

**INFLUENCE OF PARENTAL NEGLECT ON DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR AMONG
ADOLESCENTS IN MUKURU SLUMS, NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA**

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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY
(COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY)**

NOVEMBER, 2022

DECLARATION

I hereby swear that the research project I am submitting is entirely original to me and has not previously been considered for a diploma, thesis, or project award from another university.

Signed by:

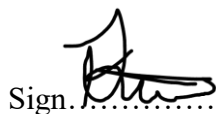
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As the student's supervisor at the University of Nairobi, I have given my clearance for this project to be submitted.



Sign. Date 6th December 2022

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this piece of work to my late mother, Ms Judy Wanjiku who single handedly raised 6 children to be God fearing good citizens in spite of a difficult marriage, to my two children Michelle and Njuguna who are a constant source of support and encouragement that I can do this even at my mature age, to my mentors in and out of the University and Pastor Jones of Life Church, who walked with me through the informal settlements during data research.

Special honour goes to all the NGOs, Churches and Volunteers who work in the settlements on daily basis to rescue neglected youth and finance free education and a meal daily in order to give them a future out of the slums and empower them to come back and empower others.

The experience with the adolescents at these settlements and the difficulties of surviving in their circumstances humbled me.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CDCI:	Chilga District Correctional Institution
GSHS:	Global School-based Student Health Survey
GST:	General Strain Theory
IQ:	Intelligence Quotient
LMICs:	Low-Income and Middle-Income Countries
SES:	Socio-Economic Status
SPCC:	Society for the Positive Care of Children
SPSS:	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
US:	United States
WHO.:	World Health Organization

ABSTRACT

Many people find adolescence to be a difficult time of transition, and parents frequently find themselves at a loss for how to effectively raise their kids at this time. When it comes to assisting children's growth, parents are incredibly important. The Children's Society says that poor care by parents is often the cause for adolescents' risky harmful behaviors with significant impact on their welfare and their mental health. This investigation centered on assessing the impact of parental neglect on delinquent behaviors among adolescents in the Mukuru slums, Nairobi County, Kenya. According to a study of the relevant research, there are several factors that can affect involvement in criminal activity when there is neglect during upbringing. The study's initial goal was to look into how parental neglect affected Mukuru's adolescents' overt delinquent behavior. The second goal was to assess the impact of parental neglect on covert delinquent behaviour and the third goal was to assess the impact of parental neglect on drug abuse by adolescents. The first hypothesis of the study evaluated the relationship between adolescent neglect and overt delinquent behavior. The second hypothesis assessed the relationship between neglect and covert delinquent behaviors and the third hypothesis assessed the relationship between neglect and abuse of drugs and alcoholism among adolescents in the same slums. The study utilized Purposive and Snowballing sampling procedures, and Structured questionnaires and Focused Group discussions for data collection. Purposive sampling procedure sampled for the Focused group discussions while the intended sample for the purpose of completing questionnaires was obtained using the Snowballing sampling technique. The sample results were extrapolated from the quantitative data using both descriptive and inferential statistics, such as Pearson's correlation and regression. Narratives were used to show qualitative data after it had been examined for emerging patterns. The research discovered that among youths living in Nairobi County's Mukuru slum, a change in neglect would cause a large shift in overt delinquent behavior. ($r=0.829$; $p\text{-value}=0.000$). The research discovered that among young people living in Nairobi County's Mukuru slum, a change in neglect would cause a large shift in hidden delinquent behavior ($r=0.850$; $p\text{-value}=0.000$). The study found that drug misuse among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County would significantly change with a unit change in neglect ($r=0.179$; $p\text{-value}=0.012$). According to the study's findings, drug misuse, overt delinquency, and other forms of delinquent behavior among adolescents in Nairobi County's Mukuru slums are all significantly influenced by neglect. The study established that it is important to urge parents to be present with their kids so that they can watch their behavior. The research suggests that parents should develop better methods of punishment apart from locking children out of the house. There is also a need for parents to ensure that children go to school daily and always account for the whereabouts of their children. The article continues by advising parents to get more active in their childrens' lives in order to keep them from developing risky habits like substance abuse in the future. This requires raising parents' knowledge of the issue.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Children's growth and wellness are seriously threatened by neglect, whether intentional or non-intentional. The most frequent type of abuse that young people encounter is neglect. It is also the kind of maltreatment most frequently recorded in official safeguarding data, regardless of the age of the children involved. According to the Children's Society in 2016, neglect has adverse effects on the development of adolescents. Neglect is described as the failure to give enough care to a child. It further states the adverse effects of neglect. It can lead to substantial difficulties, such as mental illness, substance abuse, school (attendance, behaviour, and achievement), offending, and early sexual engagement, and can be the precursor to serious injury, (The Children's Society, 2016).

As research continues on this subject neglect has been categorised as either intentional or non-intentional. **Intentional when a parent deliberately withholds a child's basic needs and non-intentional when the parent is helpless to provide their child's basic needs, like food, education, clothes due to poverty.** There are four categories of neglect; physical, medical, emotional, and educational. Physical Neglect or Needs Deprivation happens when children's basic bodily needs, such as food, shelter, and clothing, are not consistently met. Physical deprivation includes being refused access to food, water, and/or shelter as well as being left outside in the weather. Children who are subjected to medical neglect are those who are not given the care they need to treat a condition or stop an illness from getting worse. Depending on the severity of the ailment, a child may be refused medical care on numerous occasions or just once. Medical neglect involves both failing to get a sick kid medical attention and withholding care with the intent to kill (Horwarth, 2007).

Education neglect is the practice of denying children access to education. Parents who fail to enrol their children in school or make them stay home from school in order to prevent them from reporting abuse at home are two examples of educational neglect. When children's emotional needs are not satisfied, solid, healthy bonds with adults do not develop, which is known as emotional neglect. Some academics consider emotional neglect as a sort of neglect. For a variety of reasons, such as melancholy or drug addiction, parents may find it difficult to meet their kids' emotional needs. Embarrassing a child, rejecting a child, or using

unconventional kinds of discipline are a few examples of emotional neglect. Physical neglect manifests as: Poor hygiene and appearance, having unwashed clothes and a bad smell, not having enough money to buy food, being hungry or asking for extra snacks, dressing inappropriately for the weather, and living in an insecure family setting clinginess, aggression, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, changes in eating patterns, obsessive behaviors, difficulty concentrating or participating in social activities, evidence of self-harm, drug or alcohol use, and behavioral changes are all indications of emotional neglect (Jules, 2020).

Neglect among adolescents often leads to delinquent behaviour, which are criminal acts committed by adolescents, like aggressions, drug abuse and stealing. Delinquent behaviour has been categorised into three main types: overt, covert and drug abuse. **Overt delinquent behaviour refers to violent or aggressive forms like attacking others while armed or unarmed, rape, and murder. Covert delinquent behaviour has been defined as non-violent, non-aggressive form, which is characterised by acts like theft, pick pocketing, vandalism, arson, and crime against property and not direct harm to individuals (Yana, 2012).**

According to a study by the American SPCC in 2020, the prevalence of neglect is wanting. Only 3.1 million kids in the US received preventative and post-response programs. Foster care was provided to 124,360 kids. 470,297 victims, or 74.9%, are ignored (American SPCC, 2020). Infractions such as theft, carjacking, robbery, as well as other property crimes, including white-collar crimes, are committed by both men and women. Property violations account for more than 70% of all offenses perpetrated by women in jail and more than 50% of crimes committed by men. Men commit nearly twice as many drugs and violent crimes as women do. In both men and women, drug offenses and crimes against individuals are the most frequently committed crimes in England and Wales. The largest gender gap in the types of crimes for which persons are imprisoned can be seen in the 17% of crimes committed by males and the 30% of offenses perpetrated by women that are drug-related. 8% of women and 3% of men engaged in fraud and forgery, compared to 14% of women who stole and handled stolen goods. Sexual offenses are committed by 17% of men and 2% of women (Nadia, 2019)

According to research by EVACC, more than half of all African children face physical abuse while in some parts of the continent, 4 out of 10 girls experience sexual abuse even before the age of 15, (EVACC, 2021). Crimes committed by young people are against the individual, the group, and society as a whole. It is primarily prevalent in the most populated cities around

the nation. Many of the crimes committed in the community are done by delinquents, (Bimal, 2013). With 13,878 instances of child neglect and abandonment reported in the past 10 years, Kenya is a country where child abuse is widespread. A child helpline received calls from people reporting a total of 1296 instances of child abuse and neglect. Nairobi, Kiambu, Nakuru, and Kisumu were among the wealthiest counties in Kenya and were the sites of the most alarming instances. Nairobi County recorded the highest number of cases (255), followed by Kiambu (98), Nakuru (83), Kisumu (59), and Kakamega (59). According to reports, it is also the most prevalent kind of child abuse in Kenya and the root of all other forms of child abuse, (Shawiza, 2017).

Adolescent delinquency is on the rise in Kenya, however most studies in Kenya have concentrated on determining status rather than addressing the problem among teenagers. This study seeks to highlight the neglect as a predictor of delinquent behaviour

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Parental support improves teenagers' psychological wellbeing, according to earlier study. In a recent study, teens from the United States (N = 1,002), China (N = 1,172), South Korea (N = 3,993), and Japan (N = 1,112) were divided into three groups according to their parental support: informational, emotional, and financial. Researchers have looked at the prevalence and effects of different types of perceived parental support on adolescents' positive self-belief and distress levels. According to the findings, American youths received more informational and emotional support than other groups. Compared to teenagers in other East Asian nations, Chinese teenagers showed higher levels of parental support, (Yulia, 2020).

