

**ASPECTS THAT IMPACT THE UPSURGE OF STREET CHILDREN
IN NAIROBI TOWN, KENYA**

ALICE ANYANGO OLUOCH

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DECLARATION

This project is my original work and has not been presented for a degree or any other award in any other university.



Signature.....Date.....

ALICE ANYANGO OLUOCH

L40/32658/2019

This research Report has been tendered for examinations with my approval as university supervisor.



Signature

.....Date16/11/2021.....

DR.JULIUS KORING'URA

LECTURER

Department of Educational Administration and Planning

University of Nairobi

DEDICATION

This work is devoted to my brother, Evans Oluoch, and Sister Karen Onundo for their unbreakable support.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

N.G.O.'s	-	Non-Governmental Organizations
C.B.O.'s	-	Community based organizations
AIDS	-	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ILO	-	International Labor Organization
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children Education Fund
CIDA	-	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
EFA	-	Education for All
CSC	-	Consortium of Street Children
MHANH	-	Ministry of Home Affairs and National Heritage
KIHBS	-	Kenya Integrated House-Hold survey
KNBS	-	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

ABSTRACT

This research aimed to identify the variables that affect the number of street kids in Nairobi. The target group in the Nairobi City Street Children Rehab Facilities was 530 people, including 500 children who are homeless and 30 supervisors of the organizations that engage with children. Upon obtaining affirmative consent, children were questioned to use an organized questionnaire to find out how several of them completely reside in wastelands, reside with caretakers but spend the majority of the days on open spaces, are dual orphans, solitary orphans, have both parents, have a single mother, or have parents who are divorcing, divided or are alcoholics. The researcher assembled and arranged finished equipment before using descriptive statistics to examine the data. The explanatory statistical techniques of estimate, mean, percentages, and rates were used to assess quantitative data. Worksheets, graphs, and charts were used to communicate this fact to the audience. Next, the researcher calculated the percentages of the participants who gave data to analyze general and demographic statistics. On the other side, qualitative data was arranged and condensed into reports and opinions that were pertinent to this Research.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Children who have embraced the street (including vacant homes and the Wasteland) as their primary residence or means of subsistence and are not sufficiently safeguarded, monitored, or guided by caring adults are referred to as street kids. 250,000 youngsters in this group were thought to exist in Kenya in 2000. UN AIDS calculated that there existed over 623,000 pregnant and multiple orphans in Kenya under the age of 15(Ndiath et al., 2016). Equally, numbers are rising quickly. The upsurge of street kids in towns is a catastrophe that interest the entire world. In Nairobi, it is appraised that there are around 60000 children who reside on the public spaces. Increases in natural catastrophes, armed conflict, family dissolution, parental mortality, poor parenting, violence, and abuse against children in the community have all been allied to an increase in the percentage of street kids in Nairobi.

The bigger portion of these kids engage in pickpocketing, substance smuggling, sex slavery, scavenging, directing cars to parking areas, and hawking, in addition to begging. Youngsters who labor also reside on the street corners are frequently the targets of abuse, desertion, and abuses of their social justice. For instance, police, other officials, and people who are meant to protect street children all around the world torture and occasionally murder them. Both street kids, with and without official familial ties, may turn to prostitution as a last resort when they have no other options for surviving(Glauser, 2015). HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted illnesses are very dangerous to them.

A tragedy that affects the entire world is the rise in street children in urban areas. A Canadian International Development Agency estimates that there are likely just over 100 million kids living and employed on the streets worldwide, and that number is increasing daily. Stated that the number undoubtedly reaches the tens of millions globally fourteen years later. Since there is no agreed-upon definition of what constitutes a homeless child, it has resulted in conflicting estimates of the proportion of such youngsters worldwide(Johnson & Chamberlain, 2014). For instance, the vast majority of homeless kids labor on the streets while still residing at home and doing so in order to support their families.

