

THE INFLUENCE OF CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM ON COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT: A CASE OF COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL IN LIMURU DISTRICT, KIAMBU COUNTY, KENYA.

BY

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DECLARATION

This research work is my original work and has not been presented for a Degree award in any University.

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DEDICATION

This Research work is dedicated to my dear wife Lucy and our lovely children Kelvin, Grace, Emmanuel and Prince for their great love and understanding, every time I had to reschedule their precious family-time to work on this Project.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMNS

CI	-	Compassion International
CIK	-	Compassion International Kenya
ICP	-	Implementing Church Partner
CDC	-	Child Development Centre
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
MDG	-	Millennium Development Goals
UNICEF	-	The United Nations Children's Fund
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme

ABSTRACT

Child sponsorship is one of the strategies adopted globally to fight poverty among the disadvantaged and impoverished in the community. Sponsorship, as a development model, began in the 1930s, and throughout the subsequent decades has evolved from a direct benefit relationship to one that benefits the broader community. Compassion international is among the leading global charities that adopted child sponsorship model in empowering local communities in fight against poverty. Compassion's sponsorship program focuses on holistic approach to poverty and focuses on four main domains namely: the spiritual, physical, socio-emotional and educational/economic needs of a child. Compassion achieves this through a partnership model with local churches.

This study sought to establish the influence of Child Sponsorship on Community Empowerment in Limuru District. The survey was conducted through interviews of the formerly sponsored youth in this region, the church leaders and Project Directors of Compassion Assisted Programs. One hundred and ten questionnaires were issued to randomly sampled formerly sponsored youth in four compassion assisted projects in Limuru District. The questionnaires that were duly completed and returned were ninety eight questionnaires which represented a response rate of 89%. The study results showed that formerly sponsored children were actively involved in the community and had significant influence at the community-level decision making process. Based on the findings of this study, it was evident that child sponsorship has a significant positive influence on the community empowerment in Limuru District in Kiambu County. Whereas education support was rated the highest in the ways Compassion's Child Sponsorship was empowering the community, inadequate funding for furthering education was cited as a common obstacles among formerly sponsored children after they left the sponsorship program. The study recommends that more funding is committed to programs that can empower the caregivers to ably take-up the responsibility of furthering the education of their children after sponsorship funding is expired.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Fighting extreme poverty and granting opportunity to the poor has been a focal point of all development agencies and governments from time immemorial. Indeed the world in a concerted effort to fight poverty developed the famous eight (8) Millennium Development Goals in year 2000 and for the first time, poverty trend began to be monitored. The world leaders highlighted the critical world needs as a whole in a short list consisting of eight major goals which are: to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, to achieve universal primary education, to promote gender equality and empower women, to reduce child mortality, to improve maternal health, to combat HIV/AIDS and malaria and other diseases, to ensure environmental sustainability, and to develop a global partnership for development (United Nations, 2008). The Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), Ban Ki-Moon stated in the MDG report United Nations, (2008) that, “in adopting the Millennium Declaration in the year 2000, the international community pledged to spare no effort to free men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty” (p.3). In order to achieve the Eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – by the target time in 2015 – various development strategies were put in place and it’s evident that much have been accomplished.

Looking back to the progress attained, it is now only 2 years to the target date, 2015 and it’s encouraging that “Preliminary estimates indicate that the global poverty rate at \$1.25 a day fell in 2010 to less than half the 1990 rate. If these results are confirmed, the first target of the MDGs— cutting the extreme poverty rate to half its 1990 level—will have been achieved at the global level well ahead of 2015” -United Nations (2012)

Way before the adoption of the MDGs, Child sponsorship is one of the strategies adopted globally to fight poverty among the disadvantaged and impoverished in the community. Child Sponsorship, as a development model, began in the 1930s, and throughout the subsequent decades has evolved from a direct benefit relationship to one that benefits the broader community. Compassion international is among the leading global charities that adopted child sponsorship model in fight against poverty. Child sponsorship programs involve a set of monthly financial contributions to a needy child in a developing country. Monthly contributions from sponsors usually range from US\$25-\$40.

Compassion believes that while people of all ages are in need of opportunities, that need is greatest in children who are only beginning their lives and are thus extraordinarily vulnerable. According to

UNICEF's Executive Director Carol Bellamy, the worthiest investment of all is in the development and concern of the youngest children. Giving children a good start in health and education is an investment which has a high return as the children grow to be adults, provide leadership in their communities and raise their own children. They can support themselves and others finally (Mayor, 2000).

Compassion International's (CI) work has grown from modest beginnings in South Korea in 1952 when an American evangelist Rev. Everett Swanson felt compelled to help 35 children orphaned by the Korean conflict. Today, Compassion has a worldwide ministry where more than 1.4 million children are assisted to come out of poverty. Compassion International defines poverty as a condition characterized by the deprivation of basic human needs, the denial of opportunities and the deficiency of internal assets that prevent a person from realizing his basic, God-given potential (Compassion 2012). To this extent, Compassion's sponsorship program focuses on holistic approach to poverty and focuses on four main domains namely: the spiritual, physical, socio-emotional and educational/economic needs of a child. Compassion achieves this through a four programs approach: the Child Sponsorship Program, the Child Survival Program, the Leadership Development Program and Complementary Interventions. Compassion adopts a partnership model with local churches and it's through this partnership that a Child Development Centre (CDC) is set up within where the holistic development program is a carried out.

Throughout Compassion's sponsorship programs, the sponsored children are taken through an age-graded development curriculum from zero-age (pre-birth) to maximum age of 22 years. Exceptionally bright students are offered university scholarship through the Leadership Development program. The principle objective for all Compassion assisted children is that at the end of their stay in the program, they would become fulfilled and responsible Christian adults. Currently Compassion International sponsors over 1.4 million children across 28 developing countries. Kenya is among the 28 countries.

In Kenya, Compassion's work began in 1980. Currently, Compassion Kenya has developed its program models to benefit children from poor families in the country and so far, there are over 90,000 sponsored children spread out in 24 counties in Kenya. Kiambu County is among the areas that Compassion Kenya operates. By 2013, Compassion Kenya has established 13 Child Development Centres in Limuru district with over 3380 sponsored children on board. For purposes of this study, the researcher focused on formerly sponsored children who had been departed from the program at least 10 years ago. The 10 years

post-sponsorship period was believed to be adequate time for the youths to have settled and influencing their respective communities. Retrospectively therefore, the study targeted formerly sponsored youth who were departed from the program in year 2002 or earlier.

According to data received from Compassion Kenya office, by the year 2002, Compassion International was sponsoring 2,135 Children in (4) four Child Development Centre (CDC) across Limuru cluster in Kiambu county. These were spread out as follows: Thigio CDC 582 children, Nderu CDC 578 children, Kamangu CDC 498 children and Tiekunu CDC 477 children. During the same year, 895 Children had been departed from the program after attaining the maximum age of 22 or after acquiring livelihood skills that would enable them to be self-sustaining.

Compassion (2012) has defined “impact” as the fundamental long-term changes occurring in children, families, sponsor/donors, churches and communities as a result of the program activities. They are changes that are manifested in the time period after completing work with the children, church partners and sponsors/donors. Through this study, the researcher sought to understand how Compassion’s Child Sponsorship program has impacted on the lives of children who have gone through this program and how this has translated into empowering the communities where they came from. The primary respondents in this study comprised of two categories namely the children/youth who were in sponsorship program at least by 2002 on the one hand and the leadership of Compassion’s church partners and Compassion’s child development Centres in Limuru District on the other.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) originally appeared in the mid nineteenth century. After the Second World War, and with the creation of the United Nations, the need and place for a consultative role for organizations that were neither governments nor member states was recognized. With this recognition, NGO’s have since become increasingly more important to global development. They often hold an interesting role in a nation’s political, economic or social activities, as well as assessing and addressing problems in both national and international issues, such as political, human-rights, economic development, health care or the environment.

International NGOs involved in their development agenda face enormous obstacles in repairing the social and economic fabric of the communities. These organizations cannot solve the major problems in the

communities on their own, but they provide the essential building blocks for doing so. Partnership is one winning strategy that NGOs have adopted to ensure successful implementation of their programs. Such partnerships include partnership with the national Governments or with the local communities or other organized institutions in the community.

The organizations that operate on their own without effective partnership with the local organizations, institutions and authorities have only limited success in empowering communities through their programs. They can win some victories, but they often have difficulty sustaining their accomplishments. This limitation is due in part to the organizations' inability to develop strategies for strengthening their base and moving on to new issues. But, it is also due to the fact that the resources or authority needed to address problems in the communities where they operate are not available at the community level, and often not even at the national level.

International NGOs have succeeded in various goals as far as their programs are concerned. Some organizing networks have built countrywide partnerships to address community-level issues and change laws, regulations, and priorities. But the hard truth is that despite the increased number of international organizations operating in Kenya to empower communities, a greater proportion of people living in the communities in which they operate or have operated in are still languishing in poverty. For every international organization's program that succeeds in empowering communities, there are many that do not. International organizations that do win important local victories are not always capable of building on their success and moving on to other issues and larger problems. For the most part, despite local success and growth, community-based organizing has been unable to affect the local agenda—or, in most cases, even the national agenda. As a result, they often improve only marginally the conditions of life in many rural communities.

Compassion International as major NGO has been in operation in Kenya since 1980. Acknowledging her limitations, Compassion has adopted a partnership model with local evangelical churches to reach out to the needy children in the communities. Whereas there has been valuable prior research on child sponsorship programs by NGOs and community empowerment and what this sponsorship has meant to individual member of the community, there has been no research on sustainable community empowerment as a result of child sponsorship programs. Equally, it's worth noting that whereas Compassion International has a clear graduation process for individual children under her Sponsorship

program, such criteria is missing in regard to a particular operational region Therefore, the purpose of this study was to assess the influence of Child sponsorship program by Compassion International on Community Empowerment.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to establish the influence of Compassion International's Child Sponsorship program on Community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County, Kenya.

1.4 Objectives of the study

- i. To establish the extent to which capacity building by Compassion International's child sponsorship program has contributed to community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County.
- ii. To establish the influence of Compassion International's child sponsorship program on community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County
- iii. To examine the role played by the partnerships that Compassion International has established with local organizations on community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County.