On the contrary, lack of parental support is perceived as neglect and has negative impacts on the adolescents. Researchers studying child abuse have frequently claimed that experiences with child neglect have long-term, harmful consequences. Child neglect is considered to have an especially negative impact on self-control, peer relationships, and crime. It has a negative impact on peer rejection and aggression. Neglected youngsters were more likely to be rejected by their classmates in early adolescence and to engage in aggressive behaviour later in adolescence. Child neglect, contrary to theoretical assumptions, was not a major predictor of self-control (Constance, et al, 2005).

The body of existing information, however, lacks studies that simultaneously assess how different types of neglect differentially influence delinquent conduct in both its overt and covert manifestations. This study seeks to highlight how neglect influences overt delinquent behaviour, covert delinquent behaviour, and drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya

1.3 Aim of the Study

The aim of the study was to determine the Influence of neglect on delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums Nairobi County, Kenya.

1.4 Objectives

The objectives of the study included.

1. To establish the influence of neglect on overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums, Nairobi County, Kenya
2. To determine the influence of neglect on covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya
3. To investigate the influence of neglect on drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya

1.5 Research Questions

The research questions for the study included.

1. What influence does neglect have on overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents who live in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya?
2. How does neglect influence covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya?
3. In what ways does neglect influence the drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya?

1.6 Hypothesis

The hypotheses for the study were null. The null hypothesis was used to give direction to the researcher's observations on the delinquent behaviours of adolescents and prove if there is indeed a relationship between the observations and statistics. These are:

Ho1 - There is no relationship between neglect and overt delinquent behaviour among

adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya

Ho2 - There is no relationship between neglect and covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya

Ho3 - There is no relationship between neglect and drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya

1.7 Justification

The General Strain Theory (GST), which explains how strains increase the likelihood of crime, served as the foundation for this investigation. Key elements were high magnitude strains that are associated with insufficient social control, and are viewed as unfair, and put some pressure on or provide an incentive for criminal coping. Examples include being discriminated against, being victimized by the criminal justice system, and parental rejection. The most significant factor in how these tensions increase crime is because they result in a range of unfavourable feelings, which puts pressure on the government to take corrective action. One way of escape is to commit a crime. Stress can be reduced or escaped through crime. Examples include stealing to make money, eluding overbearing parents, pursuing revenge on them or other relevant targets, or numbing unpleasant emotions, like by abusing narcotics.

Adolescents often act in ways to suggest need for independence and seeking identity. Inability to find healthy independence from parents becomes a strain that pushes them into crime. Neglected adolescents become most vulnerable to delinquent behaviour because neglect by parents is a strain. Adolescents neglected emotionally often feel discriminated with no sense of belonging to any functional family. This stress contributes to aggressive forms of crime categorised as overt delinquent behaviour. Most of them often turn to the cause of their emotional strain to revenge. Those that are physically neglected have a severe need for money to enable them to meet their most basic needs like food, shelter, and clothing. This often leads them to non-aggressive behaviour like stealing categorised as covert delinquency. In further response to the cause of their strain, adolescents who are physically and emotionally neglected often alleviate their negative emotions through illicit drug use. This study brought understanding on how neglect as a strain may lead to delinquent behaviour among adolescents.

1.8 Significance of the Study

Government and Non-governmental organizations shall benefit from this study. This is because they are in the fore front to alleviate child neglect and often this happens in the slums. The two bodies are really trying to empower parents to meet their children's needs consistently, therefore from the results of this study, new policies can be formed to deal with neglect and its influence on delinquent behaviour.

Scholars interested in developmental issues in children will find a foundation and a basis to further build on the body of knowledge regarding neglect of adolescents and involvement in delinquent behaviour. This has the potential to help schools, teachers and caregivers to come up with measures in the education system that will improve motivation for student learning and assist such students to get inspiration from an education system that is geared towards motivation and reward.

Family therapists, parents and local authorities like chiefs who seek to mend dysfunctional families and reduce delinquent behaviour in the community shall also benefit from this study. This is because the study shall help establish emerging patterns in neglect and delinquent behaviour, hence offering direction on what actions to be taken, when and how.

1.9 Scope of the Study

This research examined the effect of neglect on youth delinquency in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. It focused on emotional and physical forms of neglect which are prevalent in Mukuru slums, as observed by the researcher who has been a resident of the Embakasi Division neighbouring these slums, and has observed high numbers of adolescents engaging in delinquent behaviour, with children as young as 5 years old spending hours in the streets late into the night, with no adult supervision.

Delinquent behaviors were investigated in three major types: overt, covert and drug abuse. Confounding variables for the study included gender, socio-economic background, and family structure. The researcher targeted both parents and their adolescent children. Both genders were considered fit for the research. The research was only done on Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya only.

1.10 Limitations and Delimitations

Because it gives every segment of the target population an equal chance to participate, a random sampling procedure would have been ideal for the study to obtain a perfect representative sample. However, because this study touched on respondents' personal experiences, many of them were reluctant to participate. To gather a willing sample population, the researcher employed the snowballing and deliberate sampling techniques.

To reach both genders, clustering the target population to sample for the study would have been appropriate to give both genders equal chances to participate in the study, however the gender population for both male and female may not be equal in Mukuru slums, therefore the researcher purposively selected sample from both genders to have them equally represented.

The researcher would have wished to conduct one on one structured interviews to attain accurate data for the study, however this would be time consuming and due to scarcity of resources to reach each respondent become strenuous financially. As a result, the researcher employed concentrated group talks to provide more details on the respondents' experiences and organized questionnaires to gather data.

1.11 Assumptions of the Study

In Nairobi, Kenya's Mukuru slums, this paper assumes that there were neglected youth acting in an overtly delinquent manner. This was because most emotionally neglected adolescents are unable to project their anger on their parents who do not support them emotionally. As a result, they tend to become aggressive on other people and not necessarily their aggressor. Following that, they commit violent offenses like rape, murder, and attacks on others with or without weapons.

Neglected adolescents are assumed to be more vulnerable to involvement in covert delinquent behaviors. Physically neglected adolescents often lack the ability to provide for their fundamental requirements, such as food, shelter, clothing, and water, as a result they turn to covert delinquent behaviour in a bid to satisfy their own and their family members' basic requirements. They frequently engage in nonviolent crimes including theft, pickpocketing, setting things on fire, vandalism, and selling drugs.

Additionally, it was considered that neglected youth are more likely to use drugs abuse in Mukuru slums of Nairobi, Kenya. Emotionally neglected adolescents often feel lonely and strive for identity while physically neglected adolescents often seek independence from their parents. Peer pressure and the desire to belong most of the time lead them to criminal gangs mostly found in the slums. In the process of trying to seek independence and identity many get introduced to the abuse of different drugs.

1.12 Definition of Terms

Neglect- the condition of not getting enough care or attention, or the circumstance of not providing someone or something enough care or attention. It can be intentional or non-intentional.

Emotional Neglect- a relationship pattern in which a significant other continuously ignores, invalidates, or shows lack of appreciation for a person's desires for affection.

Physical Neglect- the failure to meet a child's fundamental necessities for survival, including food, clothes, shelter, hygiene, and medical attention.

Delinquent Behaviour- a criminal act done by a person that challenges the rules of civil society.

Overt- Refers to aggressive or violent crimes which include fighting, armed robbery, murder, and attacks on a person with or without a weapon.

Covert- refers to non-aggressive behaviors such house break-in, arson, shoplifting, pickpocketing, and arson.

Drug abuse- Refers to abuse of prescription medications, use of banned illicit substances and abuse of alcohol.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher has included examples of numerous academic works related to the neglect and delinquent behavior theory in order to guide the investigation. Additionally, a conceptual framework outlining how the variables relate to one another has been provided. The main influencing elements in this study will be gender, socioeconomic status, and family structure.

2.2 Neglect and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

The literature review for the first aim, which examines how neglect affects overt delinquency, is included in this section. It shall highlight how neglect influences involvement into different forms of overt delinquent behaviour.

2.2.1 Gender and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

Given the ongoing discussion over whether boys and girls have different paths to overt aggression and delinquency. A longitudinal study with 1559 urban minority children looked at potential differences in precursors to antisocial behavior as well as gender difference in openly violent and delinquent behaviors such as rage, self-control, and family conflict. The findings, which drew on data from the sixth through the seventh grades, revealed that aggressive rates increased more frequently in females than in boys. Both boys and girls were more and more delinquent over time, however boys consistently displayed more inappropriate behavior. Boys and girls faced the same amount of risk factors. Anger and self-control were predicted to lead to an increase in both overt violence and delinquency. Family disruption was another factor that predicted increases in delinquency (Tracy et al 2006).

2.2.2 Socio-economic Status and Overt Delinquent Behavior

A significant fraction of the worldwide burden of disease among teenagers is caused by injuries and violence, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). This study assessed how frequently early adolescents in LMICs were hurt accidentally or violently. Data from the Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS) for teenagers from LMICs aged 12 to 15 that was gathered between 2009 and 2015 were used in a secondary analysis. The poll's data were gathered using a standard survey questionnaire. Survey data were used to

evaluate the frequency of serious injuries and violent crimes, such as physical assault, physical fighting, and bullying, worldwide. A random-effects meta-analysis was also used to obtain a pooled overall and regional estimate. The age categories of 12–13 and 14–15, as well as the years 2009–11 and 2012–15, were subjected to subgroup analysis. With adjustments for sex, weights, strata, and the primary sample unit, logistic regression models were used to investigate the prevalence of serious injuries, violence, and bullying.