Four groups of youngsters seen on the streets were developed by Lusk. Every group possesses its own unique psychological traits. Initially, there are the disadvantaged kids who labor all daytime and come home at night. Teenagers are more conceivable to go to school and dodge becoming troublesome (Dishion & Patterson, 2015). Then there are self-employed street laborers. Their relations to their relations are starting to worsen, and they are flatterer more delinquent while joining fewer classes. Third, there are youngsters who labor and reside on the streets with their homeless families. Their conditions are linked to impoverishment. They are known as pavement dwellers in India, but they are known as homeless children in the U.S. The youngsters who have lost touch with their relatives are the last group. They are genuine street children because they stay permanently on the streets. The above group made up 15% of the kids, he sampled from Rio de Janeiro's street corners.

The Global Catholic Children's Bureau, states that the U.N. defines street kids as any female or male who resides on public spaces in the extensive context of the phrase including vacant buildings, barren land, etcetera is becoming his or her routine residence and or means of income, and who are easily abused, overseen, or guided by grown-ups. Street children are a problem that is not exclusive to developing nations. Thousands of kids leave their homes every day to live in the alleys of North America, Europe, and the United States (Cañizares-Esguerra et al., 2013). This is due to the fact that there are several different factors contributing to the situation, including complicated ones that threaten to spread to all nations around the globe. For a long time, UNICEF estimated that 40–50 million kids live as street kids in Latin America. According to these figures, street children make up over 45% of all kids in Latin America.

According to one estimate, there are 30 million street kids in Brazil. Thus, more than 50 percent of all Brazilian youngsters were considered street kids. Over 250 000 children are thought to reside and labor in the neighborhoods of Mexico, where they frequently spend their time and participate in a variety of activities either under the supervision of responsible people (Thévenon & Edmonds, 2019). According to research

conducted in Ethiopia, 150,000 kids are thought to be homeless. In Ethiopia, children start participating in street life on average around the age of 10.7.

Research that the Consortium of Street Children funded (C.S.C.) Egypt's streets are estimated to have about 1 million kids, mostly in Cairo and Alexandria. About 95% of the kids who lived on the streets in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, were branded by clergy as witches and left by their families.(CHINEYEMBA, 2014) 10,000–12 000 children are reportedly homeless in South Africa. In research on street kids, respondents were typically between the ages of 13 and 14. According to a related study, a large percentage of street kids in South Africa are between the ages of 13 and 16 and also range in age from 7 to 18.

There are 21,140 street kids in Ghana, according to a headcount of these youngsters and new mothers throughout Accra, the country's capital. In a research published in Rwanda, more than half of the whole boys and also more than three-quarters of the young females 35% of children under ten years old—acknowledged they were interested in sex. In addition, 63% of the boys claimed they had compelled a girl to start having intimate relations with them, as well as 93% of the same girls, claimed they had already been sexually assaulted.

In Lusaka, Zambia, orphan hood is the norm for youngsters living on the streets: 22% had lost all close relatives, 26% had buried their dad, and 10% had buried their mother. The percentage of street kids in Nairobi, Kenya, is indeed the subject of various conflicting statistics. Several startling statistics are revealed by a study funded by the Consortium of Street Children (C.S.C.): About 50,000 street kids were reported to exist in Nairobi in 1999, as well as the authorities projected that they increased by 10% annually. According to estimates published in 2001, 300,000 youngsters in Kenya reside and labor in the slums of the city, with more than half of them residing in and mostly around Nairobi, the country's capital(Odoyo et al., 2019). A different assessment from 2001 claimed that Kenya had roughly 40,000 street kids, with around half of them living in Nairobi. Between 250,000 and 300,000 kids were thought to be living and laboring on Kenya's streets of the city in 2007. According to a Save the Kids research from 2013,

roughly 60,000 street children live in Nairobi, and if anything was done to change the circumstance, this number would rise sharply.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Kenya's initiatives to aid the unskilled segments of our community and its attempts to fight deficiency have won some respect equally home-based and overseas. However, there are bigger gaps to fill before the issue of street kids in Kenya's largest cities is completely resolved. In most Kenyan urban centers, it is a custom to observe youngsters running about the streets and in private neighborhoods. In Nairobi, there have been thought to be 60,000 or so street kids. The increase in the percentage of street kids in Nairobi has indeed been related to the dilemmas that the nation and other nearby nations, such as South Sudan and Uganda, frequently experience.

