 0% orphaned, 100% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver.

**Table 21: Variation between neglect, caregiver and delinquent behavior**

Neglect Deprivation	Confounding variable Caregiver	Delinquent			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
	Orphaned	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	Parents	100.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	Foster care	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Relative	0.0%	33.4%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	3	0	0
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior were 0% orphaned, 100% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed hostility as a form of delinquent behavior were 33.3% orphaned, 33.3% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 33.4% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior were 0% orphaned, 0% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver. Those who portrayed delinquent behavior were 0% orphaned, 0% with a parent as the caregiver, 0% was fostered and 0% had a relative as the caregiver

**Table 22: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s marital status and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Privation</b>	<b>Caregiver’s marital status</b>				
	Married	30.8%	32.4%	68.8%	29.4%
	Single	26.9%	20.6%	12.5%	29.4%
	Separated	43.3%	47.1%	18.8%	41.2%
<b>Total respondents</b>		26	34	16	17
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who had portrayed a secure attachment, 30.8% had a married caregiver, 26.9% had a single caregiver and 43.3% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an insecure attachment, 32.4% had a married caregiver, 20.6% had a single caregiver and 47.1% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an avoidant attachment 68.8% had a married caregiver, 12.5% had a single caregiver and 18.8% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an insecure attachment 29.4% had a married caregiver, 29.4% had a single caregiver and 41.1% had caregivers who were separated.

**Table 23: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s marital status and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Deprivation</b>	<b>Caregiver’s marital status</b>				
	Married	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%
	Single	0.0%	66.7%	50.0%	60.0%
	Separated	100.0%	33.3%	50.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	6	2	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who had portrayed a secure attachment, 0% had a married caregiver, 0% had a single caregiver and 100% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an insecure attachment, 0% had a married caregiver, 66.7% had a single caregiver and 33.3% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an avoidant attachment 0% had a married caregiver, 50% had a single caregiver and 50% had caregivers who were separated. Those who had portrayed an insecure attachment 40% had a married caregiver, 60% had a single caregiver and 0% had caregivers who were separated.

**Table 24: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s marital status and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug Abuse	Non-delinquent
Privation	Caregiver’s marital status				
	Married	33.3%	23.3%	48.2%	57.1%
	Single	33.3%	23.3%	18.5%	28.6%
	Separated	33.4%	53.4%	33.3%	14.3%
<b>Total respondents</b>		6	43	27	14
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior, 33.3% had a married caregiver, 33.3% had a single caregiver and 33.4% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed hostility as a form of delinquent behavior, 23.3% had a married caregiver, 23.3% had a single caregiver and 53.4% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior, 48.2% had a married caregiver, 18.5% had a single caregiver and 33.3% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed non-delinquent behavior 57.1% had a married caregiver, 28.6% had a single caregiver and 14.3% had separated caregiver.

**Table 25: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s marital status and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent behavior			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug	Non-delinquent
Deprivation	Caregiver’s marital				

	status			Abuse	
	Married	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	14.3%
	Single	100.0%	33.3%	100.0%	57.1%
	Separated	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	28.6%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	6	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who portrayed theft as a form of delinquent behavior, 0% had a married caregiver, 100% had a single caregiver and 0% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed hostility as a form of delinquent behavior, 16.7% had a married caregiver, 33.3% had a single caregiver and 50% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior, 0% had a married caregiver, 100% had a single caregiver and 0% had separated caregiver. Those who portrayed non-delinquent behavior 14.3% had a married caregiver, 57.1% had a single caregiver and 28.6% had separated caregiver.

**Table 26: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s occupation and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
Privation	Casual labor	68.0%	57.1%	50.0%	43.7%
	Wage labor	4.0%	31.4%	21.4%	12.5%
	Formal employment	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	18.8%
	Self-employment	28.0%	5.7%	28.6%	25.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		25	35	14	16
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who exhibited secure attachment, 68.0 %had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 4% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 28% self-employed. Those who exhibited an insecure attachment 57.1 %had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 31.4% waged laborer, 5.7% formally employed and 5.7% self-employed. Those who exhibited an avoidant attachment 50%had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 21.4% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 28.6% self-employed. Those who exhibited a disorganized attachment 43.7%had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 12.5% waged laborer, 18.8% formally employed and 25% self-employed.

**Table 27: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s occupation and attachment**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Attachment			
		Secure	Insecure	Avoidant	Disorganized
<b>Deprivation</b>	Caregiver’s occupation				
	Casual labor	0.0%	57.1%	50.0%	60.0%
	Wage labor	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	Formal employment	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%
	Self-employment	100.0%	14.3%	50.0%	20.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		2	7	2	5
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who exhibited secure attachment 0% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 100% self-employed. Those who exhibited an insecure attachment 57.1 %had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 28.6% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 14.3% self-employed. Those who exhibited an avoidant attachment 50% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 50% self-employed. Those who exhibited a disorganized attachment 60% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 20% formally employed and 20% self-employed.