The data comprised of 164,633 young adolescents from 68 LMICs, of which 77 707 (47%) were boys and 86 926 (52%) were girls. Physical assault, physical fighting, and major injuries all occurred at rates of 35.6% (95% CI 30.7-40.5), 36.4% (29.9-42.9), and 42.9% (39.0-46.9), respectively, over the course of the previous year. Boys had greater rates of injury (47.8% vs. 37.5%, $p=0.00094$), physical attack (41.0% vs. 29.4%, $p=0.001$), and physical fight (45.5% vs. 26.9%, $p=0.000$). By WHO region, the prevalence varied. Cuts (21.8%, 16.8-26.8) and fractures (22.6%, 95% CI 19.1-26.1) were the most prevalent serious injuries. Falling was the primary factor in these accidents (33.1%, 30.2-35.9). The frequency of bullying in general, regardless of age or sex, was 34% over the past 30 days (27 to 41). Racial and ethnic bullying was the most prevalent sort of bullying (11.6%, 9.2-14.0), verbal-sexual bullying (13.2%, 10.2-16.2), and physical bullying (13.2%, 10.2-16.2). This demonstrates that young adolescents in LMICs continue to experience a high prevalence of unintentional injuries and violence (Liyuan, *et al.*, 2019).

2.2.3 Family Structure and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

Larger families are associated with higher levels of delinquency, according to a review of the research. When additional factors like money, socioeconomic level, parental criminality, and family structure are taken into consideration, the association still exists. Less intense parent-child emotional attachments, less parental supervision, and greater birth rates for lower classes do not seem to be sufficient explanations for this link, but they may all have some influence. Overcrowding and the presence of a "infectious example" may both have a role in the link. Numerous negative family dynamics, including bad parenting, parental criminality, sibling delinquency, poor child-rearing techniques, such as insufficient parental supervision and discipline, competition for resources as a result of overcrowding and low income, and psychological issues brought on by a lack of family participation, affection, and support, are frequently associated with large family structures, (Boccio & Beaver,2019).

2.3 Neglect and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

The literature review for the first aim, which examines how neglect affects latent delinquency, is included in this section. It shall highlight how neglect influences involvement into different forms of covert delinquent behaviour.

2.3.1 Gender and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

Men and women may have different incentives while committing crimes, which could explain the differences in crime between the sexes. The advantages and disadvantages of engaging in criminal action are influenced by incentives. Researchers looked at gender disparities in the risk of getting detained, one of the penalties of committing a crime, and in illicit profits, a benefit, in the most recent paper that focuses on property crimes to see if they may explain variations in a person's propensity to commit crime. The study finds that there are gender disparities in the incentives to commit crimes using a big administrative data set for the US National Incident-Based Reporting System Resource, which includes data on people from 1995 to 2015: Men typically make 13% more money than women do, and their likelihood of incarceration is 9% greater. This could be explained in a number of ways, including skill, options, effort, search expenses, and underlying risk aversion. The same study investigates if differences exist in how crime rates for men and women respond to changes in the anticipated incentives to commit crimes. Males react to changes in unlawful income more quickly. Men's crime rates increase by 36% and women's crime rates increase by 23% when predicted unlawful earnings are doubled. Despite the fact that there is no difference in how men and women react to changes in the possibility of being detained, crime rates decrease by 14% when the anticipated probability of being arrested is doubled.

These results contribute to the understanding of why fewer women than males work in the criminal justice system. While 56% of the gender participation gap can be linked to responsiveness to incentives, just 8% of it can be attributed to incentives. The gender disparity in incarceration is a related problem. Although they make up less than 10% of the prison population, women in the US are responsible for about 30% of property offenses. When all other factors are held constant, one factor contributing to the disparity is the fact that men and women are treated differently by the legal system when they are accused of crimes. Because of this compassionate treatment of women, the estimated cost of committing a crime is usually lower (Nadia, 2019)

2.3.2 Socio-economic Status and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

Using a random sample of 170 convicted criminals held at the Chilga District Correctional Institution (CDCI), a study on the socioeconomic factors influencing property offenses on convicts was conducted. Descriptive statistics, logistic regression, and Pearson correlations were used to assess the quantitative CDCI data in the study. The study's conclusions showed that people's perceived educational attainment, economic status, age at initial involvement, and prior experience were the main reasons of their big property crime offenses. However, it was discovered that family structure, peer influence, and average monthly income were unperceived factors. Due to factors associated with illiteracy and unemployment, such as disregard for one's future, young adults who are single, illiterate, and unemployed had a roughly three times higher likelihood of committing theft than robbery and burglary throughout the winter, particularly in February. While burglaries and robberies conducted by employed, literate criminals are more common, the convicted criminals who were raised by single parents, were illiterate, and committed stealing for the first time, (Nigatu et al, 2020).

2.3.3 Family Structure and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

Delinquency and conduct disorder are behavioural issues that involve breaking important laws, social norms, and standards. In the middle to late stages of adolescence, the prevalence of Conduct Disorder and delinquency surges. Both exhibit significant consistency over time. The most significant research of conduct disorder and delinquency include both self-reports and formal measurements of antisocial behaviour, large population samples, frequent personal interviews, evaluations of many potential risk factors, and prospective longitudinal designs. Inadequate parental guidance, harsh or inconsistent discipline, a cold parental attitude, child physical abuse, parental conflict, disrupted families, socially awkward parents, large household structures, low family income, socially awkward peers, high delinquent behavior rates in schools, and crime-ridden areas are some of the most significant risk factors that predict Conduct Disorder and delinquency. Numerous risk variables could potentially influence results, however this is uncertain, (Joseph & David 2010).

2.4 Neglect and Drug Abuse

This section summarizes the literature review for the first aim, which focuses on the connection between neglect and drug misuse. It shall highlight how neglect influences involvement into abuse of different forms of drugs.

2.4.1 Gender and Drug abuse

According to a cross-sectional study based on interview data from 2,169 teenagers collected across three years of outpatient clinics in 11 Swedish sites, there are some similarities and variations between girls and boys who begin outpatient treatment at the Maria Clinics in Sweden.

Academic difficulties, major substance misuse issues, and serious mental health issues were all more prevalent in girls than in boys. Furthermore, it appears that girls frequently experienced more challenging familial and childhood circumstances. Boys commit much more crimes than girls do.

According to the study, girls are more likely than boys to have much more risk factors when they first enter treatment, which leads to more serious issues in a range of life domains and increases the likelihood that they will develop serious drug and alcohol problems as adults. The study discovered that despite women frequently facing more challenging living conditions than men, less women than men seek treatment for substance abuse. (Mats & Mikael 2018).

2.4.2 Socio-economic Status and Drug abuse

Previous research has shown that there are age differences in the link between socioeconomic status (SES) and substance use. Adults and adolescents who have a high SES are more likely than those who have a low SES to use drugs. However, there is mounting proof that teenagers from high SES backgrounds are also more likely to take drugs. This study aims to investigate if teenagers from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are more likely to take drugs in their early adult years than those from privileged socioeconomic backgrounds.

Data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health was analyzed in a study. This ongoing inquiry into US secondary school students is typical of the entire continent.

Under the control of drug use in adolescence and other variables, logistic regression models were used to examine the association between teenage SES, as defined by parental education and income, and substance use in adulthood.

Higher rates of marijuana and excessive drinking are correlated with higher parental income. The usage of other chemicals, such as crystal methamphetamine, has not yielded any statistically significant results. The results of the sensitivity analysis are unaffected by the inclusion of young adults in college. Although there are no statistically significant findings for non-whites when data are stratified by race, results for white non-Hispanics are consistent. It's possible that this is because non-whites make up a smaller portion of the sample, but it's also possible that it's because white non-Hispanics are the main proponents of these trends. (Jennifer, 2010).

2.4.3 Family Structure and Drug abuse

One aspect that may contribute to the explanation of adolescent drug use is family structure. A study involving 255 ninth-graders from a high school in the urban, predominately Latino Los Angeles area was done in 2005. 83% of students were Latino, 58% of whom were female, and most were from low-SES households. All of the students admitted that 50% had ever used alcohol, 18% had ever used marijuana, and 30% had ever smoked a cigarette. There was only one open-ended question used to gauge family structure. The impact of diverse family configurations on alcohol, cigarette, and marijuana usage was then examined using logistic regression. Marijuana use was linked to living with a relative, whereas alcohol and drug use were linked to living with older siblings. The results imply that analyses of family structure should consider influential others, such as siblings and cousins, (Wagner et al, 2008).

2.5 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework that was used to guide this study is described in this section. Agnew's general strain theory will be used to interpret the findings of this investigation.

2.5.1 General Strain Theory

The general strain theory (GST), a criminology theory, was developed by Robert Agnew. He asserts that those who are under a lot of pressure are more likely to have negative emotions that could spur criminal conduct. Since its introduction in 1992, general strain theory has attracted a lot of scholarly attention. The general strain theory of Robert Agnew is a sound

theory that has amassed a significant body of empirical evidence and has broadened its primary scope by providing explanations for phenomena other than criminal behavior. Agnew acknowledged that the strain theory, first proposed by Robert King Merton, had certain limitations when it came to understanding the different potential causes of stress in society, particularly among young people. Merton contends that although society encourages goals that are widely accepted and acknowledged, there aren't enough options for accomplishing these goals through institutionalized legal means. In this situation, creativity, according to Merton, occurs. In other words, those people in society who are hurting financially yet still want to prosper monetarily turn to crime in order to accomplish their socially desired ends. Agnew concurs with this assertion but adds that there are other factors that have an impact on young people's criminal behavior. He argues that money can be the root cause of stressful situations.

Four traits of strains that are most likely to result in criminal conduct were described by Agnew: strains that are perceived as unfair, strains that are perceived as having a large impact, strains linked to a lack of social control, and strains that put pressure on or provide an incentive for criminal coping. Agnew classified three types of stress: the removal of highly valued goals, the introduction of unfavorable stimuli, and the incapacity to accomplish desired goals. Agnew and Broidy examined the gender variations in strain perception and response to explain why male delinquency is more prevalent than female delinquency. The degree of stress that people of different genders suffer was the first topic that was investigated. Agnew and Broidy's stress research shows that women frequently endure as much stress as men do. Women also typically experience higher levels of subjective distress. Agnew and Broidy looked into the various strains that men and women feel, as women endure more strain and commit less crimes (Broidy & Agnew, 1997).