According to the evidence that is currently available, these kids are either orphans or from low-income, unstable families. Luckily, the issue in Kenya isn't as bad as it is in some nations, and it might be resolved with dedication and careful planning, as stated .In the 1960s, while government laws were being developed, the issue of street kids was not foreseen. Juvenile institutions left over from colonial times were assumed to continue addressing the issue of youth crime(Glauser, 2015). This policy hasn't altered much thus far, as shown in the literature that is currently accessible. As a result, when street kids abruptly and in great figures arose, lasting agencies and N.G.O.s failed to handle the situation. The conventional organizational approach to the issue seems to have made it worse. Youngsters who labor and reside on the street corners are frequently the targets of abuse, neglect, and abuses of their civil rights. For instance, police, other institutions, and people who are meant to be protecting street children around the world occasionally torture and even murder them.

Most of these kids engage in petty theft, sex slavery, drug trafficking, looting, driving cars to parking places, and peddling. Additionally, up to 90% of street kids take

intoxicants, giving them a security risk. These substances include prescription drugs, alcohol, nicotine, heroin, marijuana, and easily accessible industrial chemicals like cobbler's glue and paint thinner(Malleck & Warsh, 2022). The state and philanthropic organizations have undertaken numerous initiatives, yet the number continues to rise.

It has long been believed that poverty is why kids end up on the streets. However, in 2003, once Kenya's NARC State took over, 60,000 street kids across the nation were brought to the adolescent development service for restoration. However, over 50,000 eventually managed to escape and return to the streets. Many N.G.O.s and people who attempted to take these kids in and provide them the best care could be shocked to see them run away and return to the streets, proving that there is more to life than just poverty and the general public has always believed(Tidball et al., 2016). Because of this, it was acceptable to conduct a study to look at the causes of the sudden rise in street kids in Nairobi and to offer suggestions for lowering their population.

1.3 The Study's Objective

The main aim of the research is to identify the variables that affect the population increase of street kids in Nairobi.

1.4 Other Aims of the Study

The research intends to achieve the outlined objectives:

1. To discover the impact of socioeconomic variables on the upsurge of street kids in Nairobi city
2. To examine the impact of societal variables upon the rise of street kids in Capital.
3. To investigate the impact of political variables in the upward surge of street dwellers in Nairobi.
4. To determine the impact of cultural aspects on the upsurge of street kids in Nairobi city.

1.5 Research Questions

1. How much of Nairobi's growing number of street kids is a result of socioeconomic factors?
2. How do social variables affect the population increase of street kids in Nairobi?
3. To what extent have political issues influenced Nairobi's growing population of street kids?
4. Describe the manner in which cultural influences have influenced the rise in the figure of street kids in Nairobi.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This work probes to collect data that policymakers could use to seek out and dispense funding to establishments and grass root organizations that work with these kids. This research will also be advantageous to educational institutions in developing curricula that will alter people's viewpoint about street children starting in the classroom.

It will in the same measure get the administration ready to plan to step up efforts on contraception education and lowering poverty levels by giving parents options to generate income. The Study's findings will also support the Dakar Framework for Education for All, one whose intention is to enhance and broaden inclusive early upbringing and teaching, particularly for the greatest marginalized and vulnerable kids, in order to achieve equity in aspects of participation.

Last but not least, the research will serve to assert the hypothesis from a legal standpoint for kids' privileges, teaching, and overall growth as an element of the United Nations Universal Statement of Children's Rights.