**Table 28: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s occupation, and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Confounding variable	Delinquent behavior			
		Theft	Hostility	Drug abuse	Non-delinquent
<b>Privation</b>	Caregiver’s occupation				
	Casual labor	100.0%	51.2%	60.0%	64.3%
	Wage labor	0.0%	23.3%	12.0%	21.4%
	Formal employment	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%	14.3%
	Self-employment	0.0%	20.9%	28.0%	0.0%
<b>Total respondents</b>		5	43	25	14

<b>Total (%)</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
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Among those who exhibited theft as a form of delinquent behavior 100 % had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 0% self-employed. Those who exhibited hostility 51.2 % had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 23.3% waged laborer, 4.7% formally employed and 20.9% self-employed. Those who exhibited drug abuse 60% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 12.0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 28.6% self-employed. Those who were non-delinquent 64.3% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 21.4% waged laborer, 14.3% formally employed and 0% self-employed.

**Table 29: Variation between neglect, caregiver’s occupation and delinquent behavior**

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Confounding variable</b>	<b>Delinquent behavior</b>			
		<b>Theft</b>	<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Drug abuse</b>	<b>Non-delinquent</b>
<b>Deprivation</b>	<b>Caregiver’s occupation</b>				
	Casual labor	100.0%	42.9%	100.0%	42.8%
	Wage labor	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Formal employment	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	28.6%
	Self-employment	0.0%	42.9%	0.0%	28.6%
<b>Total respondents</b>		1	7	1	7
<b>Total (%)</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Among those who exhibited theft as a form of delinquent behavior 100 % had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 0% self-employed. Those who exhibited hostility 42.9% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 14.3% formally employed and 42.9% self-employed. Those who exhibited drug abuse 100% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 0% formally employed and 0% self-employed. Those who were non-delinquent 42.8% had a caregiver who was a casual laborer, 0% waged laborer, 28.6% formally employed and 28.6% self-employed.

#### 4.4 Analysis of Focus Group Discussions

Two focus group discussions were held during the process of data collection. Content analysis was used to make sense of information obtained from the discussions. Regarding attachment to caregivers, it was found out that most of the respondents had joined the streets later in their life. Actually, most of them reported that they normally go back to their caregivers and return back to the streets. Most of them reported that their parents were the primary caregivers although it was noted most of their needs had not been met during childhood. Most of the respondents who reported to have poor relationships with their primary caregivers. Majority of them reported that they actually felt rejected and threatened by their caregivers, the reason they had decided to join street life.

Regarding delinquent behavior, majority of the respondents reported they had indulged in theft in various instances in their life and they had even been arrested by the police. Most of them reported to have engaged in hostility through fighting with their friends. A good number of the respondents reported indulgence in drug abuse and poor relationship with some of their peers.

#### 4.5 Effect of Neglect on Attachment to Caregivers

**Table 30: Chi-Square analysis between confounding variables, attachment, delinquent behavior and neglect**

Confounding variable	Attachment			Delinquent behavior			Neglect		
	Degrees of Freedom	Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ )	P-value	Degrees of Freedom	Chi-Square ( $\chi^2$ )	P-Value	Degrees of Freedom	Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ )	P-value

	(DF)			(DF)					
<b>Age</b>	15	17.0626	0.315	15	31.7020*	0.007	5	2.7963	0.731
<b>Education</b>	9	15.1478**	0.087	9	30.6176*	0.000	3	14.5596*	0.002
<b>Family structure</b>	6	5.1240	0.528	6	27.4819*	0.000	2	0.0593	0.971
<b>Family size</b>	6	5.2623	0.511	6	4.3310	0.632	2	1.4063	0.495
<b>Caregiver</b>	9	7.4226	0.593	9	7.1469	0.622	3	7.9310*	0.047
<b>Caregiver marital status</b>	6	9.1750	0.164	6	11.1106*	0.085	2	6.9140*	0.032
<b>Caregiver occupation</b>	9	21.5892*	0.010	9	12.7737	0.173	3	7.2645**	0.064

**Note: \* and \*\* means statistically significant at the 5% and 10% level of significance**

Table 30 presents the Chi-Square results on the association between confounding variables, attachment, delinquent behavior and neglect. Age was found to have a statistically significant association on delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=31.7020$ ,  $p=0.007$ ) at the 5% level of significance. Level of educational attainment had statistically significant association with attachment, delinquent behavior and neglect ( $\chi^2=15.1478$ ,  $p=0.087$ ), ( $\chi^2=30.6176$ ,  $p=0.000$ ), and ( $\chi^2=14.5596$ ,  $p=0.002$ ) respectively. Caregiver had statistically significant association with neglect at the 5% level of significance ( $\chi^2=7.9310$ ,  $p=0.047$ ) while the marital status of the caregiver had significant association with delinquent behavior and neglect ( $\chi^2=11.1106$ ,  $p=0.085$ ) and ( $\chi^2=6.9140$ ,  $p=0.032$ ) respectively. The occupation of the caregiver was found to have statistically significant association with attachment and neglect ( $\chi^2=21.5892$ ,  $p=0.010$ ) and ( $\chi^2=7.2645$ ,  $p=0.064$ ) at the 5% and 10% levels of significant respectively.