According to research, women may lack the self-assurance and confidence that may encourage them to conduct crimes and use escape and avoidance techniques as a stress reliever. However, women might have closer relationships, which could lessen stress. Men are thought to interact more in large groups and to have less social control. Contrarily, women build strong social relationships in small groups. Men are therefore more inclined to commit crimes in response to stress. This theory is selected to inform this study due to its focus on strain, and in its assumptions the categories of strain help in the understanding of neglect. The failure to consistently meet a child's need becomes a strain and a negative

stimulus that may trigger delinquent behaviour. On the other hand, meeting a child’s needs becomes a positive stimulus that may help alleviate delinquent behaviour and help an adolescent meet positive goals like academic excellence, good relationships, and non-deviant behaviour, (Agnew,2001). Some tests have been done on the General Strain Theory to examine the effects of strains on delinquency.

They discovered that adolescent delinquency is highly correlated with bad life experiences, poor relationships with adults, and domestic abuse (Paternoster and Mazerolle,1994) Select types of delinquency are associated with family and peer conflict, but not with being unpopular with peers (Brezina & Agnew, 1997) delinquency is associated with domestic violence, including physical and emotional abuse of children and others (Brezina 1999); however, delinquency is not associated with failure to meet one's financial and professional goals (Agnew 1995a). However, a 1994 study indicated that delinquency may be associated to inability to fulfil economic goals). According to various research, unpleasant school experiences, parental divorce, parental rejection, severe punishment, and strict, inconsistent parenting methods are all significantly associated with adolescent criminality (Burton & Dunaway 1994).

2.6 Conceptual Framework

The relationship between the variables that will direct this investigation is illustrated by the theoretical framework. It gives the interaction between neglect and delinquent behaviour with an influence of confounding variables, gender, socio economic status and family structure.

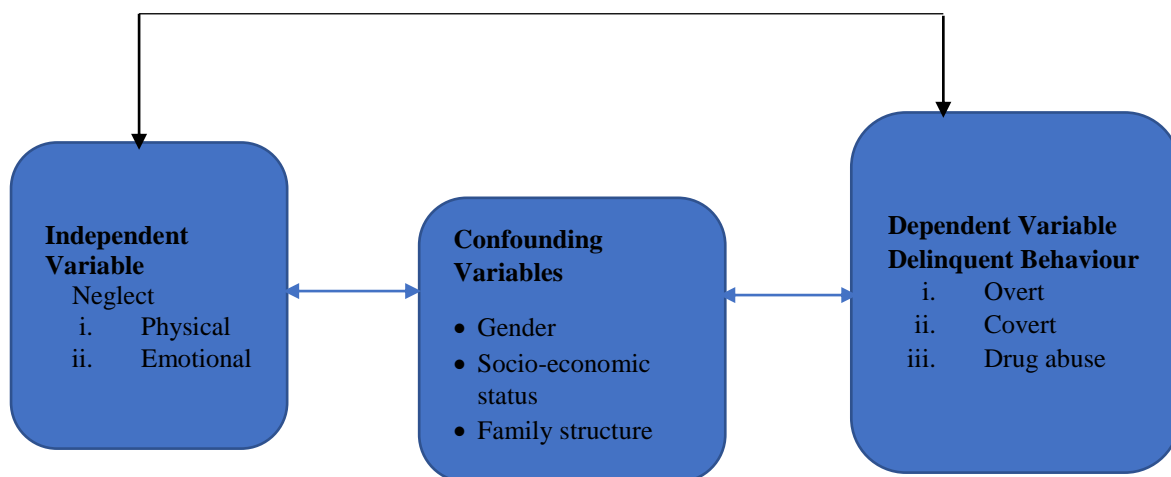


Figure 2. 1: Conceptual frameworks

2.7 Literature Review Summary

The risk of delinquency has been repeatedly linked to neglect. There are variations when it comes to gender involvement in crime, males are more prone to delinquent behaviour. Low socio-economic status is a predictor of delinquent behaviour due to economic hardship and family structure predisposes one to delinquent behaviour involvement.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter covers the research design, the features of the study's target population, the sample size and sampling techniques, as well as the techniques for data processing.

3.2 Research Design

As a mixed method, both qualitative and quantitative approaches were employed to collect the data. Because the researcher focused on the youths' non-numerical experiences, the study was qualitative. Because it made use of numerical data that was simple to analyze and make conclusions from for the three hypotheses, it was quantitative.

3.3 Target Populations

In this study, both physically and emotionally neglected adolescents residing in Mukuru slums make up the target population. The target population is located in Mukuru kwa Njenga, one of the city's slums with a population of 242,941 people. The 2019 Population and Housing Census report confirms this. About 72,882 people, or 30% of this population, are teenagers.

3.4 Sample Size

The researcher selected at least 200 respondents for the study because the Mukuru slums are highly populated, and adolescents make a large part of the population. According to the Krejcie and Morgan (1970), the sample size that is greater than 200 is a significant representative for population that is more than 1000.

3.5 Sampling Procedures

To create a sample for the study, the researcher used both snowballing and purposive sampling methods. The respondents were divided into two categories: those who had been emotionally or physically abandoned. The primary method for obtaining a sample for both focused group talks and the completion of questionnaires was the employment of a purposeful sampling approach. Snowballing was used in case the sample is not adequate for the study.

3.6 Data Collection Instruments

Closed ended questionnaires were the main instruments to collect data. Focused group discussions were used to complement questionnaires to attain more details for the study. The first component of questionnaires collected respondents' demographic information, and the second section collected details on delinquent behaviour present in the respondents lives in the last one to two years. A systematic guide was provided for the focused group talks to help parents record their descriptions of their kids' behavior.

3.7 Data Collection Procedures

The researcher visited Mukuru Slums to seek permission first from the relevant authority prior to collection data. A consent form was given to the parents to complete because the key respondents are minors. The respondents were given questionnaires to complete over the course of 2 weeks because it was a school term. Because some of the respondents were truants, it was difficult for them to complete the questionnaire because of their literacy level. Together with the research assistant, the researcher led focused group talks.

3.8 Data Analysis

To make it simpler to evaluate the quantitative data using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) tool, the analyst double-checked the data and coded it. Means, frequency distributions, and dispersion were utilized to analyze the descriptive data for the three hypotheses. The three hypotheses were examined using Pearson's correlation coefficient. For the three objectives. Simple linear regression was employed to demonstrate cause and effect for all the three objectives. The effects of gender, socioeconomic level, and family structure on drug use as a form of delinquent behavior among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, were examined using Pearson chi-square test.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

The researcher received a formal letter from the university introducing her to the appropriate person on the job. Additionally, a NACOSTI research authorization was received. The researcher ensured the participants' identity and maintained a high standard of confidentiality for the data they provided. The researcher briefed the respondents on the study's timeline and objectives before beginning the data collection. Without creating or misrepresenting the data, the researcher presented authentic information from the study. Throughout the entire survey,

the researcher treated the respondents with decency. Data for this study was attained from adolescents some of whom are minors. Therefore, consent from their parents was attained prior to data collection. The researcher worked with research assistants conversant with the Mukuru Slums lifestyle and language to help communicate with the adolescents.

3.10 Validity

The test's content validity determines whether or not each component of the construct is accurately represented (Taherdoost, 2016). A test, survey, or measuring technique's content must address all significant features of the subject it intends to analyze in order to yield accurate results. The validity of the measurement is jeopardized if any features are lacking (or if irrelevant aspects are included). The questionnaire was prepared and operationalized in accordance with the study variable to guarantee the suitability and representativeness of the questions in each variable in relation to the study's purpose and objectives. To confirm the validity of the information, supervisors and professionals in the field provided their professional judgment. This enhanced the validity of the data that was gathered. It made sure that research tools were properly updated and changed, hence enhancing their validity.

Face validity assesses if a research instrument is representative on its face value and whether it looks to be a decent research tool. It entailed establishing if the study instrument covers the idea it claims to measure on a subjective basis (Bryman, 2016). The appropriateness of a test's content as it appears on the surface was examined as face validity. Similar to content validity, face validity is evaluated more casually and subjectively. Because it is a subjective assessment, face validity was generally viewed as the least reliable type of validity. However, it may be helpful when developing a method at the beginning. From the expert opinions, the research tools were established to have attained face validity.

Face validity demanded that the questionnaire be exposed to in-depth evaluation and comments from at least two outside specialists who carefully assessed the representativeness of the research instrument at face value. Each question was assessed in light of the study's objectives and possible respondents' responses, and any necessary adjustments were made. To make comparisons, tools made for similar studies in the past were used. From the expert opinions, the research tools were established to have attained content validity

3.11 Reliability

The first reliability test, test-retest reliability, evaluates whether results are consistent when the same test is administered on the same sample at a later time. It was used to gauge a sample's assumed constant value for a certain thing. To evaluate a method's endurance under these circumstances over time, test-retest reliability was used. The greater the test-retest reliability, the smaller the discrepancy between the two sets of results is. The same test was given twice to the same set of people in order to determine test-retest reliability. After that, it was discovered that the two sets of data were correlated.

On the other hand, Interrater reliability assessed the level of agreement between various observers or raters of the same object (Tinsley & Weiss, 2000). When collecting data, researchers categorize, rate, or rank one or more variables. It is imperative to make sure that various people scored the same variable consistently and without bias while developing the scale and criteria for data collecting.