1.7 Constraints of the Research

Due to the Study's short completion window, the time allotted for it was constrained. The survey may be constricted by the focus group's motion patterns as they seek their daily livelihoods, which also affects their accessibility and grimness to react to study questionnaires. The respondents' sobriety is a huge problem because they have bad decision-making habits. To make the Study effective, it is hoped that the constraints will be overcome through unconventional techniques and innovative approaches.

1.8 Borderlines of the Work

The research was executed in Nairobi's largest slums, including Mathare, Kibera, Dandora, and Nairobi Town.

Since most street kids stem from these ghetto estates and occupy the majority of their daytime in the city, only ghetto estates were researched.

1.9 Basic Assumptions of the Study

The research's assumptions were:

1. that the sample represented the population
2. that the data-collecting instrument was valid and measured the targeted constructs
3. That the dialogists showed cooperation and sincerity in their responses

These assumptions definitely led to the above-mentioned restrictions being strengthened.

1.10 Definition of notable phrases as applied in the Study

Access is the action of gaining admission to an Education Institute by street kids.

Child labor: the act of underage children engaging in work for pay.

Cultural factors: our beliefs, moral values, laws, and rules observed by communities that may hinder the development of an individual child

Double orphans: children with both parents dead

Economic factors: factors that influence the street children's financial status

Maternal orphans: children with their mother's dead

Non-orphans: Children with both parents alive

Paternal orphans: children with their fathers dead

Parking boys: underage boys who reside beside the wayside pleading for cash or food.

Political factors: factors that arise from government, laws, and regulations that may prohibit the children from pursuing their dreams

Prostitution: having sexual intercourse in exchange for money favors

Social factors: factors affecting the children in their social lives

Street: Unoccupied dwellings, alleys, and wastelands in towns and cities

Street Children: Kids aged less than 18 years who live and labor on the street are deprived of the management of grown-ups.

1.11: Layout of the Study

This research is severed into five chapters, each of which moves the research objective closer to accomplishment. Introduction, history of the Study, issue description, goals, research issues, scope, constraints, limitations of the investigation, and structure of the Study make up Chapter 1.

In Chapter 2, the review paper is explained. It concentrates on what academics, researchers, and educators have explored and stated regarding the sharp rise in the number of street kids in industrialized nations, developing nations, and Kenya in specific. The Study has also looked at the philosophical and theoretical background, as well as the social, geopolitical, cultural, and economic facets driving the rise in the homelessness among street kids.

Chapter 3 Deals with the research design where the investigation plan, study inhabitants; case size; data gathering tools; data analysis; data collection technique, uniformity, validity, and ethical contemplation was spelled out.

Chapter 4 presents data analysis, presentation, and interpretation of the analysis. The data analyses: sample response rate, demographic characteristics, gender distribution, age distribution, education level, duration of stay, the influence of economic factors, the street children's income and how they spend it, and the social factors affecting their growth.

Chapter Five provides the synopsis of the Study, results, and adept opinions. Counsels made by the researcher and propositions for extra study is also contained in the chapter.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter includes an evaluation of written materials related to this Study, either directly or indirectly. The numerous factors that contribute to the prevalence of street children will be covered in this chapter. Social, cultural, political, and economic issues are some of the variables that contribute to this rise. We'll look at the conceptual framework and the executive summary.

2.2 Economic factors and Street Children

Bourdillon claims that this issue of young people working and living in public places on the streets is a recent development in Kenya. Prior to the country gaining its independence in the year that followed 1963, children found it practically impossible to work as street vendors, parking lot attendants, car washers, or beggars due to severe municipal regulations that were strictly enforced. Due to their independence, they were inconsistent in upholding the rules, which led to an increase in the number of street kids. As a result of Kenya's economy's inability to create enough employment opportunities following independence, more children started to live on the streets (Hunt et al., 2019).