**Table 31: Multinomial logistic regression on the effect of neglect on attachment**

<b>Attachment</b>		<b><math>\beta</math></b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Z<sub>statistic</sub></b>	<b>P-value</b>	<b>95% CI</b>
<b>Secure</b>	Neglect	-.9555	.8425	-1.13	0.257	[-2.6069, .6959]
	Constant	.6582	.9545	0.69	0.490	[-1.2124,2.5289]
<b>Avoidant</b>	Neglect	-.5306	.8545	-0.62	0.535	[-2.2055, 1.1443]
	Constant	-.1915	.9962	-0.19	0.848	[-2.1440, 1.7610]

<b>Disorganized</b>	Neglect	.3285	.6534	0.50	0.615	[-.9522, 1.6092]
	Constant	-.9935	.8242	-1.21	0.228	[-2.6089, .6219]
Number of Observations		112				
Log likelihood		-148.75869				
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>		0.0091				
LR chi2(3)		2.74				
Prob> chi2		0.4339				

**Note: The insecure category of attachment was used as base outcome**

Table 31 presents the results of multinomial regression on the effect of neglect on attachment. There were 112 observations that were used in carrying out the regression analysis. The proportion of variation in attachment explained by neglect was about 0.91% as indicated by the pseudo R<sup>2</sup>, meaning there are other important variables that explain attachment that future studies should analyze their effect on attachment. The results indicate that those who experienced the privation form of neglect (those who had spent their entire life on streets) were less likely to exhibit secure, avoidant and disorganized attachment compared to those who were deprived (had joined the streets later in life). This is indicated by the negative signs of the coefficients of neglect on Table 30. The effect of neglect on attachment was however, not statistically significant for the secure, avoidant, and disorganized attachment (p=0.257, p=0.535, p=0.615) respectively as the p-values were greater than 5% or 10% levels of significance.

**Table 32: Marginal effects on the effect of neglect on attachment**

Attachment		$\beta$	SD	Z <sub>statistic</sub>	P-value	95% CI
<b>Secure</b>	Neglect	-.171338	.1441	-1.19	0.234	[-.453763, .111087]
<b>Avoidant</b>	Neglect	-.04650	.11389	-0.41	0.683	[-.269713, .176711]
<b>Disorganized</b>	Neglect	.1199169	.09836	1.22	0.223	[-.072864, .312698]

Table 31 presents the marginal effects of neglect on attachment. Respondents who had experienced privation were 17.1% less likely to exhibit secure attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who had experienced privation were 4.7% less likely to exhibit avoidant attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were however, found to be 11.99% more likely to exhibit disorganized attachment compared to those who were deprived.

**Table 33: Chi-square analysis on the association between neglect and attachment**

Neglect	Attachment		
	Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Chi-Square Statistic ( $\chi^2$ )	P-value
	3	2.6239	0.453

Table 33 presents the Chi-Square results on the association between neglect and attachment. The results indicate that there were no statistically significant association between neglect and attachment ( $\chi^2=2.6239$ ,  $p=0.453$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

**Table 34: Pearson correlation coefficient between neglect and attachment**

Pearson correlation coefficient	Attachment
Neglect	$r=0.1131$

Table 33 presents the Pearson correlation coefficient between neglect and attachment. There was weak and positive correlation between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.1131.

#### 4.6 Effect of Neglect on Delinquent behavior

**Table 35: Multinomial logistic regression on the effect of neglect on delinquent behavior**

Delinquent behavior		$\beta$	SD	Z <sub>statistic</sub>	P-value	95% CI
Theft	Neglect	-0.0852	1.1436	-0.07	0.941	[-2.326605, 2.156249]
	Constant	-1.7756	1.3428	-1.32	0.186	[-4.407386, .856237]
Drug abuse	Neglect	-1.4350	1.0963	-1.31	0.191	[-3.583803, .7137382]

	Constant	.9242	1.1746	0.79	0.431	[-1.377997, 3.22641]
<b>Non-delinquent</b>	Neglect	1.1674**	.6159	1.90	0.058	[-.0398453, 2.374557]
	Constant	-2.3349	.8126	-2.87	0.004	[-3.92763, -.7422882]
Number of Observations 112						
Log likelihood -141.14469						
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup> 0.0322						
LR chi2(3) 9.39						
Prob> chi20.0521						