Internal consistency is the last. A test's reliability is determined by how effectively it handles different constructions and yields predictable findings (Drost, 2011). Internal consistency measures the relationship between various test items that are meant to evaluate the same construct. Since there was just one data set, the study employed internal consistency reliability to test for instrument reliability because it is the only good approach to measure reliability. Several inquiries were made in order to gauge how neglect affected delinquent behavior. Internal consistency and dependability of the variables were assessed using Cronbach's alpha. With the help of SPSS Scale Reliability Analysis, the link between the research variables and the items was examined using Cronbach's Alpha.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

The study's goal was to determine how neglect affected juvenile criminality in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. The study specifically wanted to determine how neglect affected drug use and other types of criminal behavior among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. The analysis and interpretation of the data that was collected in line with the objectives are highlighted in this chapter. The chapter starts with response rate, then findings on confounding variables, descriptive statistics and simple linear regression analysis for every objective, Pearson correlation analysis for testing hypothesis and finally chi-square. Tables are used to present the results.

4.2 Response Rate

200 surveys were given out to responders by the researcher. Out of the entire number of questionnaires distributed, only 129 were totally completed and returned. The result was a response rate of 64.5%, which was sufficient for statistical analysis. A response rate of 50% or above is considered significant and sufficient for doing statistical analysis, according to Bryman (2016). Table 4.1 provides an illustration of the results.

Table 4. 1: Response Rate

	Number of informants	Percent
Response	129	64.5
Non- Response	71	35.5
Total	200	100

4.3 Reliability Analysis

The reliability of the questionnaire was examined using Cronbach's Alpha, a method for evaluating the internal consistency of a research tool. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.2.

Table 4. 2: Reliability Analysis

	Alpha value	Comments
Neglect	0.722	Reliable
Overt delinquent behaviour	0.811	Reliable
Covert delinquent behaviour	0.717	Reliable
Drug abuse	0.748	Reliable

The findings in Table 4.2, Neglect had a Cronbach alpha of 0.722, overt delinquent behaviour had a Cronbach alpha of 0.811, covert delinquent behaviour had a Cronbach alpha of 0.717 and drug abuse had a Cronbach alpha of 0.748. This implies the each of the five variables were reliable as their Cronbach alpha was above the recommended threshold of 0.7 according to Dwork, *et al.* (2015) arguments. This implies that the questionnaire was reliable and hence did not need any adjustments.

4.4 Confounding Variables

This section presents findings on confounding variables which include age, gender, highest level of education, whom they stay with in their home, how many they are in their family and parents'/caregivers' occupation.

4.4.1 Age and Gender of the Respondents

It was requested of the responders to specify their gender and age. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.3.

Table 4. 3: Age of the Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percent
12 – 13 years	28	21.7
14 - 15 years	27	20.9
16 – 17 years	30	23.3
18 years and above	44	34.1
Total	129	100

According to Table 4.3's data, 34.1% of respondents were 18 years of age or older. Other respondents indicated that they were aged 16 – 17 years as shown by 23.3%, 12 – 13 years as shown by 21.7% and 14 - 15 years as shown by 20.9%. This shows that the data collection cut across all the relevant age groups and hence the researcher was able to collect credible data on neglect affected juvenile criminality in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya.

4.4.2 Gender of the Respondents

The respondents were asked to indicate their gender by the researcher. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.4.

Table 4. 4: Gender of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
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Male	81	62.8
Female	48	37.2
Total	129	100

The findings also showed that male respondents were the majority of respondents (62.8%) while female respondents made up the remainder (37.2%). This suggests that the data was gathered from both genders and that it was credible enough to prove the impact of neglect on juvenile delinquency.

4.4.3 Highest Level of Education

The highest degree of schooling for each respondent was requested. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.5.

Table 4. 5: Highest Level of Education of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percent
Below Class 3	1	0.8
Class 4 – 8	52	40.3
F1 – F2	21	16.3
F3 – F4	55	42.6
Total	129	100

From the findings, 42.6% of the respondents were in Forms 3 to 4, 40.3 were in class 4 to 8, 16.3% were in Form 1 to Form 2 and 0.8% were below Class 3. This implies that most respondents had basic knowledge and could comprehend and answer questions regarding the neglect and delinquent behaviour among adolescents.

4.4.4 Family Set Up

The respondents were asked who they lived with in their household. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.6.

Table 4. 6: Family Set Up

	Frequency	Percent
Both Parents	76	58.9
Mother	48	37.2
Father	2	1.6
Other	3	2.3
Total	129	100

The findings in Table 4.6 showed that most adolescents were living with both parents as illustrated by 58.9%. Other respondents indicated to be living with mother as illustrated by

37.2% and were living with father as illustrated by 1.6%. This implies most of targeted adolescents were in a both parent family set up.

4.4.5 Number of Family Members

The number of people in each respondent's family was inquired about. The findings are shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4. 7: Number of Family Members

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 3	19	14.7
3 to 6	91	70.5
More than 6	19	14.7
Total	129	100

Table 4.7's data show that 70.5% of respondents indicated that their family consisted of three to six people, less than 3 family members as shown by 14.7% and more than 6 family members as shown by 14.7%. This implies that most of the adolescents were from families with members who could subject them to neglect.

4.4.6 Parents/Caregivers Occupation

The respondents were questioned about the nature of their parents' or caretakers' jobs. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.8.

Table 4. 8: Parents/Caregivers Occupation

	Frequency	Percent
Casual laborer	46	35.7
Formal Employment	18	14
Self Employed	64	49.6
Total	129	100

The findings in Table 4.8 show that the respondents said their parents' or careers' occupations were self-employment in 49.6% of cases, casual labor in 35.7% of cases, and formal work in 14% of cases. This implies most parents/caregivers of the targeted adolescents had occupations that may contribute to them neglecting their children.

4.5 Neglect among the Adolescents

The respondents were asked to mark the assertions about neglect with which they agreed or disagreed. The findings were illustrated in Table 4.9.

Table 4. 9: How Respondents Agree or Disagree with Statements on Neglect

	Never (%)	Very rarely (%)	N/A (%)	Sometimes (%)	Always (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
Neglected Physically							
My parents ensure that there is enough food to eat everyday	1.6	5.4	18.6	17.8	56.6	4.22	1.03
My parents/caregivers locked me out of the house as punishment	55.8	5.4	3.1	30.2	5.4	2.24	1.50
My parents did not give me clean clothes	33.3	12.4	19.4	29.5	5.4	2.61	1.35
I am often punished without getting a chance to defend myself	10.9	7	5.4	52.7	24	3.72	1.22
My parents did not ensure I went to school daily	30.2	12.4	11.6	40.3	5.4	2.78	1.39
My parents left me alone without an adult when I was young	26.4	5.4	7	42.6	18.6	3.22	1.50
My caregiver did not keep the house clean or tidy	23.3	3.9	9.3	41.1	22.5	3.36	1.47
My caregiver did not attend parents/teachers' meetings in school	20.9	5.4	6.2	45.7	21.7	3.42	1.43
Neglected Emotionally							
My parents are always there to support me emotionally when I am troubled	0	6.2	7	34.9	51.9	4.33	0.86
My parents are proud when I succeed in something	0	7	1.6	17.8	73.6	4.58	0.84
My parents/caregiver shows interest in my school progress	7	7.8	0.8	30.2	54.3	4.17	1.21
My parents forgot about things they were supposed to do for me	16.3	7	7	54.3	15.5	3.46	1.30
I was verbally abused when I made a mistake	19.4	1.6	3.1	42.6	33.3	3.69	1.45
My parents were out until very late in the night because of work	6.2	8.5	5.4	45.7	34.1	3.93	1.14
My caregiver does not care where I am going when I go out	31	8.5	2.3	50.4	7.8	2.95	1.47
My parents were too busy to notice whether I was at home or not	20.9	10.1	9.3	51.2	8.5	3.16	1.33

According to the results shown in Table 4.9, the respondents thought that their parents are always proud when they succeed in something as shown by 73.6%, that their parents always ensure that there is enough food to eat everyday as shown by 56.6%, that their

parents/caregiver always shows interest in their school progress as shown by 54.3% and that their parents are always there to support them emotionally when they are troubled as shown by 51.9%.

Further, the respondents agreed that their parents sometimes forgot about things they were supposed to do for them as shown by 54.3%, that they are sometimes punished without getting a chance to defend themselves as shown by 52.7% and that their parents were sometimes too busy to notice whether they were at home or not as shown by 51.2%. Further, the respondents agreed that their caregiver sometimes does not care where they are going when they go out as shown by 50.4%.

Moreover, the respondents agreed that their parents were sometimes out until very late in the night because of work as illustrated by 45.7%, that their caregiver sometimes did not attend parents/teachers' meetings in school as illustrated by 45.7% and that they were verbally abused when they made a mistake as illustrated by 42.6%. Additionally, the respondents agreed that their parents sometimes left them alone without an adult when they were young as illustrated by 42.6%.

The respondents also agreed that their caregiver sometimes did not keep the house clean or tidy as illustrated by 41.1% and that their parents sometimes did not ensure they went to school daily as illustrated by 40.3%. However, the respondents disagreed that their parents/caregivers locked them out of the house as punishment as shown by 55.8% and that their parents did not give them clean clothes as shown by 33.3%.

From the focus groups, the group members were asked to indicate what they understand by the word neglect. Since the answers from the focus group discussions were recurring, the researcher was able to compute the frequencies and percentages and the findings are shown in Table 4.10.

Table 4. 10: Understanding of word Neglect

	Frequency	Percent
Intentional lack of Care	62	48.1
Lack of Food	30	23.3
Lack of Education	17	13.2
Parents are always away	20	15.5
Total	129	100.0

According to the results summarized in Table 4.10, the respondents in focus group discussion indicated that they understood the word neglect to be intentional lack of care as shown by 48.1%, lack of food as shown by 23.3%, lack of education as shown by 13.2% and parents being always away as shown by 15.5%. This implies that neglect entails intentional lack of care, failure to attain basic needs, failure to support education and absent parents.