The necessity for these children to provide for their own needs, in accordance with Chatterjee, A., makes employment a crucial aspect of their lives. Because the only employment alternatives available to them are in the uncontrolled informal economy, where the working conditions are frequently atrocious. A research in Bombay found that at least 49,000 children are employed illegally by restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, hotels, and canteens (Allison, 2020). Due to their lack of protection from the law and their own kind, this causes them to be overworked by their employers, who treat them like prisoners and occasionally withhold payment and otherwise mistreat them. Due to the little pay from their employers, street children in India often prefer to perform multiple jobs or start their own businesses. In reality, most people have opted for self-employment. These children's most frequent sources of revenue come from collecting recyclable materials including metals, plastic, and paper. Other employment include petty vending, car washing, selling flowers and newspapers, begging, shoe shining, and working in modest restaurants, on

construction sites, and at repair stands along the roadways (Pietkiewicz-Pareek, 2012). The older children who live on the streets occasionally take part in activities including prostitution, small-time thievery, drug smuggling, and theft. The majority of the kids put in 8–10 hours every day at their various jobs.

According to several experts, poverty is the fundamental aspect adding to the upsurge of streets dwellers. Research on street children in Peru, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Juarez, Rio de Janeiro, and other countries by certain researchers did not support the premise of a negligent or abusive family (Musabyimana, 2018). He demonstrated that "in conversations with hundreds of Latin American street children over the past five years, one theme has often emerged: they are on the streets to work and earn money since there is not enough at home."

According to an evaluation of 80 street children in Brazil, who ranged in age from 9 to 18, and information on their physical and mental health (Moura et al., 2012). They revealed that 82% of the children had run away from their family for monetary motives. Because of this, these children offered some of what they produced to their families, which is not typically a symptom of conflict in the family.

In a study involving 55 street children in Nigeria under the age of 15 who survived by begging, it was noted that the majority of these children ended up on the streets because they were from impoverished families and supported them with their earnings. Actually, the majority of children seek alms alongside their parents and relatives, with 80 percent of children still living with them (Esteve et al., 2012).

2.3 Social determinants and street children

Of the 1,000 street children surveyed in Bombay, parental violence was the main contributor, not poverty (Pietkiewicz-Pareek, 2012). According to another Indian study, involving child porters (children under 14 living and working without parental assistance),

family disputes were the biggest problem, despite the fact that poverty was a notable factor of the children living in open alleys.

The main factors contributing to the increase in street children are abuse by parents or guardians, laziness and disobedience, interpersonal difficulties, and being expelled from the family home. Issues like parental carelessness, lack of passion, and irresponsibility are equally serious. Since they don't believe they are capable of raising their children on their own, many parents don't feel accountable for raising their children (Golombok, 2014). As a result of physical or sexual abuse, including being pummeled, numerous children have reportedly run away from their families. Few children in Zimbabwe are willing to speak out about or even admit that they have been the victim of domestic or sexual abuse. When parents abandon their children, they are more likely to stop attending school and to recognize early on that they must support themselves.

Occasionally, many parents exert pressure on their children to enter the streets directly or indirectly (Mizen & Ofofu-Kusi, 2013). Sometimes it's because the parents feel they are unable to provide for their children's requirements. Many parents believe that having many kids will be extremely difficult and taxing on them. Some parents believe their kids will have a secure future waiting for them on the streets.

The overpopulation in their homes, which is a significant contributing factor, causes some kids to flee to the streets. Children who leave their homes due to economic issues, such as deprivation, typically find it more difficult to fit in than children who are forced onto the streets by poverty, according to a 2001 report by the Street Children's Programmes (Boyd, 2013). Because their core concerns are resolved after their basic needs are met, those who are homeless due to poverty adjust more quickly.

Contrary to popular assumption, a smaller percentage of children run away from their families and end up on the streets. 300 street kids in Colombia, or less than 3% of

them. The 200,000 children living on Lima's streets were only neglected by 6,000 (3%) of them (KHANAL, 2019). Less than 10% of Latin American street kids have neglectful parents.