**Note: The hostility category was used as base outcome, and \*\* means significant at 10%**

Table 35 presents the multinomial logistic regression results on the effect of neglect on delinquent behavior. There were 112 observation used in carrying out the regression analysis. The fitted model was a good fit as indicated by the p-value associated by the Chi-square test on goodness of fit ( $p=0.0521 < 0.1$ ). The proportion of variation in delinquent behavior explained by neglect was about 3.22% as indicated by the pseudo R<sup>2</sup>, meaning there are other variables that influence delinquent behavior which should be considered in future studies. The results indicate that respondents who had experienced privation were less likely to indulge in theft and drug abuse as forms of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived ( $\beta=-0.0852$ ,  $p=0.941$ ) and ( $\beta=-1.4350$ ,  $p=0.191$ ) respectively. Those who had experienced privation were however, found to exhibit more non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived ( $\beta=1.1674$ ,  $p=0.058$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

**Table 36: Marginal effects on the effect of neglect on delinquent behavior**

Delinquent behavior		$\beta$	SD	Z <sub>statistic</sub>	P-value	95% CI
<b>Theft</b>	Neglect	.0094642	.26999	0.04	0.972	[-.519715, .538644]
<b>Drug abuse</b>	Neglect	-.29637	1.04505	-0.28	0.777	[-2.34464 1.75189]
<b>Non-delinquent behavior</b>	Neglect	.2504493	.48135	0.52	0.603	[-.692982,1.19388]

Table 36 presents the marginal effects of neglect on delinquent behavior. Respondents who had experienced privation were 0.9% more likely to indulge in theft as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who had experienced privation were 2.96% less likely to indulge in drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were found to be 25.04% more likely to indulge in non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived.

**Table 37: Chi-Square analysis on the association between neglect and delinquent behavior**

Neglect	Delinquent		
	Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Chi-Square Statistic ( $\chi^2$ )	P-value
	4	9.3969*	0.052

**Note: Means statistically significant at the 5% level of significance**

Table 37 presents the Chi-square results on the association between neglect and delinquent behavior. There was statistically significant association between neglect and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=9.3969$ ,  $p=0.052$ ) at the 5% level of significance. The implication is that neglect influences indulgence in delinquent behavior.

**Table 38: Pearson’s correlation coefficient between neglect and delinquent behavior**

Pearson correlation coefficient	Delinquent behavior
Neglect	$r=0.1589$

Table 37 presents the Pearson’s correlation coefficient on the relationship between neglect and delinquent behavior. The results indicate a weak and positive relationship between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.1589.

#### 4.7 Association between Attachment to Caregivers and Delinquent Behavior

**Table 39: Chi-Square analysis on the association between attachment to caregivers and delinquent behavior**

Attachment	Delinquent		
	Degrees of Freedom (DF)	Chi-Square Statistic ( $\chi^2$ )	P-value
	12	16.7704	0.158

Table 39 presents the Chi-Square results on the association between attachment and delinquent behavior. There was no statistically significant association between attachment and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=16.7704$ ,  $p=0.158$ ) at the 5% level of significance. The inference is that attachment has no significant influence on delinquent behavior.

**Table 40: Pearson's correlation between attachment and delinquent behavior**

Pearson correlation coefficient	Delinquent behavior
Attachment	$r=0.2276$

Table 40 presents the Pearson's correlation coefficient results on the relationship between attachment and delinquent behavior. There was weak and positive relationship between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.2276.

**CHAPTER FIVE**  
**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**5.1 Introduction**

The internal and external validity, summary of findings, discussion of findings per objective, the relationship to the theoretical framework, conclusion and recommendations for further studies are presented

**5.2 Internal and External Validity**

The study was a survey that utilized questionnaires as the instrument for data collection. The proposal was piloted prior to fieldwork to demonstrate the validity and reliability of the instruments using 9 items. The average inter-item covariance was .0662664 and a scale reliability of .08548.

The respondents were street boys whose literacy level was quite low hence the need for the researcher to help them complete the questionnaires. This posed the challenge of some respondents not being honest enough about their experiences and poor recalling of their childhood experiences. The sampling procedures both purposive and snowballing posed the challenge of having one respondent complete two questionnaires because the data collection was conducted for several days and there were no means to rule out a respondent who had already participated. These threatened the accuracy of data collected, however the findings of this study can be nonspecific among the street populations only since the caregivers of the respondents were not involved and thus less of their traits featured in this study.