1.5 Research Questions of the Study

- i. What is the influence of the child development programs initiated by Compassion International on community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County?
- ii. To what extent has capacity building by Compassion International's child sponsorship program influenced community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County?
- iii. How do the Partnerships that Compassion International has established with local churches influence community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County?

1.6 Significance of the study

The study sought to provide insights into important partnership issues between NGO and local community. It endeavored to measure levels of empowerment from various aspects of the child sponsorship programs in the county. Information is especially needed regarding the appropriate approaches to community empowerment that will have policy implications. The study may therefore be useful for NGOs, government and communities in so far as promoting their partnership in community

development as well as a model or benchmark study for individuals and institutions regarding empowerment.

The study attempted to develop empowerment models, strategies and tools for developing rural communities. The study looked into the roles of NGOs, donor agencies, the local community and local authority in community development. All in all, the study sought to unlock and make way for effective poverty reduction strategies based on current perspectives which can be applied widely to handle MDGs and harmonize cooperation among the key actors: civil society, the governments, and people. The findings of the study may also be valuable to scholars and academicians on community development and similar areas of study.

1.7 Delimitations of the study

The study was only conducted in Limuru District, Kiambu County. Beneficiaries of Compassion International Child Sponsorship program in other towns in Kenya did not take part in the study. To this extent, the information generated should be treated with caution due to the difference in the prevailing social and economic conditions. Compassion International is a household name in Limuru District. With most families having interacted with the Compassion Program in one way or another, the researcher did not struggle to identify respondents and collection of required data.

1.8 Limitations of the study

The study was limited by the amount of information obtained from the beneficiaries of the Compassion International Child Sponsorship program. Some of the respondents did not provide detailed information to the researcher thus holding back some of the key information required by the researcher. The researcher desired to have face-face interviews with the respondents but some of the respondents were difficult to find for such interviews. This made data collection difficult. To circumvent this challenge, the researcher administered online questionnaires to the respondents and information was collected through Google Drive.

1.9 Assumption of the study

The study made the following assumptions:

It assumed that the respondents chosen for the study answered the questions as asked correctly and truthfully.

It also assumed that the targeted local community would co-operate and agree to talk about their living standards as well as the programs they are involved in and how they have benefited from them.

The proposed study also assumed that social and political conditions in the area of study would be favorable for data collection.

1.10 Definitions of Significant Terms

- Child sponsorship program** - The act of giving material support by a donor or a sponsor to a child in need through an agency
- Development** - The social and economic advancement in a particular society or community.
- Donors/sponsors** - Individuals or organizations that give financial or material aid for the purpose of improving social and economic development of the sponsorship beneficiaries in a particular society.
- Community Empowerment** - Multi-dimensional social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power in people for use in their own lives, their communities and in their society, by acting on issues they define as important.
- Local Community** - A group of interacting people sharing an environment. In human communities, intent, belief, resources, preferences, needs, risks, and a number of other conditions may be present and common, affecting the identity of the participants and their degree of cohesiveness.
- Church Partner** – The specific Churches who have entered into partnership with Compassion International to conduct the Child Sponsorship Program

Compassion International - An organization that works in partnership with local churches and assists projects with funds so that they are able to give school fees, educational resources, spiritual, social and physical support to the sponsored students.

1.11 Organization of the study

This study is organized in five chapters; chapter one focuses on background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations of the study, delimitations, assumptions, and definitions of significant terms. Chapter two focuses on literature review, which is discussed as follows; the Child sponsorship programs, community empowerment, theoretical framework, conceptual framework and summary of literature review.

Chapter three describes the research methodology that was used in the study, it is divided into the following topics; research design, target population, research instruments, validity of research instruments, reliability of research instruments, data collection procedure and data analysis. Chapter four will focus on data analysis and interpretation. Chapter five is the last and final chapter and in this we discuss the summary of research findings, conclusions, recommendations and suggestions for further research in the area of study.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the literature and empirical reviews the nature and interplay of child sponsorship and community empowerment. The chapter further presents the theoretical framework and the conceptual framework.

2.2 Child sponsorship Program

Child sponsorship programs involve a more long-lasting commitment than other types of charitable donations. Child sponsorship programs encourage an individual to sponsor a child until the child becomes self-sufficient or self-supporting. The sponsors provide monetary support intended to improve the cognitive, physical health, security and social emotional well-being of the sponsored children over a period of years or decades. A donor typically selects an individual child to be sponsored based on background information assembled by the charity. The charitable organization often delivers the benefits to the sponsored children and manages direct communication between the sponsors and their sponsored children, largely through translating, forwarding (and potentially censoring) letters. Apart from providing food, water, clothing, accommodation, medicine and education to the needy children directly, some charities also use donations to help communities through building a school or hospital (Peltier et al., 2002).

Child sponsorship programs involve a set of monthly financial contributions to a needy child in a developing country. Monthly contributions from sponsors usually range from US\$25-\$40. The Compassion program is fairly typical in its application of funds to sponsored children. Funds are applied either directly towards the child's education, food, and health expenses, or to support projects or programs in which the child participates and benefits. In the Compassion program, an important focus of the latter is the spiritual, social, and emotional development of sponsored children. Sponsors play a role in this process, and are encouraged to exchange letters and photos with their child. Sponsors often give their sponsored children gifts for birthdays and Christmas, and even visit them in their home countries. This sponsor-child relationship typically continues until the child finishes secondary school or is married (Campbell, 1999) or has attained a maximum age of 22 when he is departed from the program.

According to a study conducted by Plan International (2008) on the Development Impact of Child Sponsorship, there exist anecdotal examples of positive effects of the sponsorship relationship on sponsored children, motivating them in their education, school attendance and personal development. Children were identified who showed greater awareness of other countries and cultures, and heightened writing and communication skills. In particular, those children who had regular correspondence with their sponsor(s) over a period of time, who attended school, and who had stable and supportive home environments, appeared most able to reap these benefits from sponsorship. In the Philippines, for example, sponsored children were identified who have been motivated to learn and attend school, and who have been inspired by having someone from another country who cares about them. Some parents also reported positive emotional effects from their relationships with sponsors.

While Child Sponsorship encompasses much more than education, the value of offering a helping hand to a child in need with bid to help them find a bearing in life is a welcome gesture both from the public and the private venture. The American Government for example runs The Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Scholarship Program which provides education opportunities to children orphaned or made vulnerable due to HIV/AIDS pandemic. Eligible beneficiaries are selected by the Ministry of Education, the Department of Children Services and APHIA II Programs. Scholarships cover tuition fees, registration fees, basic stationery, textbooks, school, boarding costs, examination and research fees, cost of practicum, and other miscellaneous costs such as transport, medical fees, or activity fees. Between 2008 and 2013, the American Government provided a massive budget of \$10,119,640 towards this program.

In the private sector, The Equity Group Foundation, a constituent of Equity Group rolled out the 'Wings To Fly' Program in 2010. This is a nine year initiative that is providing comprehensive secondary school education and leadership training to 5,600 academically gifted yet economically and socially marginalized young Kenyans. The program defines social and economic vulnerability to include students who have lost one or both parents, students whose parents are living with HIV or chronic illnesses, families affected by disaster such as famine and all who are unable to educate their children. This program provides more than access to tuition for secondary school – it provides mentorship, counseling and social support to ensure young people are given all the tools they need for success. In providing this opportunity to Kenyan children who may have otherwise gone unnoticed, the **Wings To Fly** secondary school scholarship

program is in line with Kenya's Vision 2030 to transform Kenya into a middle-income economy led by well-educated and trained citizens.

According to Bruce (2011) there has been no previous accounting of the number of internationally sponsored children worldwide. From the level of sponsorship officially claimed by various organizations, it is estimated that there are currently 8.36 million internationally sponsored children in the world today. Compassion is ranked 3rd top largest organizations with 1.05 million sponsored children (this number has grown to 1.4 Million by 2012) after World Vision with 3.6 million children and Plan International at 1.5 million children. Among the top ten largest charities, virtually all are based in the United States and Europe, and two of the largest three are faith-based as are four of the largest ten.

A study by Bruce (2008), on the impact of child sponsorship, revealed that the sponsors' assistance improved the living standards of the recipients. His research findings concurred with those of Compassion (2010), when the organization studied the adult lives of previous sponsored children and compared them with their siblings who were too old to be eligible for the program. Their conclusions were that child sponsorship increased formal education levels by nearly three years from a base of 8.37, raises the probability of formal employment to 72 percent from 55 percent, and increases the likelihood of white collar employment to 31 percent from 19 percent. Sponsorship also decreased teenage marriage and childbearing and church leadership involvement. More modest findings indicated that adults who benefited from child sponsorship also lived in better-built houses, were more likely to use mosquito nets (as a means to ward off disease such as malaria) and smoke and drank less. Whereas this study expressed clearly that sponsorship does empower an individual to be more competitive in the society, it however did not explore how this overall translated in the broad community where these individuals came from.

According to Thomas (2008), sponsorship comes as a result of poverty with an aim of trying to improve the status of the poor. He warns that several hundred million of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people risk ending up soon on the economic scrapheap. If present policies continue, the risk will exist across much of the developing world. It may seem a bold claim until one examines the nature of modern poverty and the commercial and political forces which perpetuate it and are deepening the global economic divide. He tried to investigate how global policies have come to threaten national economies

and, through them, the survival of hundreds of millions of poor rural people and their ways of life. Under globalization, poor countries, and the poorest people in other countries, have been marginalized.

To understand the role of sponsorship in reducing poverty, different scholars have sought to explain the concept of poverty. Contrary to popular belief, poverty is not a simple phenomenon, and cannot be easily defined; it is rather a multidimensional concept and a lot of theoretical work and data are needed in order to define and measure it. Indeed poverty is a complex and elusive concept and there is no consensus on how poverty should be measured. However, the World Bank (2002) summarizes the various conceptions of poverty and using a basic needs approach the World Bank provides a simple definition of poverty which views the phenomenon as multidimensional and a situation in which people are unable to fulfill their basic human needs as well as lack of control over resources, lack education and skills, poor health, malnutrition, lack of shelter, poor access to water and sanitation, vulnerability to shocks, violence and crime and the lack of political freedom and voice. For ease of comparison, the Bank uses “reference lines set at \$1 and \$2 per day in 1993 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) terms This measure could be crude but it is used by many international agencies and its clarity and simplicity lend it to an obvious virtue. Other definitions are based on the numbers of people who are hungry or malnourished.