Both groups give children's behavioral traits, such as their obsession with material items and negative peer pressure, a moderate amount of weight. Children can be captivated to material things like American caps and denim jeans (Paoletti, 2012). Children yearn for excitement as well. Some of the children polled were lured to a different way of life, new surroundings, and novel experiences.

The exaltation of "evil spirits" by guardian organizations may reflect a strong feeling of traditionalism or an unbridled sense of helplessness, or potentially both. Over 95% of the street children in Nigeria's Akwa Ibom State have been referred to by pastors as "witches," and their parents have disregarded requests to prevent them from residing there (Lydia, 2020).

2.4 Political causes and street children

It is urgent to look into the possibility that there is a connection between the emergence of street children and a particularly violent, recent, and national colonial policy. Street children in Sudan today and in Ireland in the middle of the 19th century are contrasted. Youth homelessness in both countries was caused by civil unrest. The Mau Mau independence movement's civil unrest is believed to be the cause of Kenya's first generation of street children (Oino & Sakari, 2013). In South Africa, where there are many street children, their recurrence has been connected to the most contentious civic issues in the nation. In all of Latin America, Colombia has one of the most violent histories.

In certain countries, like Tanzania, where there hasn't been any violent civil turmoil, there aren't many street children. Despite the fact that it seems more difficult than it really is.

For instance, despite a protracted civil war, Ethiopia does not have a large number of street children. While having relatively low-intensity anti-colonial conflicts, Chile and Argentina have recently seen violent politics. They do, however, have fewer street children than Mexico or Brazil, who neither of which has experienced recent civil turmoil. This does not take into account the recent violence in Mexico (Morris, 2012). In many of the Central American nations where there has been significant social instability, there aren't a lot of street kids. The civil wars that Uganda endured had a major impact on the rise of youth living on the streets. The Ugandan war resulted in a large number of displaced individuals, mostly women and children.

2.5 Cultural elements and street children

It's possible that family structure plays a role in the various degrees of malice directed against street children in Latin America and East Africa. Both the wealthy and the underprivileged in Latin America rear their children in various ways. In affluent Latin American households, fathers are strong and present. The authority of their fathers is respected by boys. Contrarily, poor people in Latin America are more likely to have women head their houses, and boys are often raised with less respect so they can leave the house early (Gorman, 2017). The attitude that adults have about street children in Latin America is probably motivated by the belief that they are not compelled to submit to adult rule. Street boys accidentally bring up the issue of adult authority by attacking traditional forms of authority.

Family structure disparities in East Africa are unrelated to social rank, in contrast to those in Latin America. When it comes to raising children, there is no relationship between family structure and socioeconomic level or political influence in East Africa. Families can take many different shapes and have many different approaches to raising children.

2.6 Theoretical framework

The idea of modernity provides a systematic explanation for kids working on the streets (Sampson, 2017). Moving from rural to urban settings is a factor in the issue of street kids in Kenyan urban areas. An important element in the steep increase in youngsters living on

the streets around the world over the past few decades is societal stress brought on by rapid industrialization and urbanization. Up to 75% of the children who were classed as street children in Mexico City had relocated there—either on their own or with their kindred—in seeing of jobs and other profit-making ventures.