According to focus group discussions, the respondents were asked to state whether child neglect is a big problem in the neighborhood. Since the answers from the focus group discussions were recurring, the researcher was able to compute the frequencies and percentages and the findings are shown in Table 4.11.

Table 4. 11: Whether child Neglect is a Major Problem in the Community

	Frequency	Percent
Agree	40	31.0
Strongly agree	77	59.7
Disagree	8	6.2
Strongly disagree	4	3.1
Total	129	100.0

Table 4.11's findings demonstrate that 59.7% of respondents strongly agreed that child neglect is a significant problem in the area. Other survey respondents said that they agreed with 31%, disagreed with 6.2%, and strongly disagreed with 3.1% that child neglect is a big problem in the community. This implies that child neglect is a significant problem in Mukuru slums.

The respondents were asked to list the factors that increase the chance of neglect in addition to the focus group discussions. Since the answers from the focus group discussions were recurring, the researcher was able to compute the frequencies and percentages and the findings are shown in Table 4.12.

Table 4. 12: Factors Which Makes Neglect More Likely

	Frequency	Percent
Poverty	53	41.1
Overcrowded houses	17	13.2
Behavior Problems	22	17.1
Mentally ill parents	9	7.0
Busy Parents	28	21.7

Total	129	100.0
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The respondents indicated that neglect is contributed by factors such as poverty as shown by 41.1%, busy parents as shown by 21.7%, behavior problems as shown by 17.1%, overcrowded houses as shown by 13.2% and mentally ill parents as shown by 7.0%. This implies that neglect is contributed by busy parents, behavior problems, overcrowded houses and mentally ill parents.

4.6 Neglect and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

The study set out to ascertain on how neglect affected adolescents' overt delinquent behaviour in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya.

4.6.1 Descriptive Statistics for Overt Delinquent Behaviour

The extent to which each allegation involving overt teenage delinquent behavior was agreed with or disagreed with by the respondents was solicited. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.13.

Table 4. 13: Agreement or Disagreement with Statements on Overt Delinquent Behaviour

	Never (%)	Very rarely (%)	N/A (%)	Sometimes (%)	Always (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
I have used force to get something from someone	31.0	16.3	9.3	41.9	1.6	2.67	1.34
I have been involved in fighting with my peers	20.2	1.6	3.1	65.1	10.1	3.43	1.30
I find myself bullying people younger than me	20.9	6.2	0.8	65.1	7.0	3.31	1.32
I have been arrested by the police	76.7	0.8	1.6	17.1	3.9	1.71	1.32

According to the findings in Table 4.13, the respondents concurred that they have sometimes been involved in fighting with their peers as shown by 65.1%, that they sometimes find themselves bullying people younger than them as shown by 65.1% and that they have sometimes used force to get something from someone as shown by 41.9%. However, the respondents disagreed that they have never been arrested by the police as shown by 76.7%.

4.6.2 Simple Linear Regression for Influence of Neglect and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

To determine the impact of neglect on overt delinquent behavior among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, the study used basic linear regression analysis. Because there was just one independent variable (neglect) and one dependent variable, simple linear regression analysis was utilized (overt delinquent conduct). The findings are illustrated in Table 4.14.

Table 4. 14: Simple Linear Regression Results for Objective One

Model Summary						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error		
1	.613 ^a	.376	.371	.684		
ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	35.769	1	35.769	76.431	.000 ^b
	Residual	59.435	127	.468		
	Total	95.203	128			
Coefficients ^a						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	
1	(Constant)	-.113	.336		-.337	.736
	Neglect	.829	.095	.613	8.742	.000

According to the results in Table 4.14, the R-Square was 0.376 and this implies that 37.6% of the variations in overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers.

The regression model was significant, according to the ANOVA results, as F-calculated (76.431) was higher than F-critical (3.9157), and sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05. This suggests that changes in neglect may be a strong indicator of changes in the overt delinquent behavior of teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County.

In addition to the regression coefficients, the study demonstrated that among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, a unit change in neglect would result in a considerable shift in overt delinquent behaviour ($\beta=0.829$; $p\text{-value}=0.000$). The resultant regression equation was as follows

$$\text{ODG} = -0.113 + 0.829 \text{ N}$$

Where:

ODG = Overt Delinquent Behaviour

N = Neglect

4.7 Neglect and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

The study also intended to understand how neglect affected adolescents' concealed criminal behaviour in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya.

4.7.1 Descriptive Statistics for Covert Delinquent Behaviour

The respondents were given a list of assertions regarding adolescents' covert criminal behaviour, and they were asked to rate how much they agreed or disagreed with each. The findings are shown in Table 4.15.

Table 4. 15: Agreement or Disagreement with Statements on Covert Delinquent Behaviour

	Never (%)	Very rarely (%)	N/A (%)	Sometimes (%)	Always (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
I have taken things that do not belong to me	20.2	10.1	4.7	62.8	2.3	3.17	1.27
I have shoplifted or broken into someone's home to steal items	71.3	4.7	0.8	20.9	2.3	1.78	1.32
I like to stay away from school	41.1	1.6	11.6	38.8	7	2.69	1.50
I don't see the value of going to school	42.6	7.8	10.9	33.3	5.4	2.51	1.45
I have used drugs and alcohol	66.7	5.4	1.6	20.9	5.4	1.93	1.42
I have sold drugs to get money	73.6	2.3	2.3	15.5	6.2	1.78	1.38

According to the results in Table 4.15, the respondents agreed that they sometimes took things that do not belong to them as shown by 62.8%. However, the respondents disagreed that they have shoplifted or broken into someone's home to steal items as shown by 71.3%, that they have used drugs and alcohol as shown by 66.7% and that they have sold drugs to get money as shown by 73.6%. Moreover, the respondents disagreed that they don't see the value of going to school as shown by 42.6% and that they like to stay away from school as shown by 41.1%

4.7.2 Simple Linear Regression for Influence of Neglect on Covert Delinquent Behaviour

The study employed straightforward linear regression analysis to determine the impact of neglect on covert criminal behavior among youths in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. Because there was just one independent variable (neglect) and one dependent variable, simple linear regression analysis was utilized (covert delinquent conduct). The findings are illustrated in Table 4.16.

Table 4. 16: Simple Linear Regression Results for Objective Two

Model Summary						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error		
1	.570 ^a	.325	.320	.784		
ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	37.656	1	37.656	61.242	.000 ^b
	Residual	78.088	127	.615		
	Total	115.743	128			
Coefficients ^a						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-.656	.385		-1.703	.091
	Neglect	.850	.109	.570	7.826	.000

According to the results in Table 4.16, the R-Square was 0.325 and this implies that 32.5% of the variations in covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers.

Since F-calculated (61.242) was more than F-critical (3.9157) and sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05, the ANOVA results demonstrated the regression model's significance. This suggests that changes in neglect may be a strong indicator of changes in adolescents' covert criminal behavior in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County.

Further from the regression coefficients, the study showed that a unit change in neglect would lead to a significant change in covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County ($\beta=0.850$; $p\text{-value}=0.000$). The resultant regression equation was as follows

$$\text{CDG} = -0.656 + 0.850 \text{ N}$$

Where: **CDG** = Covert Delinquent Behaviour; **N** = Neglect

4.8 Neglect and Drug Abuse

The study also aimed to find out how drug misuse among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, was affected by neglect.

4.8.1 Descriptive Statistics for Drug Abuse

The respondents were requested to answer various questions regarding the drug abuse among adolescents. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.17.

Table 4. 17: Response to Questions on Drugs

Easy Access to drugs	Frequency	Percent
Yes	129	100
Types of drugs used or sold		
Alcohol	62	48.1
Marijuana	40	31
Cocaine	26	20.2
Heroin	1	0.8
Reasons for using drugs among the teenagers		
Peer Pressure	34	26.4
Depression	12	9.3
Curiosity	23	17.8
Media Influence	12	9.3
To cope with home problems	18	14
Lack of parental guidance	30	23.3

According to Table 4.17's findings, 100% of respondents agreed that youth in the neighbourhood have easy access to drugs. Further, the respondents indicated that the type of drugs used or sold to teenagers in the community included alcohol as shown by 48.1%, marijuana as shown by 31%, cocaine as shown by 20.2% and heroin as shown by 0.8%. Further, the respondents indicated that the reasons behind the use of drugs among the community included peer pressure as shown by 26.4%, lack of parental guidance as shown by 23.3%, curiosity as shown by 17.8%, to cope with home problems as shown by 14%, depression as shown by 9.3% and media influence as shown by 9.3%

The respondents were further asked various questions on the use of drugs among the teenagers. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.18.

Table 4. 18: Response to Questions on Drug Abuse Problem

Age Group of the Teenagers Involved in Drugs	Frequency	Percent
10 - 18 yrs	50	38.8

19 – 24 yrs	41	31.8
Above 25 years	38	29.5
Solution for drug abuse problem among teenagers		
Greater education	39	30.2
Recreational facilities	24	18.6
Greater parental guidance	42	32.6
More strict laws	24	18.6

According to the results in the Table 4.18, the respondents indicated that those that have used drugs or alcohol, they first used it at an age of 10 to 18 yrs as shown by 38.8%, age of 19 to 24 years as shown by 31.8% and age of above 25 years as shown by 29.5%. For more information on what may be done to address the community's drug addiction problem among youth, see respondents indicated that the solutions for the drug abuse problem included greater education as shown by 30.2%, greater parental guidance as shown by 32.6%, recreational facilities as shown by 18.6% and more strict laws as shown by 18.6%.

The respondents were also questioned regarding their opinions on a number of issues related to the community's juvenile criminal activity. The findings are illustrated in Table 4.19.