IFAD (2006) further builds on the picture of poverty by pointing out that in as much as the poor are found both in the urban and rural areas; the overwhelming majority of the very poorest people are actually rural. The poorest of the rural poor generally live in remote areas and are isolated in every sense. They have meager holdings or access to land, little or no capital and few opportunities for off-farm employment. Labor demand is often insecure and seasonal. The poor include large numbers of subsistence and near subsistence farmers, who grow all the food that their households eat or only purchase a limited amount in exchange for produce that they sell. Such people earn little monetary income, but they are not necessarily worse off than those who grow no foods themselves.

Compassion (2012) defines poverty as living on less than \$2 per day so that you cannot afford food or safe water. It means being denied the chance of a better future or not believing that a better future is even possible. It recognizes four concepts in relation to poverty namely: (a) Poverty is a state of material deprivation, (b) External obstacles or denial of opportunities that prevent a person from escaping poverty, (c) Deficiency of internal assets (for example hope or optimism, impaired physical health etc) can prevent

a person from prevailing against poverty, (d) Deficiency of Basic God-given potential, which describes minimum standards for life. Compassion believes that whatever the manner in which lack of opportunity manifests itself, the creation of opportunity is the beginning of hope. Eventually it helps in empowering people to eventually overcome the dire circumstances in which they live (Compassion, 2010).

Compassion's empowerment model is rooted in seeking to alleviate the various forms of poverty as demonstrated above. To this extent, Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program seeks to avail material support to the children in poverty in form of payment of school fees, equipping children with livelihood skills and provision of basic social amenities.

2.3 Empowerment

World Bank (2006) defines empowerment "as a group's or individual's capacity to make effective choices, that is, to make choices and then to transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes. According to World Bank, an exploration of local terms associated with empowerment around the world include self-strength, control, self-power, self-reliance, own choice, life of dignity in accordance with one's values, capable of fighting for one's rights, independence, own decision making, being free, awakening, and capability. In its broadest sense, the World Bank indicates empowerment is the expansion of freedom of choice and action. It means increasing one's authority and control over the resources and decisions that affect one's life. As people exercise real choice, they gain increased control over their lives. Poor people's choices are extremely limited, both by their lack of assets and by their powerlessness to negotiate better terms for themselves with a range of institutions, both formal and informal. Since powerlessness is embedded in the nature of institutional relations, in the context of poverty reduction an institution definition of empowerment is appropriate (World Bank, 2002).

Empowerment is the expansion of assets and capabilities of poor people to participate in negotiate with, influence, control, and hold accountable, institutions that affect their lives (World Bank, 2002). Parpart et al (2002) asserts that empowerment is a process of developing individual capacities through gaining education and skills in order to empower individuals to fight for a better quality of life. According to Dreze and Sen, (2009) poverty is an indication of the inability of people to meet their basic needs, whether physical or more intangible, through participation, empowerment and community life. Dreze and Sen (2009) quotes Batliwala (2004) who warned that 'empowerment', which had virtually replaced terms such as poverty alleviation, welfare and community participation, was in danger of losing its

transformative edge. According to Batliwala (2004), empowerment is the process of challenging existing power relations and of gaining greater control over the sources of power.

2.3.1 Community Empowerment

Friedmann (2002) asserts that community empowerment is the creation of access to social and economic resources. Poverty results from lack of access to essential resources, not only economic but also political and social resources. This being so, some writers claim that politics, not planning, is the major process by means of which needs should be identified and responses for them should be located (Marris, 2007; Hajer, 2009).

The term community empowerment hints at the possibility that in a certain sense it is the community itself, and not only the individuals who belong to groups or organizations that comprise it, that undergoes an empowerment process. The Community has common critical characteristic and has a meaning of a life that is more egalitarian, participatory and intimate than life in society at large, which demands the objectification of man and anonymous obedience to authority and law. The community as an image is a kind of antithesis of the bureaucratic, hierarchical, formal and judiciary society. The concept is to a certain extent abstract, but at the same time concrete, because it operates in the geographical, the ethnic, and the functional sense. The need for a community is a need to live together, to trust, and to communicate. In the middle Ages the concept commune was used to describe a settlement with an independent identity and government. In English, community and communication are derived from the same root (Handler, 2009). There are several approaches to community: A utopian approach oriented to a vision of a future community whose members will be able to fulfill their human and social potential. This approach draws its inspiration from the utopians of the 19th century. Although it is far from the idyllic scene of adults and children who are cultured, educated, strong, healthy, and possess high moral qualities, who group together in a rural setting to grow vegetables and weave clothes, it too preaches egalitarianism and autarchy. The separation from society at large is necessary in order to realize important social goals of the members (Friedmann, 2007).

A rehabilitational approach, which focuses on the situation of ethnic minorities, and more recently also of other minorities, such as the disabled (Dolnick, 2003). On this view, the community struggles with life beside a different and sometimes hostile society, and grapples with the dilemma of integration into this

society. Here too a utopian vision exists: to revitalize the intimate and supportive community in which, more by necessity than because they want to, people whom the society isolates and discriminates against live today- O'Sullivan, (2004); Rivera & Erlich, 2004, Cendeluci, (2005).

A social approach which redefines community and departs, perhaps too sharply from the traditional community as it used to be (Warren, (1975). The new community is a social collective entity, and the image appropriate to it is one of people with common problems and generally a common dependence on service providers. This is a community which does not include all the aspects of existence, but responds to those needs in people's lives for the sake of which it was created (Reinharz, (1984). Parents of children with Down's syndrome can create a community for themselves to deal with all aspects of their lives as parents of these children: the care, the raising and the development of the child. However, they may also have life interests which they do not share with this community (Handler, 1990).

2.3.2 Duality of Structure Dynamics in Empowerment Processes

In his theory of Structuration Giddens (1984) observed that duality of structure is an important dynamic aspect of the empowerment process: empowerment potential exists not only in terms of people's personal resources and abilities, but also in terms of the rules and regulations of the social structure. Giddens' strong connection between social structure and human agency reinforces the theoretical explanation of the way community empowerment contributes to individual empowerment.

Hence, empowerment may be compared to a circular process of social change and activation of abilities and resources, in which human agents in need of empowerment act together with empowering human agents. The social structure that is produced by means of this activity includes preservation and reproduction of elements from the existing social structure, and a moral process of critical social analysis.

2.3.3 Community Empowerment through NGO initiated Programs

World Bank (2002) defines "Empowerment" as the expansion of assets and capabilities of poor people to participate in, negotiate with, influence, control, and hold accountable, institutions that affect their lives" (World Bank, 2002, p. 11).

Community empowerment is realized through organizations, and may be defined and identified by them. Community organizations exist at all levels of organization, starting from support and task groups through to volunteer organizations and social protest movements. The level and the sophistication of the organizations certainly have an important role in empowerment, but the very existence of community organizations, their number and their deployment over the various life domains point to the realization of community empowerment.

The Non-Governmental Organizations' (NGO) ability to 'empower' individuals and communities has been an important part of the enthusiasm with which NGOs have been greeted. Since the early 1990s, the term 'empowerment' has become one of the key buzzwords in development policy. Notwithstanding, "Empowerment" is a term with diverse and contested meanings. At the heart of the concept is the idea of having greater power and therefore more control over one's own life.

Lewis 2007 argues that the role of NGOs and what they actually do can be summarized broadly in terms of three main overlapping sets of roles: those of implementers, catalysts and partners. The implementer role is defined as the mobilization of resources to provide goods and services, either as part of the NGO's own project or programme or that of a government or donor agency. The role of catalyst is defined as an NGO's ability to inspire, facilitate or contribute towards developmental change among other actors at the organizational or the individual level. This includes grassroots organizing and group formation. The role of partner encompasses the growing trend for NGOs to work with government, donors and the private sector on joint activities as well as the complex relationships which have emerged among NGOs, for example 'capacity building'

Townsend et al (1999) has argued that while it is often claimed that NGOs can 'empower' communities, in reality this is not the case. This is because empowerment is something that comes from within. While NGOs may be able to provide a context within which a process of empowerment is possible, it is only individuals who can choose to take those opportunities and to use them. For example, illiteracy is often regarded as an obstacle to participation in wage work and political life. NGOs may be able to provide facilities and teachers to help individuals develop their literacy skills, but individuals themselves have to want to participate and to use their newly-acquired skills. This does not mean that disadvantage and exclusion are the fault of individuals, there are clearly structural constraints, but it does mean that NGOs

cannot be viewed as direct channels for empowerment; rather they can help set up conditions within which individuals and group can empower themselves.

Staudt et al (2002) conclude that the empowerment serves as a local grassroots catalyst creating dreams among poor people. In international organizations, empowerment has become the new adjective that embellishes many education, income generation, and service projects.

Since empowerment is a process which can be set in motion only by the people concerned themselves, community organizations can provide the climate, the relations, the resources and the administrative means that enable people to achieve more control of their lives; in other words, community organizations create empowering environments. While the environment that promotes individual empowerment is more intimate, involving interpersonal relations in a group framework, in an environment that promotes community empowerment the organizational aspect is conspicuous in two dimensions. The climate, the relations, the resources and the procedures that are established between the organization and its environment, which includes the community, other organizations in the community and outside it, and other factors that the organization decides to exert its influence on in order to achieve its goals (Simon, 1990). If so, it is not only the organization's success that signifies the community empowerment process; the very existence of community organizations is an indication of the process. In this context it is important to remember the warning against the use of success criteria as signs of empowerment, for success can be defined in more than one way, and an attempt to define it objectively and professionally may have disempowering effects (Rappaport, 2004).

Community empowerment is realized through organizations, and may be defined and identified by them. Community organizations exist at all levels of organization, starting from support and task groups through to volunteer organizations and social protest movements. The level and the sophistication of the organizations certainly have an important role in empowerment, but the very existence of community organizations, their number and their deployment over the various life domains point to the realization of community empowerment.

2.3.4 Capacity Building

Capacity building is a strategy of both local and international Non-governmental organizations that helps to bring about sustainable community development through their programs. Capacity building is an approach to development that builds independence. Frankish (2003) has counted a number of dimensions for community capacity including financial capacity (resources, opportunities and knowledge), human resources (skills, motivations, confidence, and relational abilities and trust) and social resources (networks, participation structures, shared trust and bonding).