**5.3 Summary of the Findings**

- According to analysis of association between confounding variables, neglect, attachment to caregiver and delinquent behavior, age was established to have a statistically significant relation on delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=31.7020$ ,  $p=0.007$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

- Level of educational attainment had statistically significant association with attachment, delinquent behavior and neglect ( $\chi^2=15.1478$ ,  $p=0.087$ ), ( $\chi^2=30.6176$ ,  $p=0.000$ ), and ( $\chi^2=14.5596$ ,  $p=0.002$ ) respectively.
- Caregiver had statistically significant association with neglect at the 5% level of significance ( $\chi^2=7.9310$ ,  $p=0.047$ ).
- The marital status of the caregiver had significant association with delinquent behavior and neglect ( $\chi^2=11.1106$ ,  $p=0.085$ ) and ( $\chi^2=6.9140$ ,  $p=0.032$ ) respectively.
- The occupation of the caregiver established statistically significant relation with attachment and neglect ( $\chi^2=21.5892$ ,  $p=0.010$ ) and ( $\chi^2=7.2645$ ,  $p=0.064$ ) at the 5% and 10% levels of significant respectively.
- The findings of this study showed that there was no statistically significant association between neglect and attachment ( $\chi^2=2.6239$ ,  $p=0.453$ ) at the 5% level of significance 0% levels of significance.
- Those who had experienced privation were however, found to exhibit more non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived ( $\beta=1.1674$ ,  $p=0.058$ ) at the 5% level of significance.
- Those who suffered privation were found to be 25.04% more likely to indulge in non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived.
- There was statistically significant association between neglect and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=9.3969$ ,  $p=0.052$ ) at the 5% level of significance
- There was no statistically significant association between attachment and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=16.7704$ ,  $p=0.158$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

## **5.4 Discussion**

This chapter will provide, a detailed argument of the results per objective, this is presented based on the results from literature review and the theoretical frameworks that informed this study.

### **5.4.1 The Influence of Neglect on Attachment to Caregivers**

According to the results of multinomial regression on the effect of neglect on attachment, those who experienced the privation form of neglect (those who had spent their entire life on streets)

were less likely to exhibit secure, avoidant and disorganized attachment compared to those who were deprived (had joined the streets later in life). According to results on the marginal effects of neglect on attachment, respondents with privation cases were 17.1% less likely to exhibit secure attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who had a chance of privation were 4.7% unlikely to show avoidant attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were however, found to be 11.99% more likely to exhibit disorganized attachment compared to those who were deprived. The Chi-Square results presented on the association between neglect and attachment, indicated that there were no statistically significant association between neglect and attachment ( $\chi^2=2.623$ ). The Pearson correlation coefficient results on association between neglect and attachment showed a weak and positive correlation between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.1131.9,  $p=0.453$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

According to results from the focused group discussions regarding attachment to caregivers, it was found out that most of the respondents had joined the streets later in their life. Most of them reported that their parents were the primary caregivers although it was noted most of their needs had not been met during childhood, an aspect termed as maternal insensitivity to a child's needs, (Ainsworth, 1969). Majority of them reported that they actually felt rejected and threatened by their caregivers, the reason they had decided to join street life. This finding was consistent to the finding that young runaways more than teenagers feel that parents do not care about them, (Farrington & Welsh, 2003)

To some extent, these results were consistent to results of other studies though not to the letter. For instance, it was also established that a high number of survivors from childhood sexual abuse had a preoccupied and insecure type of attachment meaning childhood experiences were associated with attachment styles formed towards caregivers (Stalker and Davies, 1995). However this study gives more detailed results with regard to privation and deprivation as forms of neglect and the association to attachment to caregivers. Caregiver ignorance of developmental issues than abuse was reported to pose attachment issues where one in three people has an avoidant, ambivalent, or resistant attachment with their caregiver (Perry, 2001). This brings the

aspect of caregiver ignorance as a contributing mechanism to attachment formation which may be both privation and deprivation.

Attachment styles yielded in this study were consistent to John Bowlby's four categories of attachment styles that He presented in the Attachment theory developed in 1969. These include secure, insecure, avoidant and disorganized attachment. Bowlby's theory focused on deprivation of parental care as a mechanism that influences attachment. He further discussed that there are major outcomes of non-attachment; affectionless psychopath, lack of empathy can lead to delinquent behavior and developmental retardation which related with low intelligence. This was However, privation as form of neglect is not part of His theory as a predictor of attachment, an aspect that this study brings out clearly.

#### **5.4.2 The Influence of Neglect on Delinquent Behavior**

The influence of neglect on delinquent behavior was tested using multinomial regression, Chi-square and Pearson correlation coefficient. Results were presented in Tables 34,35,36 and 37. The multinomial logistic regression findings on the effect of neglect on delinquent behavior showed that respondents who had experienced privation were less likely to indulge in theft and drug abuse as forms of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived ( $\beta=-0.0852$ ,  $p=0.941$ ) and ( $\beta=-1.4350$ ,  $p=0.191$ ) respectively. Those who had experienced privation were however, found to exhibit more non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived ( $\beta=1.1674$ ,  $p=0.058$ ) at the 5% level of significance.