Table 4. 19: Response to Questions on Criminal Activities among Teenagers

Common Criminal activities	Frequency	Percent
Theft of goods	29	22.5
Violent robbery	18	14
Fighting	21	16.3
Drug abuse	42	32.6
Muggings	19	14.7
Total	129	100
Age group that is more involved in criminal activities		
10 - 18 yrs	39	30.2
19 – 24 yrs	59	45.7
Above 25 years	31	24
Solution to the problem of crime among teenagers		
Ensure school attendance	45	34.9
Recreational facilities	22	17.1
Greater parental supervision	37	28.7
More strict laws	25	19.4

According to the results in Table 4.19, the respondents indicated that common criminal activities included the drug abuse as shown by 32.6%, theft of goods as shown by 22.5%, violent robbery as shown by 14%, fighting as shown by 16.3% and muggings as shown by 14.7%. Additionally, the respondents said that the age group that is more involved in criminal

activities included 10 - 18 yrs as shown by 30.2% and 19 – 24 yrs as shown by 45.7% and Above 25 years as shown by 24%. Additionally, the respondents mentioned what may be done to address the issue of teen criminality in the neighborhood include ensure school attendance as shown by 34.9%, recreational facilities as shown by 17.1%, greater parental supervision as shown by 28.7% and more strict laws as shown by 19.4%.

4.8.2 Simple linear regression for Influence of Neglect on Drug Abuse

Simple linear regression analysis was used in the study to determine the impact of neglect on drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums, Nairobi County, Kenya. The simple linear regression analysis was used because there was one independent variable (neglect) and one dependent variable (drug abuse). The findings are illustrated in Table 4.20.

Table 4. 20: Simple linear regression Results for Objective Three

Model Summary						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error		
1	.221 ^a	.049	.041	.507		
ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	1.678	1	1.678	6.509	.012 ^b
	Residual	32.732	127	.258		
	Total	34.409	128			
Coefficients ^a						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	
1	(Constant)	1.471	.250		5.895	.000
	Neglect	.179	.070	.221	2.551	.012

According to the results in Table 4.20, the R-Square was 0.049 and this implies that 4.9% of the variations in drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers.

The ANOVA results showed that the regression model significant since F-calculated (6.509) was greater than F-critical (3.9157) and sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05. This implies that changes in neglect could significantly predict changes in drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County.

Further from the regression coefficients, the study showed that a unit change in neglect would lead to a significant change in drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County ($\beta=0.179$; $p\text{-value}=0.012$). The resultant regression equation was as follows

$$DA = 1.471 + 0.179 N$$

Where:

DA = Drug Abuse

N = Neglect

4.9 Hypothesis Testing

The three assumptions were tested using a correlation analysis in which Pearson's correlation coefficient was used.

4.9.1 Test for Hypothesis One

The study conducted Pearson's correlation analysis to test hypothesis one (H_{01}) which stated that, "*There is no relationship between neglect and overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya*". The findings are shown in Table 4.21.

Table 4. 21: Pearson's correlation for Hypothesis One

		Neglect	Overt Delinquency Behavior
Neglect	Pearson Correlation	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
	N	129	
Overt Delinquency Behavior	Pearson Correlation	.613	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	129	129

The findings showed in Table 4.21, the study showed that neglect and overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya have positive relationship ($r=0.613$). Since sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05, the research disproved null hypothesis one and found that there is a substantial connection between neglect and overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya

4.9.2 Test for Hypothesis Two

The study conducted simple linear regression analysis to test hypothesis two (H_{02}) which stated that, "*There is no relationship between neglect and covert delinquent behaviour among*

adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya". The findings are illustrated in Table 4.22.

Table 4. 22: Pearson’s correlation for Hypothesis Two

		Neglect	Covert Delinquency Behaviour
Neglect	Pearson Correlation	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
	N	129	
Covert Delinquency Behaviour	Pearson Correlation	.570	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	129	129

The results of the investigation were displayed in Table 4.22 and revealed that neglect and covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya have a positive relationship ($r=0.570$). Since sig. value (0.000) was less than 0.05, the investigation disproved null hypothesis two and came to the conclusion that there is a substantial correlation between neglect and covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya.

4.9.3 Test for Hypothesis Three

The study conducted simple linear regression analysis to test hypothesis three (H_{03}) which stated that, “*There is no relationship between neglect and drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya*”. The findings are shown in Table 4.23.

Table 4. 23: Pearson’s correlation for Hypothesis Three

		Neglect	Drug Abuse
Neglect	Pearson Correlation	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
	N	129	
Drug Abuse	Pearson Correlation	.221	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.012	
	N	129	129

The results of the investigation were displayed in Table 4.23 and revealed that neglect and drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya have a positive relationship ($r=0.221$). Since sig. value (0.012) was less than 0.05, the study disregarded null hypothesis three and discovered a strong correlation between drug addiction and neglect among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya.

4.10 Pearson Chi-Square Test

Pearson chi-square was also done to show how gender, socio-economic status and family structure are related to overt, covert and drug abuse as forms of delinquent behaviour among neglected adolescents in Mukuru slums, Nairobi County, Kenya. The findings are shown in Table 4.24.

Table 4. 24: Pearson Chi-square Tests

	Pearson Chi-Square	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Gender	119.013 ^a	.042
Socio-economic status	568.929 ^a	.001
Family structure	645.295 ^a	.010

The results demonstrate that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, gender have a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage) as shown by Pearson Chi-Square of 119.013 and p-value of 0.042. The study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, socio-economic status has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage) as shown by Pearson Chi-Square of 568.929 and p-value of 0.001. Finally, study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, family structure has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage) as shown by Pearson Chi-Square of 645.295 and p-value of 0.010. The findings implies that delinquent behavior among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County could be attributed to their gender, the socio-economic status of their family as well as the family structure.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

The study's primary goal was to determine the impact of neglect on juvenile delinquency in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya which was attained by looking at how neglect influences various forms of delinquent behaviour which includes overt, covert and drug abuse. A summary of the most significant findings, a discussion of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations for both immediate application and more research make up the main focus of this chapter.

5.2 Summary of Findings

Both the Focus Groups and Individual Questionnaires studies found that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, gender has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage). The study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, socio-economic status has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage). Finally, study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, family structure has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage)

The goal of the study was to evaluate how neglect affected young people's overt criminal behaviour in Nairobi County, Kenya's Mukuru slums. According to the study, parental or caregiver neglect accounts for 37.6% of the variability in overt delinquent behaviour among teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. The research found that among teenagers living in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, a shift in neglect would result in a sizable change in overt delinquent behaviour. According to the results, the majority of respondents stated that they occasionally got into fights with their friends (65.1%), occasionally bullied someone younger than them (65.1%), and occasionally used force to gain something from someone (41.9%). The study also established that most respondents disagreed that they have never been arrested by the police (76.7%).

Additionally, the Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya, were the subject of a study to ascertain the impact of neglect on adolescents' hidden criminal behaviour. The study found

that 32.5% of the variations in covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers. The study found that among teenagers living in the Mukuru slum in Nairobi County, a small shift in maltreatment would result in a sizable change in covert criminal behaviour ($\beta=0.850$; $p\text{-value}=0.000$) The majority of participants (62.8%) in the research indicated that they occasionally take things that are not theirs. According to the study, the majority of respondents were in disagreement that they have shoplifted or broken into someone's home to steal items (71.3%), that they have used drugs and alcohol (66.7%) and that they have sold drugs to get money (73.6%). Moreover, most the respondents were in disagreement that they don't see the value of going to school (42.6%) and that they like to stay away from school (41.1%).

Additionally, the study investigated how neglect affected teenagers' drug use in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya. According to the study, 4.9% of the variations in drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers. The Focus group research found that among teenagers living in the Mukuru slum in Nairobi County, a shift in neglect would result in a sizable change in drug consumption. The study found that all the respondents affirmed that drugs are easily available to teens in the community (100%). Further, most respondents indicated that the type of drugs used or sold to teenagers in the community included alcohol (48.1%), marijuana (31%), cocaine (20.2%) and heroine (0.8%). Further, most respondents indicated that the reasons behind the use of drugs among the community included peer pressure (26.4%), lack of parental guidance (23.3%), curiosity (17.8%), to cope with home problems (14%), depression (9.3%) and media influence (9.3%). Further, most respondents were of the opinion that to solve this there needs to be more education on the community's drug abuse among teenagers. (30.2%), greater parental guidance (32.6%), recreational facilities (18.6%) and more strict laws (18.6%).

5.3 Discussion of Findings

5.3.1 Confounding Variables

The study found that that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, gender has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage) Tracy et al. (2006) found that both boys' and girls' criminal activity grew with time, with boys consistently engaging in greater delinquency. With the exception of girls'

anger levels gradually rising higher than those of boys, boys and girls faced the same amount of risk factors. According to Nadia (2019), men are handled more harshly by the court system than women who are suspected of committing a crime. The estimated cost of committing a crime for women is typically lower as a result of this liberal treatment.

The study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, socio-economic status has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage). Finally, the study also showed that among neglected teenagers in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya, family structure has a significant contribution to their delinquent behavior (overt, covert, and drug usage). According to Nigatu et al. (2020), the offender's prior experience, educational background, current financial status, and age at first engagement were all considered contributing factors to their significant property crime offending. In addition, it was found that unrecognized determinants included peer influence, family structure, and median monthly income were reasons perceived as one's major property crime offending. According to Mats and Mikael (2018), girls who enter treatment frequently have much more risk factors than do boys, which results in more major difficulties in a range of life domains and increases the possibility that they will acquire serious drug and alcohol issues as adults.