According to UNDP (1997), capacity building as the process by which individuals, groups, and organizations increase their abilities to: perform core functions, solve problems, define and achieve objectives; and understand and deal with their development needs in a broad context and in a sustainable manner. Furthermore, in terms of NGOs' functions, Langran (2002) has defined capacity building as the ability of one group (NGOs) to strengthen the development abilities of another group (local communities) through education, skill training and organizational support.

Capacity building is an approach to development not a set of pre-determined activities. There is no single way to build capacity. Although experience tells us that there is a need to work across the key action areas, practitioners approach each situation separately to identify pre-existing capacities and develop strategies particular to a program or organization, in its time and place. NGOs, through the provision of education, skill and knowledge, develop the capacity of community towards achieving sustainable development. In fact, NGOs act as a capacity builder to help the community to develop the resources, building awareness, motivating to participation in project and finally improving the quality of community's lives.

A link to empowerment is frequently cited as one of the reasons for and outcomes of community capacity building. Empowerment is discussed at the level of individual empowerment (changes in skills, knowledge, consciousness and awareness, hope, action and beliefs in abilities to affect change) and changes in wider social structures and processes that result in increased resources and opportunities. Furthermore, with regards to sustainability, capacity building has been identified in much sustainable development policy as one of the key strategies for increasing the potential towards sustainable development.

Many researchers argue that building community capacities and fostering empowerment are more effective ways of achieving sustainable community development than programs and success indicators imposed by outside experts. They point out that outside experts usually have limited knowledge and understanding of the particular context, needs and issues of a community. Local solutions to achieving sustainable community and economic development are therefore seen as important outcomes of a capacity-building approach. For example, to increase the people's participation in order to achieve sustainable development, many issues should be considered, such as skills, leadership, knowledge, physical resources and stakeholder representativeness.

Compassion (2012) acknowledges Capacity building as a means, process and ends. Compassion sees capacity building as enabling her church partners to fulfill the child development model facilitated by Compassion (means) in the partnership; it brings coherence between mission, structure and activities (process); and it strengthens partners to survive and empowers them to fulfill their mission (ends). This requires a long-term perspective which happens through multiple channels, including vision-casting, reflection, training, etc. Building capacity with individuals or whole organizations involves being supportive of them in their own learning and development. Doing so requires that Compassion staff serve as facilitators, process guides and resource persons; thus supporting people in doing things themselves. Enabling people to work through this process is the heart of capacity building.

2.3.5 Self-reliance

The primary objective of Compassion's child sponsorship programs is to enable children become self-reliant in the future. Self-reliance is the ultimate goal for any development agency that seeks to promote sustainable community empowerment. Effective community empowerment sits on the foundation of self-reliance. The concept of self-reliance is strategically situated within the essence of community development and is related to other concepts like mutual-help, self-help, participation of the indigenous people and rural progress. Self-reliance encourages the necessity for individuals to use local initiatives, their abilities and their own possessions to improve their condition. Fonchingong and Fonjong (2002) have pointed out that self-reliance is increasingly being adopted as modus operandi for community development.

According to Kelly (2002), through self-reliance, people rely on their own resources and are independent of funds sourced outside the community. Self-reliant strategy of child sponsorship programs relies on the willingness and ability of the local people to depend on their own available resources and technology which they can control and manage.

A self-reliant strategy requires the optional use of all available human, natural and technological resources (Agere 2002). Although dependence on the state maybe desirable in the short term, it should not be a long term objective, because the aim of the community development must ultimately be self-reliance. Reliance on external resources will lead to the loss of autonomy and independence of the community. On the other hand, autonomous communities can flourish only in the absence of such external dependency.

To attain self-reliance, community organizations groups must discover their own potential and look for ways to innovatively develop such discovered potential to use as sources of wealth for the development of the community (Ife and Tesoriero 2006). Motivating and mobilizing people to be self reliant and to participate in development activities become an important objective of the NGOs.

According to Korten (2009), the second strategy of the development organizations focuses on developing the capacities of the people to better meet their own needs through self-reliant local action. In the second generation strategy, (Korten (2009) mentioned that the local inertia is the heart of problem in a village or community. There is a potential energy in a community but remains inactive because of the inertia of tradition, isolation and lack of education.

But this inertia can be broken through the intervention of an outside change agent (NGOs and other agents) who helps the community realize its potentials through education, organization, consciousness raising, small loans and the introduction of simple new technologies. It is the stress on local self-reliance, with the intent that benefits will be sustained by community self-help action beyond the period of NGO assistance (Korten (2009). Therefore, NGOs, through the strategy of self-reliance, can facilitate sustainable development of the community.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

This study is anchored on Giddens theory of empowerment, according to Giddens (1984), the potential for empowerment, like one's very humanity, exists in everyone, and the ability to make a difference is a component of human existence. Systematic and permanent limitation of one's ability to exert power is a negation of one's very humanity. The contextual theory confirms the connection between the private and the political. It analyzes individual issues in social life politically. The individual interprets the politics of her life on the basis of the knowledge available to her about political achievements in the social domain. In the Western democracies, people are conscious of certain social values. They know that there exists a fundamental demand for autonomy and free independent functioning; and also that freedom and responsibility co-exist socially in a certain balance. Although people are not free in any absolute sense of the word, they are supposed to be free from limitations and conditions of exploitation, inequality and oppression.

On the individual level a private political response to these ideas develops; Giddens (1991) calls this life-politics. On the collective level, life politics focuses on what happens to people who have achieved a degree of consciousness and initial ability to act, and are in need of community empowerment processes in order to realize their aspirations for personal autonomy.

The individual, then, in seeking his personal political interpretation – a quest which is a result of the individual empowerment process – creates expectations for change on the social structure level. Community empowerment takes place when expectations for change which have accumulated in the social structure in the form of abstract structures begin to materialize. In other words, one could say that individual empowerment creates a reservoir of community potential. Beyond this potential, community empowerment requires resources of its own in order to be realized.

2.5 Conceptual Framework

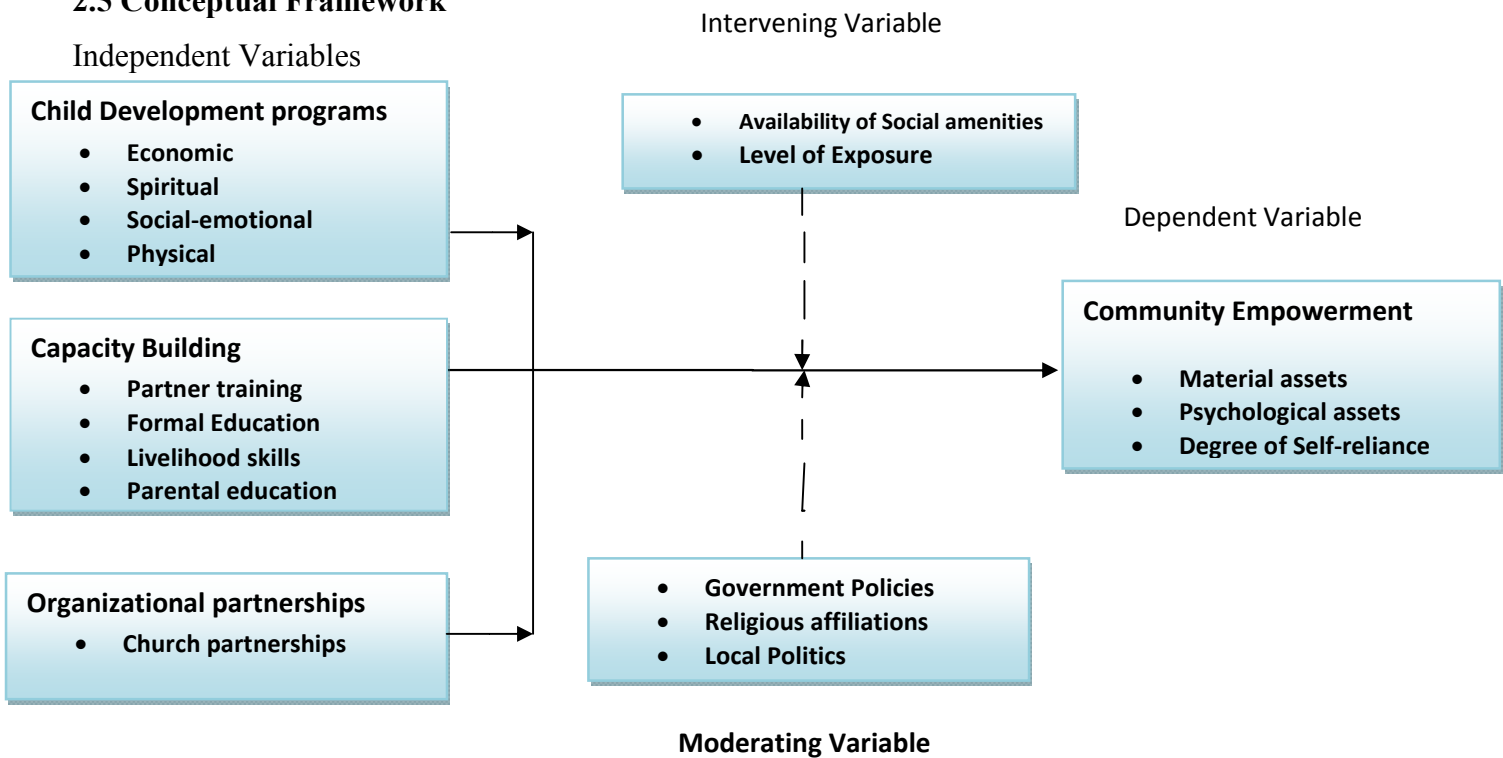


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework presents the variables in the study which contributes to community empowerment, this variable are the independent variables and they include: Self-reliance and capacity building. The dependent variable in the study is community empowerment.

2.6 Literature Gap

It is evident from the literature reviewed that many questions in the role of international organizations in empowering the local community remain unanswered, despite programs to reach out to the local community especially in the rural areas. The study sought to bring out how international organizations can empower the local community through their programs to help them live sustainable lives.

The contextual experiences of local community with international organizations, especially those involved in child sponsorship programs, although beginning to be researched remain largely unarticulated. How has the child sponsorship program initiated by Compassion international impacted on community empowerment? What are the implications of these programs for local community empowerment, social emancipation and advancement? These questions are pertinent and formed part of the core concerns of this study.