According to table 35 on the marginal effects of neglect on delinquent behavior, respondents who with privation history were 0.9% had a higher chance to indulge in theft as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who had experienced privation were 2.96% less likely to indulge in drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were found to be 25.04% had a higher chance to indulge in non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived.

According to the Chi-square results presented on table 36 on the association between neglect and delinquent behavior, there was statistically significant association between neglect and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=9.3969$ ,  $p=0.052$ ) at the 5% level of significance. The implication is that neglect influences indulgence in delinquent behavior. The Pearson's correlation coefficient results on the relationship between neglect and delinquent behavior indicated a weak and positive relationship between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.1589.

According to results yielded from the focused group discussion responses regarding delinquent behavior, majority of the respondents reported they had indulged in theft in various instances in their life and they had even been arrested by the police. Most of them reported to have engaged in hostility through fighting with their friends. A good number of the respondents reported indulgence in drug abuse and poor relationship with some of their peers. The findings that neglect influences indulgence in delinquent behavior in this study was in keeping to the conclusion that if child delinquent behavior comes as a result of parental neglect, then neglect should be a predictor of juvenile participation in crime, physically neglected children have a higher chance to be rejected by their peers and neglected children were also had a higher chance to be convicted in crime (Don, et.al., 1997; Constance, 2005 and Lila, et, al., 2011). Neglect causes of many developmental issues, (Ainsworth, 1969). Teenagers often run away from home or indulge in risky behaviors, (Sarah, 2006 and Phil, 2016). In most cases truants get involved in petty theft which is also a form of delinquent behavior, (Fergusson et al, 1995). This study however goes further to show the difference in delinquent behavior involvement between two major forms of neglect that children experience, privation and deprivation.

Neglect as a mechanism that may contribute to delinquent behavior can also force one to attach to the larger society or have weak societal bonds. This aspect is well explained by the social control theory by Hirschi Travis, 1969. Hirschi argues that weak societal bonds lead to involvement in crime. He explains this through absentee parents and truancy as contributing factors. This is consistent with the findings of this study that neglect influences indulgence in delinquent behavior especially in cases of privation where those who suffered privation were

more likely to indulge in delinquent behavior than those who suffered deprivation as a form of neglect.

The results of this study build on the social control theory adding the aspect of how neglect in form privation and deprivation links to involvement in crime.

#### **5.4.3 The Relationship between Attachment and Delinquent Behavior**

The relationship between attachment and delinquent behavior was tested using Chi-square and Pearson's correlation coefficient. The results were presented in tables 36 and 37. Chi-Square results on the association between attachment and delinquent behavior showed that there was no statistically significant association between attachment and delinquent behavior ( $\chi^2=16.7704$ ,  $p=0.158$ ) at the 5% level of significance. The inference is that attachment has no significant influence on delinquent behavior. Pearson's correlation coefficient results on the relationship between attachment and delinquent behavior showed a weak and positive relationship between the two variables as indicated by the coefficient of 0.2276.

The respondents in this study being adolescent boys who are not under their parents for care due to neglect from birth(privation) or truanted(deprivation) have been termed as risk takers who have sought independence from their parents and involve in delinquent activities to fit their peer groups, (Blakemore, 2006). An earlier study concluded that the parental attachment is negatively correlated with delinquent behavior, (Siti, et al., 2015). There are two major consequences of lack of attachment; affectionless psychopath, lack of empathy for others, which can lead to delinquent behavior, (Bowlby, 1977-1980).

This contrasts with the findings of this study thus an area for further studies to establish the association between the two variables as highlighted in earlier studies.

#### **5.5 Conclusion**

Neglect in form of privation or deprivation influenced formation of different attachment styles. Those who experienced privation were less likely to show secure attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who had experienced privation were less likely to show avoidant

attachment compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were found to stand a higher chance to show disorganized attachment compared to those who were deprived. Respondents who had experienced privation were less likely to indulge in theft and drug abuse as forms of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those with privation history were however, found to show more non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Respondents with privation history were had a higher chance to indulge in theft as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who had experienced privation were less likely to indulge in drug abuse as a form of delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. Those who suffered privation were found to have a higher chance to indulge in non-delinquent behavior compared to those who were deprived. This implicated that neglect influences indulgence in delinquent behavior. There was no significant relation between attachment and delinquent behavior from the results of this study, an aspect that requires further study.

## **5.6 Recommendations**

The results of this study have immense contribution to the understanding of neglect by both governmental and non-governmental organizations that focus on curbing the menace. This is because it brings a new perspective of understanding how neglect varies by introducing the privation form. Community workers and other authorities in the community also benefit from these findings especially in helping address privation as a form of neglect that has shown immense consequences in adolescent development, an aspect that has not been focused on. It lays a basis for further studies for other scholars, especially in the area of attachment association to delinquent behavior among a marginalized population like that of street boys used in this study.