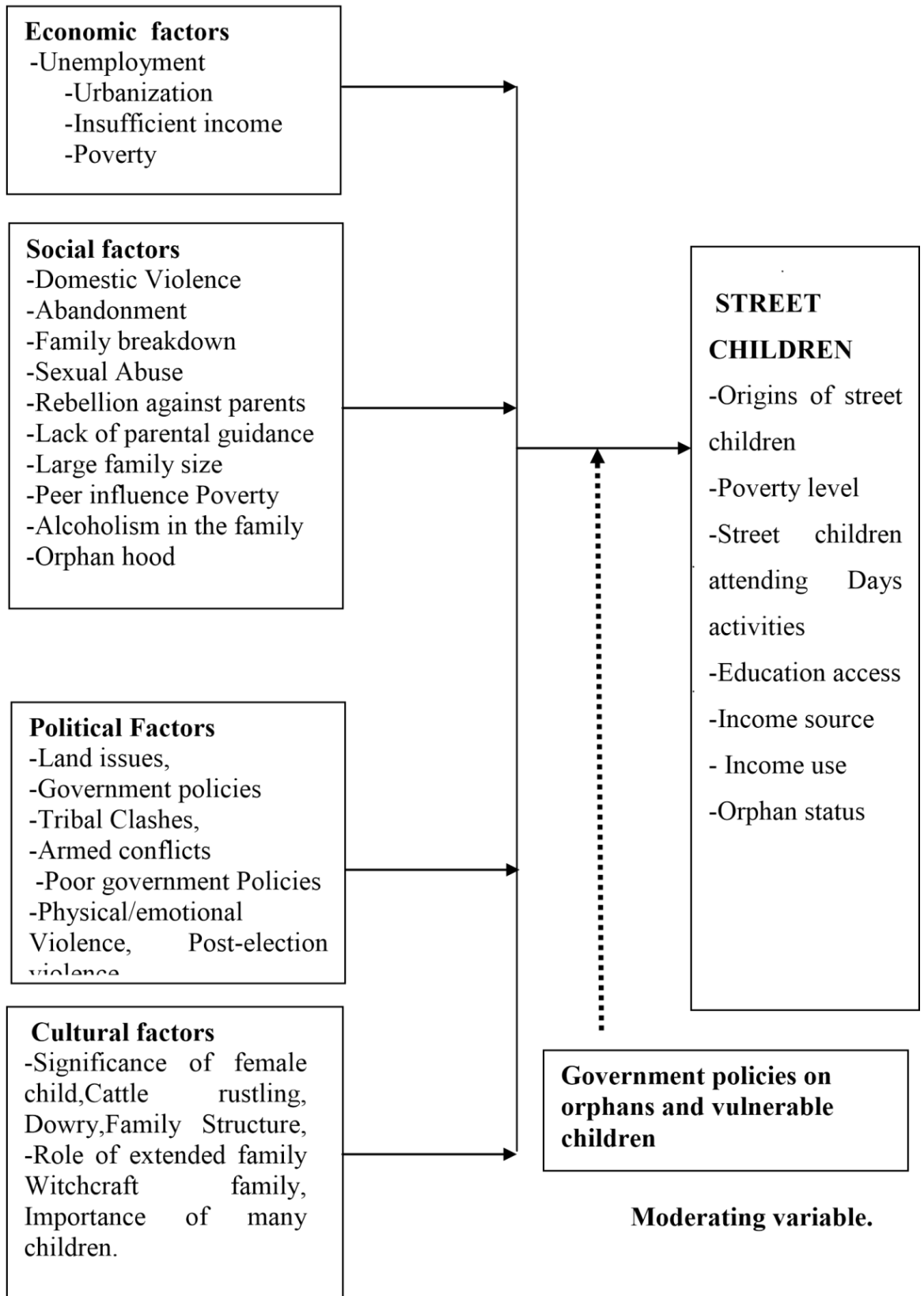
In many developing countries with varying levels of industrialization, children regularly work on the streets since their country's formal economy cannot support both their labor and that of their parents. Marginalized families usually find themselves on the lowest social rung locked out of the formal sector, which prompts them to search for employment opportunities there (Desmond, 2012).

The kids from these and other low-income families learn that the uncontrolled, usually invisible world of precarious job is a rich environment for precarious employment. In a manner similar to this, immigrant families frequently face barriers to participation in the formal economy due to factors such as race, education level, and employment abilities. On the outskirts of cities, these families frequently live in settler communities.

2.7 Conceptual framework

In this study, the number of street kids in Nairobi is the dependent variable, and the economic, social, cultural, and political factors that affect that figure are the autonomous variables. The population of street children is the dependent variable, and the autonomous variables have an effect on it. One moderating influence is how the government handles vulnerable children and orphans.