2.7 Summary of Literature Review

The literature that has been reviewed from the different researchers and authors all link up to the fact that the support that sponsors offer to children is very vital in empowering the individual children and their communities as a whole. Sponsorship majorly goes to aid those that are incapacitated in terms of finances, spiritual and social wealth.

Through the literature reviewed the various factors that influence community empowerment have been brought to the fore. It has also sought to clarify the concept and the context of poverty in which the sponsored children live. Also details of what the Compassion Sponsorship encompasses have been dealt with in depth. It has clearly shown how Compassion International sponsored program operates and in bid to create an impact or a fundamental long-term changes occurring in children, families, sponsor/donors, churches and communities as a result of the program activities. They are changes that are manifested in the time period after completing work with the children, church partners and sponsors/donors.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents research methodology that will be used during the study. It describes: research design, target population, sample and sampling procedure, research instruments, validity and reliability of research instruments, data collection procedure and data analysis techniques.

3.2 Research Design

A research design can be defined as the structure of the research. It is the core of all the different aspects of any research (Kisilu & Tromp, 2006). Orodho (2003) asserts that a research design is a plan of all the conditions and elements for the collection and analysis of data in an objective manner that is in line with the research aims. It provides a framework within which research is done. This study will be conducted as an ex-post facto study. According to Borg and Gall (1997), ex-post facto research deals with research variables that have already occurred and hence they cannot be deliberately arranged and manipulated through the intervention of the researcher. The research variables affecting community empowerment in Limuru District have already occurred hence ex-post facto research design is the most suitable design for the study.

3.3 Target Population

Population in statistics is the specific population about which information is desired. According to Field (2005), a population is a well-defined or set of people, services, elements, and events, group of things or households that are being investigated. This definition ensures that population of interest is homogeneous. In this study, the target population will consist of twelve Implementing church partners of Compassion International and the formerly sponsored children in Limuru community who had attained a post-primary level of education and had since been departed from the sponsorship program.

Data obtained from Compassion International Kenya database indicates that upon registration, every sponsored child is assigned on numeric order an identification number starting at 0001. Upon completion of primary education, the sponsored children are assigned a different number numerically starting from 8000 to signify graduation to a post-primary level of education. According to Compassion International Kenya database, the number of formerly sponsored children who had been assigned the 8000 number

from the four target projects stood at 403 as of December 2012. The study sought information from 110 formerly sponsored youth which represents 27.3% which is well above 10% threshold recommended by Mugenda and Mugenda (1999)

3.4 Sample size and Sampling Procedure

A sample is a small proportion of the target population selected for analysis. (Borg and Gall, 1989) The main purpose of a sample is to learn something about the large population of subjects by studying a smaller group of its subjects. To determine the sample for this study, the researcher employed both deliberate sampling and Area clustering sampling methods. Deliberate sampling is also known as purposive or non-probability sampling. In this method elements are selected for inclusion in the sample based on the ease of access and this method is also therefore called convenience sampling. (Kothari 2004). The research obtained a list of Compassion's implementing church partners in Limuru District from the Compassion International office in Nairobi Kenya. This list entailed 12 Implementing church partners.

Kothari 2004 observes that Cluster sampling involves grouping the population and then selecting the groups or the clusters rather than individual elements for inclusion in the sample. Area sampling is quite close to cluster sampling and is often talked about when the total geographical area of interest happens to be big one. Under area sampling we first divide the total area into a number of smaller non-overlapping areas, generally called geographical clusters, then a number of these smaller areas are randomly selected, and all units in these small areas are included in the sample. Area sampling is especially helpful where we do not have the list of the population concerned. In this study, Area sampling will was used in which the geographical region was divided into 4 clusters (projects) namely Kamangu, Thigio, Nderu and Tiekunu. These are the geographical regions where the formerly sponsored youth who qualified for this study were drawn from.

Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) suggests that at least 10% of the accessible population is adequate to serve as a study sample.

Table 3.1 Determination of study sample size

Cluster	Population Size	Sample at least 10%
Nderu	109	29
Tiekunu	94	26
Thigio	110	30
Kamangu	90	24
Total	403	110

Source: Compassion International Kenya Office

3.5 Research Instruments

The main instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire which allowed for uniformity of responses to questions. According to Mugenda & Mugenda, (2003) the questionnaire is a fast way of obtaining data as compared to other instruments. Questionnaires give the researcher comprehensive data on a wide range of factors. Both open-ended and closed-ended items were used. Questionnaires allow a greater uniformity in the way questions are asked, ensuring greater comparability in the responses. A non-comparative Likert scale was used for the closed ended questions. Brace (2004) argued that the intent of the Likert is that the statements represent different aspects of the same attitude. Likert scale is simple to construct, and easy for the respondents to read, understand and respond appropriately to the statements put across. The Likert scale also enhanced the production of highly accurate results during analysis.

3.5.1 Validity of Research Instruments

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), validity is the accuracy and meaningfulness of inferences, which are based on the research results. Validity passe' is the degree to which results obtained from the analysis of the data actually represent the phenomenon under study. To enhance content validity, the lecturers in the field of project management appraised the research instruments. External validity, which has to do with representativeness of the sample with regard to the target population, was achieved by piloting the instrument and questions that gave contrasting information were eliminated

3.5.2 Reliability of Instruments

Reliability is a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials Mugenda and Mugenda (2003). Reliability in research is influenced by random error, as

random errors increase, reliability decreases. Errors may arise from inaccurate coding and ambiguous instructions to the respondents. Reliability in this case will be determined from scores obtained from a single test administered by the researcher to a sample of subjects. A score obtained in one item will be correlated with scores obtained from other items. The reliability of the instruments determined through piloting of the instrument at least three weeks before the actual data collection.

3.6 Data collection procedures

Before initiation of the actual survey, two research assistants were identified to assist the researcher in administration of the questionnaires. The two assistants were briefed about the project and its objectives and then trained on the administration of the questionnaire to the subjects. The researcher also sought authorization from relevant authorities before embarking on the field.

3.7 Data Analysis

A comparison of data collected with theoretical approaches and documentaries cited in the literature review was done. Further, data obtained from various respondents was compared against each other in order to get more relevant on the issues under study. The Data was checked for completeness, accuracy, errors in responses, omissions and other inconsistencies and then coded using numerals in order to put them in limited number of categories. The data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 18.0 and then presented in the report in the form of tables. In addition, correlation Analysis was used to measure the degree of correlation that exists between the independent variables and the dependent variable. The coefficient of determination was generated for this purpose to measure the strength of the relationship existing between the variables.

3.8 Ethical considerations of the study

The researcher ensured that he got informed consent from the respondents before getting information from them. All respondents were informed the purpose of the study and were assured of the confidential handling of information got from them. The researcher kept the information given by the respondents confidential.

Table 3.2 Operationalization Table

Research Objective	Type of variable	Indicator	measure of indicator	Measure of scale	Type of analysis	Tool of analysis
To establish the extent to which capacity building by contributes to community empowerment	<u>Independent</u> Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of training given • Number of training sessions given 	Level of training both formal and informal	Ordinal	Table	Questionnaire
To establish the influence of child sponsorship program on community empowerment	<u>Independent</u> Child sponsorship programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of development programs initiated • Number of beneficiaries involved. • Duration of involvement in the program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of involvement of beneficiaries in community level activities 	Nominal	Table	Questionnaire
To examine the role played by the partnerships that Compassion International has established with local organizations on community empowerment.	<u>Independent</u> Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of active partnerships established • Level of commitment of these partners in child sponsorship • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existence of church partnerships actively involved in child sponsorship programs. 	Ordinal	Table	Questionnaire

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter attempted to obtain answers to the research questions. It covered the data presentation interpretation and discussion. It presents the research findings from the youth who were formerly sponsored with Compassion International in Limuru District. The findings generated enough information which can be used to answer the predetermined research questions. The study sought to establish the influence of Child Sponsorship program on Community empowerment a case of Compassion International in Limuru District, Kiambu County, Kenya. In particular, the survey sought to establish the extent to which capacity building by Compassion International's child sponsorship program has contributed to community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County, To establish the role of compassion International's child sponsorship program on community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County and the role played by the partnerships that Compassion International has established with local organizations in Limuru District, Kiambu County on community empowerment.

4.2 Response rate

The study targeted two categories of respondents namely the formerly sponsored youth in four Compassion assisted projects in Limuru district, and the church partnership leaders in 12 projects. In the first category, a total of 110 questionnaires were administered through a face-to-face interview and for those with access to internet, they were administered online through Google drive. In the second category, the researcher conducted scheduled interviews with the respondent namely the church Pastor and Project Director. The table below summarizes the response rate in each category.

Table 4.1: Category of respondents

Category	Expected Response rate	Received responses	Percentage response
Youth	110	98	89.1%
Pastors	12	8	66.7%
Project Directors	12	11	91.7%

According to Hager et al (2003) he suggests that a 50% response rate is adequate. Similarly, Mugenda & Mugenda (2003) contend that a 50% response rate is adequate, 60% good and above 70% is rated as very good. Based on these assertions, it implies that the response rate in each category of respondents for this study was adequate.

4.3 Demographic information

In this section the general characteristics of the respondents was captured. In the first category of respondents, the researcher captured their age, gender, the Compassion partnership project they belonged, the marital status, the length of duration sponsorship and the reason why they left Compassion program. The table below summaries the distribution of respondents in the target clusters.

Table 4.2: Compassion Project where the respondents were registered.

Cluster	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
KE 720	26	26.5	26.5
KE 721	22	22.4	49
KE 722	26	26.5	75.5
KE 723	24	24.5	100
Total	98	100	

The age distribution of the sample was as follows:

Table 4.3: Age in years of the Respondents

Age in Years	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
27	6	6.1	6.1
28	4	4.1	10.2
29	8	8.2	18.4
30	17	17.3	35.7
31	27	27.6	63.3
32	18	18.4	81.6
33	11	11.2	92.9
34	7	7.1	100
Total	98	100	

From the table above, majority of the respondents were aged between 30-32 years. This is indicative that the respondents are young and innovative minds that given an opportunity can greatly shape the community through peer influence and by investing their energies into constructive community initiatives.

Table 4.4: Respondents’ marital status

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Single	28	28.6	28.6
Married	66	67.3	95.9
Separated	4	4.1	100
Total	98	100	

The marital status of the respondents indicated that 28.6% of the respondents were single, 67.3% of the respondents were married and 4.1% were separated. These figures were indicative that majority respondents had basic family support that can in turn influence their contribution in the community empowerment.