A longitudinal study would be of great contribution to the investigation of neglect, attachment and delinquent behavior among both those who suffer privation and deprivation. This is to enable the researcher to observe and keep a record of the childhood experiences and the developmental changes of the respondents. More research on the aspect of attachment and delinquent behavior is necessary among the marginalized populations like the street families to

establish the causal factors as scholars try to come up with strategic measures to curb neglect here in Kenya.

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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear respondent. The researcher is a Masters in Psychology student at the University of Nairobi. The research seeks to investigate the influence of neglect on attachment and delinquent behavior among adolescent boys in Embakasi, Nairobi. Information gathered in this research will be used for academic purposes only and will be treated with outmost confidentiality. Kindly provide correct and useful data and fill appropriately as logically guided.

#### SECTION A: General Information

1. Indicate by ticking your age bracket

- a. 13 [ ]
- b. 14 [ ]
- c. 15 [ ]
- d. 16 [ ]
- e. 17 [ ]
- f. 18 [ ]

2. Kindly indicate your highest level of educational qualification (tick)

- a. 0 -3 [ ]
- b. 4-8 [ ]
- c. 9-12 [ ]
- d. 13 and above [ ]

3. Indicate your family structure

- a. Nuclear family [ ]
- b. Extended family [ ]
- c. Single parent [ ]

4. Indicate your family size
  - a. Less than 3 [ ]
  - b. 3 to 6 [ ]
  - c. More than 6 [ ]
  
5. Do you have a caregiver?
  - a. Orphaned [ ]
  - b. Parents [ ]
  - c. Mother [ ]
  - d. Father [ ]
  - e. Foster Care [ ]
  - f. Relative [ ]
  
6. Indicate your caregiver's marital status
  - a. Married [ ]
  - b. Single [ ]
  - c. Separated [ ]
  - d. Others [ ]
  
7. Caregivers occupation
  - a. Casual labor [ ]
  - b. Wage labor [ ]
  - c. Formal employment [ ]
  - d. Self employment [ ]
  - e. Other [ ]
  
8. Time spent on the street
  - a. Less than 3 years [ ]
  - b. 3 to 5 years [ ]
  - c. All my life [ ]

**SECTION B**

Please read each of the following statements carefully. Record your immediate reaction to each statement by ticking which option best describes how much you agree or disagree with the statement.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
I count on my parents for emotional support when I feel troubled					
My parents support my hobbies					
My parents provide my basic needs(food, shelter and clothing)					
I receive guidance and advice from my caregiver					
My caregiver trusts everything I say to them					
My caregiver offers me protection when in danger					
I argue over petty issues with my caregiver					
I handle my problems without the help of a caregiver					
My caregiver ignores what I tell them					
My caregiver feels disappointed in me					
I tell others my secrets other than my caregiver					
I Ignore my caregiver					
I am criticized by my caregiver for what I do					
My caregiver is always busy to help me when I need them					
I feel separated from my caregiver					
I am reluctant to get close to other people					
I am suspicious of strangers					

I am not sure of my caregiver's help					
I am anxious around my caregiver					
I have difficulties seeking help from my caregiver					
I feel disappointed and let down by my caregiver					
I have difficulties sharing my childhood experiences					

**SECTION C**

Please read each of the following statements carefully. Record your immediate reaction to each statement by ticking which option best describes how much you agree or disagree with the statement.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
I have lied to get an item from someone					
I have forcefully taken something from someone					
I have gone shoplifting					
I took someone's item without their permission					
I have been arrested by the police					
I have participated in illegal demonstrations					
I have used insulting words on peers					
I have fought with peers					
I destroyed property					
I have bullied younger children					
I stay away from school					
I help my peers access drugs					
I have use alcohol					