5.3.2 Neglect and Overt Delinquent Behaviour

The study established that 37.6% of the variations in overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers. The research found that among teenagers living in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, a shift in neglect would result in a sizable change in overt delinquent behaviour. The study established most neglected adolescents are sometimes involved in fighting with their peers and find themselves bullying people younger than them and sometimes used force to get something from someone. The study also established that most neglected adolescents have never been arrested by the police. Yana (2012) argues that neglect among adolescents often leads to aggressiveness, drug abuse and stealing which are forms of delinquent behaviour. Delinquent behaviour has been categorized into three main types: overt, covert and drug abuse. The results support Gambini's (2015) assertion that the main component of neglect that was connected to later aggressiveness and criminality was failure to provide, which includes failing to provide a child's fundamental requirements for food, housing, and clothes. Even after taking into account the impacts of other types of abuse, the study indicated that inadequate supervision did not predict the same results.

5.3.3 Neglect and Covert Delinquent Behaviour

The study found that 32.5% of the variations in covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County, Kenya could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers. The study found that among teenagers living in the Mukuru slum in Nairobi County, a small shift in maltreatment would result in a sizable change in covert criminal behaviour. The study established that most neglected adolescents sometimes take things that do not belong to them. The study also showed that most neglected adolescents have never shoplifted or broken into someone's home to steal items, never used drugs and alcohol and never sold drugs to get money. It was also established that most neglected adolescents see the value of going to school but like to stay away from school. The results concur with and support a study that found that young people who are single, uneducated, and delinquent had more than three times the risk of committing theft than robbery and burglary in the winter, particularly in February, due to problems associated with unemployment and illiteracy, such as lack of regard for one's own future. The first-time thieves who were convicted were uneducated and unemployed despite the fact that burglaries and robberies committed by employed and literate offenders are more common. (Nigatu et al 2020).

5.3.4 Neglect and Drug Abuse

The study showed that 4.9% of the variations in drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County could be attributed to neglect by the parents or caregivers. According to the study, adolescents in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County would significantly change their drug use if their unit of neglect changed. The study found that drugs which are easily available to teens in the community include alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and heroin. The study also established that the reasons behind the use of drugs among the community included peer pressure, lack of parental guidance, curiosity, to cope with home problems, depression and media influence. The survey also found that stricter legislation, better parental supervision, recreational facilities, and increased parental education are the best ways to combat the problem of drug misuse among youth in the community. The results support Carlson's (2012) finding that parents have a significant influence on how their children develop into adults. For instance, children are more likely to act out the same manner and develop harmful behaviors later in life if their parents behave badly. The results support Lamont's (2010) observation that abandoned kids carry experiences of rejection throughout adolescence and young adulthood. These emotions might

lead them to turn to drug and alcohol misuse as a coping mechanism, which would put them at risk for developing other mental health conditions.

5.4 Conclusion

The study concluded that neglect significantly contributes to overt delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County. Due to neglect, most adolescents are sometimes involved in fighting with their peers and find themselves bullying people younger than them and sometimes used force to get something from someone.

The study concluded that neglect significantly contributes to covert delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County. Because of neglect, most adolescents develop bad behaviour taking things that do not belong to them. However, neglect was found to have contributed lowly on shoplifting or breaking into someone's home to steal items.

The study further concluded that neglect significantly contributes to drug abuse among adolescents in Mukuru slums in Nairobi County. Neglect makes adolescents to have a feeling of rejection that may push them to use drugs available in the community such as alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and heroin. The use of drugs among the adolescents was found to be related to peer pressure, lack of parental guidance, coping with home problems, depression and media influence.

5.5 Recommendations

The study recommends that it is important to urge parents to be present with their kids so that they can watch their behavior. Additionally, they would have plenty of time to bond with their kids and impart moral values that would prevent them from engaging in overtly criminal activity like bullying and fighting with their friends.

The study recommends that instead of shutting kids out of the house as punishment, parents should come up with better punishment strategies. There is also a need for parents to ensure that children go to school daily and always be accountable for the whereabouts of their children. This would make the children feel valued at home and hence will not engage in covert delinquent behaviour like shoplifting, stealing and drug use.

The study goes on to advise parents to become more involved in their children's lives in order to prevent them from later acquiring hazardous behaviors like substance misuse. This

requires raising parents' knowledge of the issue. Parents must foster a solid, wholesome relationship with their kids while also educating them about the perils of drug use.

It is necessary to raise awareness of the value of stable families in ensuring a child's proper upbringing. The importation of dangerous narcotics and substances like heroin and cocaine should be strictly prohibited by the government which should ensure extra vigilance on enforcement of the ban, due to the physical, psychological, social and financial dangers associated with drug use

In order to provide medical care to those who are already drug addicts and counseling to those who have already displayed overt and covert delinquent behavior, it is necessary to establish countywide rehabilitation and rescue centers that are both accessible and affordable and that are staffed by qualified personnel and equipped with the necessary facilities.

5.6 Suggestions for Further Research

This study only focused on adolescents in Mukuru slums Nairobi County only. Hence future studies should be extended to cover all slums in Nairobi County and establish influence of neglect on delinquent behaviour among adolescents. The study also recommends that future studies should also determine the other factors that affect the delinquent behaviour among adolescents in Kenya. Since this study used primary data only, it is important for future studies to employ mixed methods that is use of both primary and secondary data to establish impact of neglect on juvenile delinquency in the Mukuru slums of Nairobi County, Kenya.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Questionnaire

Dear Respondent. My name is Njeri Maina. I am a student at the University of Nairobi doing a Master's Degree in Counselling Psychology. I am conducting a study to establish the influence Neglect has on the behavior of young people in Mukuru in Nairobi. I would like to know about your relationship with your family and your friends, what your experiences are as a young person growing up and how it has shaped who you are today. Please complete this 20-minute survey. I assure you all the information collected in this study will be used for academic purposes only and will be treated with confidentiality. Feel free to skip any questions you are not comfortable with. Your responses will be very useful in guiding my research and I thank you for your participation.

Section A: General information

1. Gender Tick your age as indicated in the bracket

12 – 13 () 14 - 15 () 16 – 17 () 18 + ()

2. Gender : Male () Female ()

3. What is your highest level of education?

Below Class3 () Class 4 – 8 () F1 – F2 () F3 – F4 ()

4. Whom do you stay with in your home?

Both Parents () Mother () Father () Relatives () Other ()

If you ticked other, whom do you live with?_____

5. How many are you in your family?

Less than 3 () 3 to 6 () More than 6 ()

6. Parents/Caregivers occupation

Casual labourer () Formal Employment () Self Employed () Any Other ()

If you ticked other, what work does he/she do?_____

Section B: Neglect

The following questions should be answered by putting a tick in one box which best describes how much you agree or disagree with the question. Please be as accurate as possible and take as little time as you can on each question.

QUESTION	Always (SA)	Sometimes (A)	Never (SD)	Very Rarely (D)	Not applicable (N)
Neglected Physically	1	2	3	4	5
My parents ensure that there is enough food to eat everyday					
My parents/caregivers locked me out of the house as punishment					
My parents did not give me clean clothes					
I am often punished without getting a chance to defend myself					
My parents did not ensure I went to school daily					
My parents left me alone without an adult when I was young					
My caregiver did not keep the house clean or tidy					
My caregiver did not attend parents/teachers' meetings in school					
Neglected Emotionally					
My parents are always there to support me emotionally when I am troubled					
My parents are proud when I succeed in something					
My parents/caregiver shows interest in my school progress					
My parents forgot about things they were supposed to do for me					
I was verbally abused when I made a mistake					
My parents were out until very late in the night because of work					
My caregiver does not care where I am going when I go out					
My parents were too busy to notice whether I was at home or not					

Section C: Delinquent Behaviour (Overt Delinquent / Covert Delinquent Behaviour)

Please read the statements below carefully and record your answer to each statement by ticking the best option which describes how you agree or disagree with the statement.

QUESTION	Always (SA)	Sometimes (A)	Never (SD)	Very Rarely (D)	Not applicable (N)
	1	2	3	4	5
Overt delinquency Behavior					
I have used force to get something from someone					
I have been involved in fighting with my peers					
I find myself bullying people younger than me					
I have been arrested by the police					
Covert Delinquency Behavior					
I have taken things that do not belong to me					
I have shoplifted or broken into someone's home to steal items					
I like to stay away from school					
I don't see the value of going to school					
I have used drugs and alcohol					
I have sold drugs to get money					

END

Appendix II: Focused Group Discussions

1. What do you understand by the word neglect?
2. Is child Neglect a major problem in this community?
1. What factors makes Neglect more likely
2. Are drugs easily available to teens in this community
3. What types of drugs are used or sold to teenagers in this community?
4. Which of the following are reasons teenagers use drugs in this community?
3. For those who have used drugs or alcohol, when did you first use it?
4. What can be done to solve the drug abuse problem among teenagers in this community?
5. What criminal activities are common in the area?
6. Which age group is more involved in criminal activities
7. What can be done to solve the problem of crime among teenagers in the community?

Appendix III: NACOSTI Research Permit



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Ref No: **571028**



**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

Date of Issue: **25/July/2022**

RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Ms. Njeri JILL Maina of University of Nairobi, has been licensed to conduct research in Nairobi on the topic: INFLUENCE OF NEGLECT ON DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN MUKURU SLUMS, NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA for the period ending : 25/July/2023.

License No: **NACOSTI/P/22/19163**



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Appendix IV: Letter of Introduction



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

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P.O. BOX 30197
NAIROBI
KENYA
EAST AFRICA

July 13th, 2022

The Chief Executive Officer
National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation
P. O. Box 30623-00100
Nairobi

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: INTRODUCTION- JILL NJERI MAINA (C50/36592/2020)

The above mentioned is a student in the Department of Psychology pursuing a Master of Counseling Psychology. She has completed the coursework and defended her research proposal.

This letter therefore is to introduce her to you to enable her to collect data on "INFLUENCE OF NEGLECT ON DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN MUKURU SLUMS, NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA"

Your support is highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Charles Kimamo
Chairman,
Department of Psychology