4.3 The influence of Child Development programs on community Empowerment,

The researcher sought to establish the duration that the respondents had been in sponsorship program. The following table summarizes the duration in year that the respondents were involved in the sponsorship program.

Table 4.5: Respondents Duration of Sponsorship with Compassion International

Duration	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1-3 years	2	2	2
4-7 years	18	18.4	20.4
8-9 years	22	22.4	42.9
10-12 years	56	57.1	100
Total	98	100	

The majority of respondents (79.5%) had been in compassion program for between 8 and 12 years. This indicates that most respondents had spent a considerable period of time under the Compassion sponsorship program.

Table 4.6: Respondent’s Reasons of departure from Compassion sponsorship program

Reason	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Attaining maximum Age	62	63.3	63.3
Moved to non-Compassion Area	2	2	65.3
Graduated in school	26	26.5	91.8
Other	8	8.2	100
Total	98	100	

Further the study revealed that 63% of the respondents left Compassion sponsorship program after attaining a maximum age of 22 years. A further 26% had left after graduating in school. From the findings, it was evident that majority of the respondents had successfully gone through the prescribed sponsorship program of Compassion International and would thus be deemed to have attained compassion’s goal of enabling the sponsored children become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

4.3.1 The Spiritual Development component of Child Sponsorship.

Compassion program entails spiritual development of the sponsored children. To this end, the researcher sought to know the level of involvement of the respondents in church activities. 93.9% of the respondents indicated that they were members of a particular local church.

Table 4.7: Respondent’s response on their membership to a particular Local Church

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	92	93.9	93.9
No	6	6.1	100
Total	98	100	

According to a publication by UNICEF (2012), Religious actors have deep and trusted relationships with their communities and often have strong linkages with the most disadvantaged and vulnerable members. Further UNICEF acknowledges that the moral influence and extensive networks of religious institutions give them access to the most disenfranchised and deprived groups, those that international organizations and governments are sometimes less able to reach effectively. They are also grounded in philosophical frameworks that shape their call to community service into long-term commitments to achieving peace, justice and social equality. With this in mind, the researcher sought to establish the level of participation of the respondents in the church activities. The research showed that out of those who said they were members of a local church, 81.6% indicated they were very active, moderately active or active in their respective local churches.

Table 4.8 : Respondent’s response on their of level of participation in their local church

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very Active	36	36.7	36.7
Moderately Active	28	28.6	65.3
Active	16	16.3	81.6
Not Very Active	12	12.2	93.9
Inactive	6	6.1	100
Total	98	100	

As noted elsewhere in this report, the researcher sought to know the marital status of the respondents. Among the married respondents, the researcher sought to establish if they were wedded in church. 57.1% of the respondents indicated that they were wedded in church while 42.9% indicated otherwise.

Table 4.9: The rate of respondents wedded in Church

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	40	40.8	57.1
No	30	30.6	100
Total	70	71.4	
Missing System	28	28.6	
Total	98	100	

The findings above were indicative of strong commitment of the respondents to church activities and the church being a major social institution in the community, it was indicative that the respondents had an avenue of influencing the community through the church.

4.3.2 The Economic Development Component of Child Sponsorship Program.

In the economic component of Sponsorship program, the researcher sought to establish the highest level of formal education completed, the means livelihood of the respondents and the ownership of basic material assets of the respondents.

On the highest level of formal education completed by the respondents, the majority (67.3%) of the respondents had attained post-secondary school level of education, 20.4% had attained secondary education and 12.2% were schooled up to primary level. These figures show that the majority of the respondents had had post-secondary education. The figures further illustrate 100% literacy rate among Compassion sponsored children in Limuru District.

Table 4.10: Respondents highest level of formal education completed

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Primary	12	12.2	12.2
Secondary	20	20.4	32.7
Diploma level college	33	33.7	66.3
Bachelor's Degree	31	31.6	98
Master's Degree	2	2	100
Total	98	100	

Further the researcher sought to establish the housing of the respondents and they were thus requested to state the option that best described the ownership status of their house. 20.4% indicated that they still lived in the same household with their parents while 79.6% indicated that they lived on their own.

Table 4.11: Respondents living with parents/caregivers in the same household

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	20	20.4	20.4
No	78	79.6	100
Total	98	100	

During the data collection exercise, it was observed that it was observed that some respondents had own houses but shared same compound with their parents. The table below reflects the ownership status of the housing of the respondents.

Table 4.12: Respondent's House ownership status

Status	Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Fully owned	31	31.6
Rented	28	60.2
Given by parent/Guardian	25	85.7
Mortgage	14	100
Total	98	

Except for 25.5% of the respondents that indicated that they lived in houses given either by their parents or guardians, the majority (74.5%) were self-housed either by way of fully owning their houses, paying rent for their houses or by way of financing a mortgage. The figures were closely linked to the number of respondents who indicated that they were currently living with their parents where 79.6% indicated that they were living on their own.

The researcher further sought to establish the means of livelihood the respondents in terms of providing for their daily needs. 44.9% of the respondents were employed while 55.1% were in self-employment.

Table 4.13: Means of livelihood

	Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Employed	44	44.9
Self-Employed	54	100
Total	98	

In terms of stability in their current occupation both in employment and in business, only 7.1% felt fairly insecure in their employment or business venture. 25.5% felt very secure in their occupation. This related closely with the rate of employment change where 36.7% of the respondents indicated they had not changed in the past 3 years.

Table 4.14: Respondents' employment/occupation or business venture stability

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very Secure	25	25.5	25.5
Fairly Secure	44	44.9	70.4
Secure	22	22.4	92.9
Fairly Insecure	7	7.1	100
Total	98	100	

The researcher also sought to know how the respondents viewed their social status in comparison to other youth of their age in the community who were not sponsored in Compassion.

Table 4.15: Respondent’s social status in comparison to their non-sponsored age-mates

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
High	80	81.6	81.6
low	3	3.1	84.7
No difference	15	15.3	100.0
Total	98	100.0	

81.6% felt they were in higher social status while 15.3% felt there was no difference.

The researcher further sought to establish the extent to which the respondents associated their social status with Compassion sponsorship.

Table 4.16: The extent to which the respondents associated their current social status with Compassion International Child Sponsorship program.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very High extent	60	61.2	61.2
High Extent	20	20.4	81.6
Moderate extent	16	16.3	98.0
Very Low extent	2	2.0	100.0
Total	98	100.0	

Table 4.16 shows that, 81.6% to a very high and high extent associated their current social status with Compassion sponsorship program. Some 18.3% however felt that other factors had influenced in their social status more and they could therefore only associate it with Compassion only to a moderate and a very low extent

Finally on Economic development, the researcher sought to establish the ability of respondents to access credit and their ability to repay. The table below summarizes the descriptive statistics of the three variables:

Table 4.17: Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Are you in debt to anyone or to any Institution at the moment?	98	1	2	1.22	.419
How indebted would say you are at the moment?	76	1	4	3.32	.752
How would you describe your struggle (if any) in repaying any debts you have?	76	1	3	2.28	.580

The Table 4.17 above indicates that majority of the respondents were at the time of the study financing a debt. On average the respondents were fairly indebted and had a little struggle repaying. This was an indication that the respondents had a good social standing in the community so much so that they could be trusted with credit from financial institutions among other sources of credit.

4.3.3 The Socio-emotional Development Component of Child Sponsorship

The researcher sought to know how much the respondents felt they had control over decisions regarding their personal welfare. 59.2% felt that to a high degree they had full control of their lives while only 9.2% felt they had small control over decisions regarding their personal welfare, health and body.

Table 4.18: The extent to which respondents felt they had control over decisions regarding their own personal welfare, health and body.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
To a high degree	58	59.2	59.2
To a fairly High Degree	31	31.6	90.8
To a small Degree	9	9.2	100
Total	98	100	

When asked if they had one major goal they sought to achieve in life, 94.9% responded in the positive while 5.1% did not respond to this question. Among those who responded, 42.9% were confident that it was easy for them to achieve their major goal in life while 6.1% felt it would be very difficult to achieve their major in life.

Table 4.19: Respondents capacity to achieve their major goal in life

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very Difficult	6	6.1	6.5
Fairly Difficult	45	45.9	54.8
Easy	42	42.9	100
Total	93	94.9	
Missing System	5	5.1	
Total	98	100	

The researcher sought to know how much influence the respondents felt they had in community decision making process. 9.2% felt they had high level influence, 56.1% felt they had reasonable level of influence while 8.2% felt they had no influence.

Table 4.20: Respondents Influence in community level decision making processes

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
High level Influence	9	9.2	9.2
Fairly reasonable level of influence	55	56.1	65.3
Low level influence	26	26.5	91.8
No influence	8	8.2	100
Total	98	100	

4.3.4 The Physical Development Component of Child Sponsorship Program

In terms of physical health, the researcher sought to know the extent of easiness or difficulty of respondents in accessing health services when needed. 51% felt it was very easy while 4.1% felt it was very difficult.

Table 4.21: Respondent’s accessibility to health services when needed

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very easy	50	51	51
Fairly Easy	34	34.7	85.7
Fairly Difficult	10	10.2	95.9
very Difficult	4	4.1	100
Total	98	100	

The researcher further sought to know how the respondents compared in terms of cost for healthcare in the past one year, to their siblings who were not in Compassion sponsorship program. 22.4% felt they had spent much more, 26.5% said they had spent about the same, 44.9% said they had spent much less while 6.1% were not sure.

Table 4.22: How the respondents compared with their non-sponsored siblings in cost of personal health care in the past one year

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Much more	22	22.4	22.4
About the same	26	26.5	49
Much less	44	44.9	93.9
Not Sure	6	6.1	100
Total	98	100	

The researcher sought to know what the respondents thought about their ability to change things in their community. 23.5% felt if they needed to make a change in the community, it would be very easy. 29.6% felt the can influence change but with a little difficulty but 8.2% felt they can influence change but with a great deal of difficulty.

Table 4.23: Respondents view on their ability to change things in their community.

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes, Very Easily	23	23.5	23.5
Yes, fairly easily	38	38.8	62.2
Yes, but with a little difficulty	29	29.6	91.8
Yes but with a great deal of difficulty	8	8.2	100
Total	98	100	

Asked how much influence they felt they had in the decision making process within their community, 9.2% felt they had high level influence, 56.1% felt they had reasonable level of influence but 8.2% felt they had no influence at all.