I have sold illegal drugs					
I take drugs to help me sleep well					

**THE END**  
**THANK YOU**

## **APPENDIX II: FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**

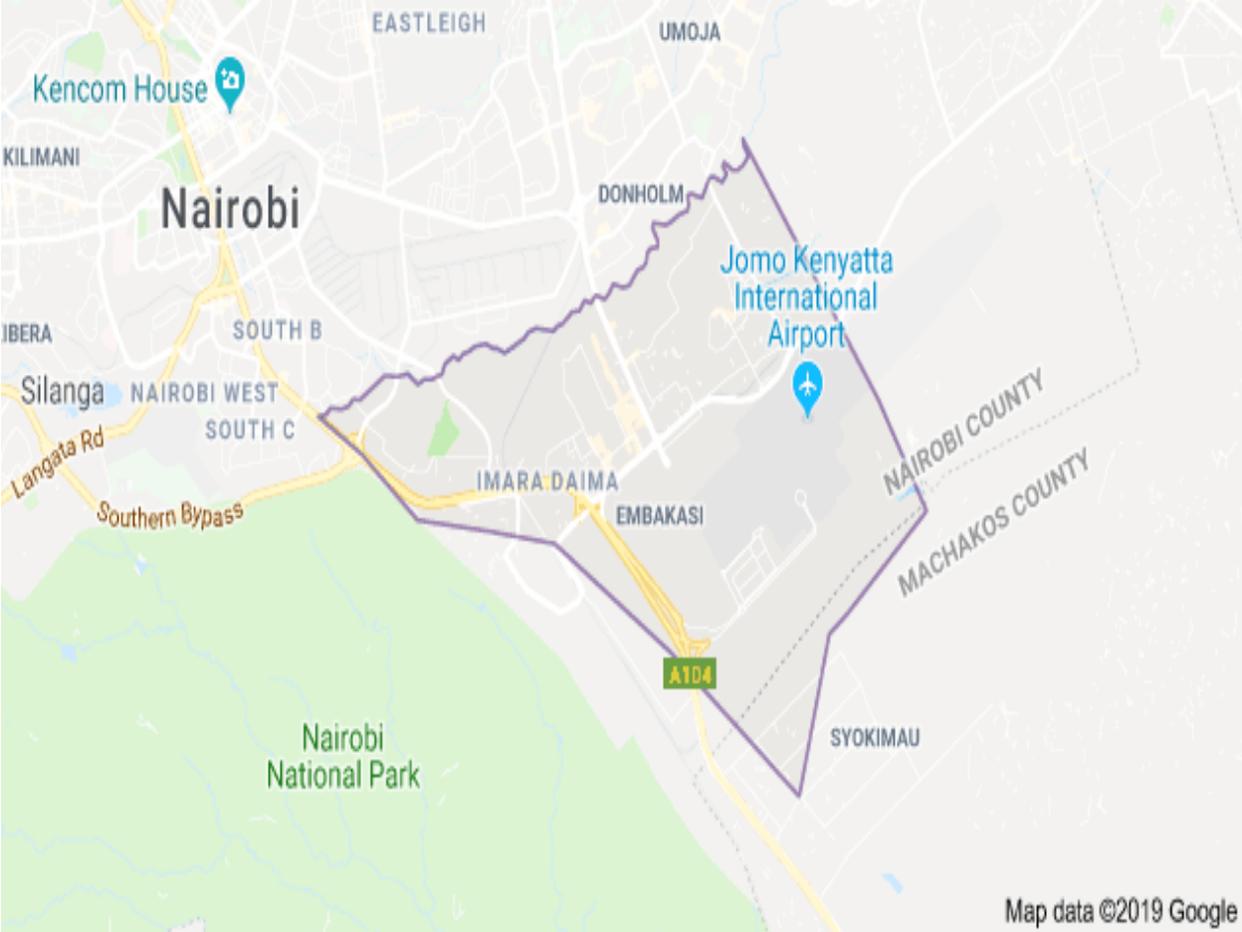
### **A. ATTACHMENT TO CAREGIVER**

1. Whom do you consider your primary caregiver?
2. Were your needs met in your childhood?
3. How was your relationship with your caregiver in childhood?
4. How is your relationship with your caregiver today?
5. Did you ever feel rejected or threatened by your caregiver?
6. How long have you been separated from your caregiver?
7. What experiences have led to your separation from your caregiver?
8. Whom do you consider closest?
9. Whom do you confide in?
10. Whom do you go to for help?

### **B. DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR**

1. Have you ever stolen?
2. What items have you ever stolen?
3. Have you ever been involved in a fight?
4. Have you ever been arrested?
5. Have you ever been prosecuted in a court of law?
6. Have you ever abused drugs?
7. How is your relationship with peers?

**APPENDIX III: MAP OF EMBAKASI**



	EXPENSES
Printing and photocopying	5,000
Data Collection	3,000
Transport	4,000
Data Analysis	15,000
Publication Fees	30,000
Total	57,000

#### **APPENDIX IV: RESEARCH BUDGET**

**NAME: HARRIET MUTHOKI KING'OO**

**REGISTRATION NUMBER: C50/8503/2017**

## APPENDIX V: RESEARCH PERMIT

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:**

**MISS. HARRIET MUTHOKI KINGOO  
of UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, 0-90100  
MACHAKOS, has been permitted to  
conduct research in Nairobi County**

**Permit No : NACOSTI/P/18/49573/25388**

**Date Of Issue : 13th October, 2018**

**Fee Recieved :Ksh 1000**

**on the topic: THE INFLUENCE OF  
NEGLECT ON ATTACHMENT TO  
CAREGIVERS AND DELINQUENCY AMONG  
ADOLESCENT BOYS IN  
EMBAKASI, NAIROBI**

**for the period ending:  
11th October, 2019**



**Applicant's  
Signature**

**Director General  
National Commission for Science,  
Technology & Innovation**

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