4.4 The influence of Capacity Building on Community Empowerment

Compassion International (2012) defines Capacity building as a means, process and ends. It enables partners to fulfill the child development model facilitated by Compassion (means) in the partnership; it brings coherence between mission, structure and activities (process); and it strengthens partners to survive and empowers them to fulfill their mission (ends). This requires a long-term perspective which happens through multiple channels, including vision-casting, reflection and training. Further Compassion acknowledges that building capacity with individuals or whole organizations involves being supportive of them in their own learning and development. Doing so requires that Compassion staff serve as facilitators, process guides and resource persons; thus supporting people in doing things themselves. Enabling people to work through this process is the heart of capacity building and requires that they develop and buy into their own partner development goals.

In this study, the researcher sought to establish how Compassion programs had contributed to community empowerment. This question was presented to the three categories of respondents namely, the formerly sponsored youth, the pastors and the Project directors. Through content analysis, the following were ranked top 5 ways that Compassion programs were contributing to Community empowerment:

Table.4.24: Respondent’s opinion on Compassion sponsorship program’s contribution to Community Empowerment in the community.

Focus	Frequency of response		
	Youth N=98	Project Directors N=11	Pastors N=8
Availing opportunities for formal education	80	9	7
Training children on basic livelihood skills	56	5	6
Training caregivers and parenting skills	50	5	5
Provision of seed capital for Income generation	36	6	5
Improvement of infrastructure.	23	3	6

Table 4.24 indicates that formal education was ranked top in the ways that Compassion was addressing empowerment in Limuru District. The pastors who were interviewed were observed that improvement of in structure had great impact on their service delivery to the sponsored children. 100% of Pastors interviewed indicated that improvement of infrastructure included improvement of housing facilities for the sponsored children, children play facilities construction of kitchen facilities and offices, and that these had significantly improved the face of the church in the community.

4.4.1 Partner training as an aspect of Capacity building

Compassion (2012) defines partner training and development as the intentional work of Compassion to build the capacity of partner churches to be more effective in the implementation of holistic child development. It is also meant for the partner to enhance its internal capacity for mission accomplishment. To this end, Compassion has identified four programmatic outcomes as measures of effective partner training. These includes that the church Demonstrates effective vision and leadership, Mobilizes resources, Establishes efficient structures and management and Reflects local ownership.

According to Compassion (2012), the organization believes that it is the vision, commitment and capacity of the local church that will ultimately determine the effectiveness of the ministry to children as such; they make every effort to equip the church through training and developing.

In this study, the researcher sought to know how the church rated the partner training accorded to them by Compassion international. 81.8% of the interviewed project directors indicated that they had received some Professional training sessions with Compassion in the last 12 months. Equally, 90% of the interviewed pastors confirmed that they had received some training with Compassion International in the last 12 months. The table below highlights 5 top ranked areas of training which the respondents felt was significantly impacting on the church programs.

Table 4.25: Respondents’ opinion on areas of training with greater impact in their service to community

Field of Training	Frequency of response	
	Project Directors N=11	Pastors N=8
Strategic Planning	11	5
Financial Accountability and Stewardship	11	4
Biblical mandate of the Church in Child development	10	8
Child Care and Parenting skills	5	3
Child Advocacy and Protection	3	7

The Table 4.25 above indicates that parental education was ranked 4th most impacting field of training by the Project workers. It was however ranked 5th by the pastors. This could be explained by the fact that project Director interact with parents and caregivers of the sponsored children more than the pastors.

4.5 The influence of Organizational Partnership on Community Empowerment

Compassion works with local protestant churches to minister to children in poverty. Compassion (2012) emphasizes that as an organization; Compassion is cognizant of the fact that depending on how this partnership is managed, it can have tremendous influence not only in the lives of beneficiaries of the project but also in the effectiveness and impact of the church living out its biblical mandate. Nonetheless, if a partnership is not well managed, it can result in dissention among church leadership, corruption and loss of reputation of the church within the local community. UNICEF (2012) acknowledges that Partnerships are most likely to be productive where there is mutual understanding, respect, trust t, open dialogue and shared priorities. Experience in working with religious communities has highlighted the

importance of child rights actors having adequate knowledge, skills and attitudes for effective and constructive collaboration.

In this study, the researcher sought to know how the respondents defined the Compassion Partnership. A common theme across the 19 respondents (11 project Directors and 8 pastors) was that it entailed a shared vision to help the needy children in the community where Compassion provided the financial support while the church provided the human- resource and the space.

The researcher further sought to know how the respondents rated the level of community empowerment as a result of Compassion Partnership with the respective churches. The table below summarizes the views of the respondents on the following given statement:

Table 4.26: Respondents rating on Community Empowerment

Statement N=19	Less than 25%	Greater than 25% and less than 50%	Greater than 50% and less than 75%	Greater than 75%
How can you rate the level of Community Empowerment in your village as a result of your Partnership with Compassion International?	0	2	7	8
How would you rate the self-dependency of formerly sponsored youth in your community	1	3	9	6
How do you rate the influence of formerly sponsored children in community level decision making process in your community	1	5	7	6
What are the chances that formerly sponsored children can ably provide for the basic needs of their own families?	0	2	5	12

Table 4.28: The correlation of variables

Correlations						
		What is the highest level of formal education completed?	How much Influence do you feel you have in community level decision making processes?	How do you earn your living (livelihood)?	What option below best describes the ownership of your house?	To what extent do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal life?
What is the highest level of formal education completed?	Pearson Correlation	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)					
How much Influence do you feel you have in community level decision making processes?	Pearson Correlation	-.441**	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000				
How do you earn your living (Livelihood)?	Pearson Correlation	-.336**	.022	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001	.828			
What option below best describes the ownership of your house?	Pearson Correlation	.366**	-.109	-.179	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.287	.078		
To what extent do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal welfare,healthand body?	Pearson Correlation	-.469**	.318**	.312**	.148	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.001	.002	.145	

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 4.28: Model Summary: Individual development and means of livelihood

Model		R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
dimension0	1	.436 ^a	.190	.155	.460
	a. Predictors: (Constant), What option below best describes the ownership of your house? How much Influence do you feel you have in community level decision making processes? To what extent do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal welfare, health and body? What is the highest level of formal education completed?				

Table 4.29: Anova

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	4.603	4	1.151	5.449	.001 ^a
	Residual	19.642	93	.211		
	Total	24.245	97			
a. Predictors: (Constant), What option below best describes the ownership of your house?, How much Influence do you feel you have in community level decision making processes?, To what extent do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal welfare, health and body?, What is the highest level of formal education completed?						
b. Dependent Variable: How do you earn your living?						

Table 4.30: The coefficients of variable

Coefficients^a						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.989	.308		6.462	.000
	What is the highest level of formal education completed? Please tick one.	-.107	.061	-.223	-1.740	.085
	How much Influence do you feel you have in community level decision making processes?	-.122	.069	-.186	-1.769	.080
	To what extent do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal welfare, health and body?	.219	.087	.290	2.506	.014
	What option below best describes the ownership of your house?	-.076	.052	-.161	-1.474	.144
a. Dependent Variable: How do you earn your living?						

Table 4.28 presents the coefficients of model fitness on how individual child development explains the means of livelihood. The means of livelihood has an overall correlation with individual child development of 0.436 which is a strong and positive.

The regression coefficients of the predictors (child development) are presented. Results indicate that all the selected indicators were significant in explaining the means of livelihood. These results are backed by IFAD (2012) which defines Empowerment as “the ability of people, in particular the least privileged, to: (a) have access to productive resources that enable them to increase their earnings and obtain the goods and services they need; and (b) participate in the development process and the decisions that affect them. These two aspects are related; one without the other is not empowerment”.

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

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of the study findings, conclusion of the study and recommendations drawn from the study findings. The chapter summarizes the study findings based on the study objectives which included, to establish the influence of Compassion International's child sponsorship program on community empowerment, to establish the extent to which capacity building by Compassion International's child sponsorship program has contributed to community empowerment, and to examine the role played by the partnerships that Compassion International has established with local organizations on community empowerment in Limuru District, Kiambu County.

5.2 Summary of the study findings based on Study Objectives

The study considered the various indicators of community empowerment namely the material assets of the respondents, the psychological assets of the respondents and the self-reliance and how each of them was influenced by the identified independent variables.

On material asset, the study considered the property ownership, the housing of the respondents, the source of livelihood and the level of job security in their current occupations.

On psychological asset, the study considered the ability of respondents to take control of their own-lives, the level of involvement in community level decision making process and the level of formal education completed.

On self-reliance, the study considered the respondents ability to access health services when they need it, the ability to meet financial and social obligations. On financial obligation, the researcher considered the ability of respondents to access and finance credit and on social, the level of participation in the church institution and the chances of the formerly sponsored youth to ably provide for the needs of his family.

5.3 Discussions

5.3.1 The influence of child sponsorship program on community empowerment.

From the data analysis given, the study established that the different components of sponsorship program indeed impacted on the lives of the sponsored youth. The response of the individual youth attested to the

fact that those who had gone through compassion sponsorship had higher social status in the community; they spent much less on healthcare and had greater chances of being able to provide for their families. Equally, their level of involvement in the community level decision making demonstrated that they indeed were contributing to the community agenda. Looking at the level of participation in the church, it was evident that the formerly sponsored youth were critical players in matters affecting the community. Similar sentiments were given by the pastors and the project Directors who rated the formerly sponsored children above 75% in terms of their influence in the community level decision making.

5.3.2 The influence of capacity building on community empowerment.

The study revealed a significant relationship between the level of education attained and the level of the means of livelihood. As referenced in Table 4.27, the means of livelihood has an overall correlation with individual child development of 0.436 which is a strong and positive.

The regression coefficients of the predictors (child development) are presented. Results indicate that all the selected indicators were significant in explaining the means of livelihood. These results are backed by IFAD (2012) which defines Empowerment as “the ability of people, in particular the least privileged, to: (a) have access to productive resources that enable them to increase their earnings and obtain the goods and services they need; and (b) participate in the development process and the decisions that affect them. These two aspects are related; one without the other is not empowerment”.

5.3.3 The influence of organizational partnership on community empowerment.

According to Wessells, Michael and Alison Strang, (2006), the mosque, church or temple often provides children’s first point of contact with the community beyond their immediate neighbors and with wider social institutions. There, children learn not only religion but also important lessons about morals, social behavior and their own value as human beings. They also learn subtle messages about whether the world is a safe place, how to be a good person, and what their responsibilities are as members of a religious group. Their developing religious identity becomes part of the wider, collective identity that binds children and adults together into a people having a sense of collective meaning and place in the world. Through the study, the centrality of the church in shaping the character of the sponsored children was evident. The research revealed that 93.9% of the respondents were members of a particular local church. Out of these number 81.6% indicated they were very active, moderately active or active in their respective local churches. These findings were enhanced by the guided interviews with the pastors who rated church

growth very high since they started partnership with Compassion. In two of the target churches, the church leadership had expanded the church building to accommodate the big number of worshippers. UNICEF (2012) argues that the profound influence that spirituality and religion can have on children's development and socialization offers the potential to reinforce protective influences and promote resilience. The beliefs, practices, social networks and resources of religion can strengthen children by instilling hope, by giving meaning to difficult experiences and by providing emotional, physical and spiritual support.

5.4 Conclusion

The study shows that Child development is a strong catalyst for community empowerment. While different organizations have endeavored to reach out to children through other different forums, the Compassion's choice of partnering with the local churches reinforces the quality of sponsorship in holistic child development. Every major religious tradition stresses the inherent sanctity of life and dignity of every person, including the child. This translates to the importance of caring for a child's well-being and offers holistic perspectives on how that can be done. Understanding, respecting and building on these beliefs can reinforce integrated and organic early childhood development programs. Religious leaders have access to the most intimate social unit: the family, where early childhood is shaped. They can be crucial partners in providing information, guidance and support to families of young children that can promote each child's right to healthy development. By partnering with t with religious communities in child development, there are rich opportunities for confronting discrimination and promoting equal outcomes for both girls and boys. Tapping into the deeply held values of dignity and the sanctity of life shared by most faith traditions, religious partners can mobilize assets for change that no other organizations would be able to do alone.

5.5 Recommendations and areas of Further Studies

This research focused on child sponsorship as done through a faith-based partnership. Further studies can be done on influence of child sponsorship in non-faith based set-up to ascertain the role of religion in child sponsorship.

The researcher further recommends that study be done on the role of organizational structures on child sponsorship particularly on the organizational structures and processes of program implementing Partners.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Date:2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: ACADEMIC RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION

I am a student at the University of Nairobi pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in Project Planning and Management. In partial fulfillment of the requirements of this degree award, I am conducting an academic research on the *Influence of Child Sponsorship on Community empowerment* in Limuru district.

In this regard, I am kindly requesting for your assistance in responding honestly to the interview questions. I commit that all information collected shall be solely for purpose of this academic research and respondent's confidentiality and anonymity shall be maintained throughout this study.

Your assistance and cooperation is much appreciated.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Thairu Njoroge

Appendix 2: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BENEFICIARIES

Interview Date	
Name of interviewer	
Village or Area	
Questionnaire no.	

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. What is your age in years?
2. What is your gender?
 - Male
 - Female
3. In which Compassion project were you registered in?
 - KE 720
 - KE 721
 - KE 722
 - KE723
4. Marital status:
 - Married
 - Single
 - Separated
 - Divorced
 - Widowed
5. If married, were you wedded in church?
 - Yes
 - No
6. Are you currently a member of particular local church?
 - Yes
 - No
7. How would you rate your degree of participation in your local church?
 - Very Active

- Moderately active
- Active
- Not Very Active
- Inactive other

8. Highest level of formal education attained (please, mark one)

- Primary school
- Secondary school
- College Diploma
- Bachelors Degree
- Master Degree
- Other (specify).....

9. Any specific professional qualification attained? Specify.....

10. Pick the best option that describes your status at the time of recruitment into Compassion's Child sponsorship,

- Total orphaned
- Partially orphaned
- Not an orphan
- Other.....

11. Whom were you living with during your sponsorship with Compassion international?

- Parent
- Grand-parent
- Sibling
- Foster Parent
- Other (Specify).....

12. For how long were you sponsored by Compassion international?

- 1-3 years
- 4-7 years
- 8-9 years
- 10-12 years

13. Why did you leave Compassion Sponsorship program?

- Attained maximum age
- Moved out of Compassion Area
- Graduated in school
- Improved family Status
- Other.....

PART II: Economic Empowerment

14. Do you live with you parents/caregiver/guardian in the same household?

- Yes
- No

15. Does your household use any land or property (for farming/livestock/renting out etc.)?

- Yes
- No

16. What is the “ownership status” of this land?

- Self-Bought
- Family-Owned
- Leased
- Other.....

17. Do you personally use any land or property (for farming/livestock/renting out etc.)?

- Yes
- No

18. What is the “ownership status” of this land?

- Owned
- Leased
- Inherited
- Other

19. What option best describes the ownership status of your house?

- Fully Owned
- Rented,

- Given by parents/relative
- Mortgage
- Other

20. How would you describe your house? (Enumerator to describe observation)

- Permanent
- Semi-permanent
- Temporary

21. What type of sanitary services does this household use?

- Latrine
- Septic Tank
- Sewer system
- Missing

22. What is your primary source of water in your household?

- Piped
- Community well
- Rain water storage
- Other.....

23. What type of lighting do you use in your household?

- Electricity
- Solar
- Kerosene
- Other (specify).....

24. How do you earn your living?

- Employed
- Self-Employed

25. What is the nature of your main occupation?

- Skilled
- Unskilled
- Other

26. If employed, how would you categorize your employment status?

- Permanent Employed

- Temporary Employed
- Employed on a daily basis
- Working within the household

27. How often have you changed your employment/occupation in the past 3 years?

- Very often
- Fairly often
- Not very often
- Never

28. How secure do you feel in your present employment/occupation?

- Very secure
- Fairly secure
- Neither secure nor insecure
- Fairly insecure
- Very insecure

29. Have you ever borrowed money from another person or institution?

- Yes
- No

30. Are you in debt to anyone at the moment?

- Yes
- No

31. How indebted would you say you are at the moment?

- Extremely indebted
- Very indebted
- Fairly indebted
- A little indebted

32. Do you feel you struggle to repay any debts you have? Yes, I struggle

- Greatly
- A little
- No struggle

PART III: Socio-emotional Empowerment

33. Do you have one major Goal in life that you would most like to do?

- Yes
- No

34. How difficult do you think it will be for you to achieve this goal?

- Very difficult
- Fairly difficult
- Fairly easy
- Very easy

35. To what degree do you feel you have control over decisions regarding your own personal welfare, health and body?

- To a very high degree
- To a fairly high degree
- To a small degree
- Not at all

36. Where do you go on your own?

- Everywhere I want to
- Most places I want to
- Some places I want to
- Nowhere

37. How easy do you find it to access health services when you need to?

- Very easy
- Fairly easy
- Fairly difficult
- Very difficult
- Impossible

38. How easy do you find it to access education or training services when you need to?

- Very easy
- Fairly easy
- Fairly difficult

- Very difficult
- Impossible

PART IV: Physical Empowerment

39. Looking back over the past year, do you feel more or less has been spent on your personal health care compared to your other siblings that were not in Compassion Sponsorship?

- Much more
- A little more
- About the same
- A little less
- Much less
- We all spend whatever is needed for our care
- Not sure

40. Do you think this is generally the case each year?

- Yes
- No

PART V: Community Empowerment

41. Do you feel that people like yourself can generally change things in your community if they want to?

- Yes, very easily
- Yes, fairly easily
- Yes, but with a little difficulty
- Yes, but with a great deal of difficulty
- No, not at all

42. How involved do you feel in the decision-making processes within your community?

- Very involved
- Fairly involved
- Slightly involved
- Not involved at all

43. How much influence do you feel you have in community level decision-making processes?

- A great deal of influence
- A reasonable level of influence
- A low level of influence
- No influence at all

44. In terms of social-economic status, how would you rate yourself in comparison to other youth of your age?

- High
- Middle
- Low
- No difference
- Not aware

45. To what extent do you social-economic status with Compassion International's Child Sponsorship?

- Yes
- No

46. How would you rate the impact of compassion Sponsorship programs on the empowerment of your community?

- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Not aware

47. In your opinion, how has the compassion International's programs contributed to the empowerment of the community?

.....
.....

48. Are there any benefits you have realized as a result of going through the Compassion international's child sponsorship program? Please highlight your top 3

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

49. In your opinion do you think the efforts made by Compassion International will help improve the general socio-economic well-being of community members in Limuru District? Please explain your answer

Yes

No.

.....
.....

50. After leaving Compassion Program, what were the main obstacles you faced as a youth?

No obstacles

A question of self-confidence (believing in your abilities)

Unemployment

Lack of information / advice

Lack of finances to pursue further education

Others

51. State briefly how you have overcome any of the obstacles you mentioned:

.....
.....

52. In your opinion, what are the chances that formerly compassion assisted children would ably meet the basic necessities of their own families?

Very High

High

Moderate

Low

Very low

Not aware

53. Is there anything more that you would want to say in regard to this interview?

.....
.....

Thank you so much for your time and willingness to be part of this interview. May God Bless you!

APPENDIX 3: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CHURCH PARTNERSHIP LEADERS

1. How long has your church partnered with Compassion?
2. How can you define Compassion partnership in your own words?
3. How do you describe your church before Compassion partnership came in?
4. How has Compassion partnership being of help to your church congregation?
5. Has Compassion partnership accorded your church congregation any economic support and what does it entail?
6. Has Compassion partnership given social-emotional support to your congregation and what does it entail?
7. Does Compassion partnership provide physical support to your congregation and what does it entail?
8. In your opinion, how has the compassion International's programs contributed to the empowerment of the community?
9. How can you rate the level of community empowerment as a result of your partnership program with Compassion International?
10. Have you had any training with Compassion International in the last 12 months?
11. In your opinion, which areas of training do you feel have great impact on you as you serve in this community?
12. How would you rate the self-dependency of formerly sponsored children in your community?
13. What are the chances that formerly sponsored children in your church can ably provide for the basic needs of their own families?
14. How would you rate the influence of formerly Compassion assisted children in community level decision-making decision making process?
15. What notable changes in your community would you strongly associate with Compassion Sponsorship program?