Figure 1: Conceptual framework for the growth of street children



2.7 Conceptual Framework showing the relationship between variables

2.8. Synopsis of Related Literature Works

In this chapter, it is discussed whether the academic community is primarily or secondarily related to this academic endeavor. The focus of the review of the literature has been on what researchers, academics, and business experts in the field of education have discovered and stated regarding the dramatic increase in the number of young people who are homeless in developed nations, namely in Kenya. It has been researched in the literature how the rise of street children affects society on a social, cultural, economic, political, and risk assessment level.

Most researchers agree that poverty is the key factor contributing to the majority of children in developing nations living in open public places. In many developing countries that are at varying stages of industrialization, children frequently look for food on these streets because their country's formal economy cannot support both their labor and that of their parents. The majority of research findings revealed that, despite poverty being a significant factor in the youths' decision to live on the streets, family conflict predominated.

Parental maltreatment, disobedience, inactivity, family conflicts, and removal from the house have all been contrasted with the problems of parental neglect, irresponsibility, and apathy. Many parents may not feel responsible for parenting their children because they believe "someone else" should help them because they are unable to help themselves or their children. According to several young individuals who have come forward, being frequently beaten or subjected to sexual abuse is what caused them to run away from their homes and end up on the streets (Tyler & Schmitz, 2013).

If there is any connection between the rise of street children and a recent, deadly, colonial national conflict, it has been looked at. said that civil unrest was to blame for the appearance of street children in the nations when comparing street children living on the streets of Sudan today with those living on the streets of Ireland in the middle of the 19th century (Glauser, 2015). There are other civilizations with few street children and little

civic upheaval, such as Tanzania. Although other countries, like Ethiopia, have a long history of civil war, very few street children have been born as a result of the bloodshed.

CHAPTER THREE: MODE OF RESEARCH

3.1 Introduction

The mode of the Study is the main focus of this section. It goes into detail on the Study's design, sample size, study population, data collection tools, and data analysis steps, dependability of the Study, justifiability, and humane issues.

3.2 Research Compose

The definitive approach will be used in this Study to identify the variables that add to the explosion in street children in Nairobi. In exploratory and preliminary studies, descriptive plans are utilized by researchers to enable data collection, data recapping, data presentation, and data explanation for the purpose of clarification. Additionally, illustrative survey research is calculated to provide arithmetical data on facets of education that affect educators and policymakers(Loeb et al., 2017). One advantage of the descriptive approach is that, following data collection, it can provide answers to queries concerning the current state of the research issue.

3.3 Target Population

Every participant in a hypothetical or actual collection of aims, people, or events to whom the researcher expects as the target population. Additionally, the Study's target group can be defined as any group of people who share one or more characteristics important to the researcher in his field of Study.

In accordance with research experts, it is projected that there are over 60,000 Children in the streets of Nairobi city, and over 300 institutions directly work with the reformation of kids in the streets(Nyambane, 2017). The target audience in the Study was 530, and this includes 500 Children in the streets and 30 managers and guardians of the organizations working with the kids in the County of Nairobi. The research would be done

in four places in Nairobi town, Kibera, Dandora dumpsite, and Mathare. These regions have a reputation for producing a large number of street children.

3.4. Test procedure and test size.

3.4.1 Case Size

A probability sampling method was taken into account in the Study, and 250 interviewees were chosen. They included 10 managers and guardians from the organizations working with children in Nairobi city, 238 street children who were randomly selected from 4 distinct slums, and the city center.

3.4.2. Sampling mechanism

Over 6000 young ones are living in homes and on the streets in Nairobi County, this is in accordance with the information acquired from the Director of Children Services in the county. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics conducted this Study following the completion of the 2019 national census. The study was also conducted in 2013 by the Save the Children fund. According to Mbutu (2012) Nairobi Town is home to a large number of charitable children's groups, organizations which are not government, Christian organizations, education centers, and grassroots organizations that work with street children's rehabilitation programs.

The total number of study participants was 530. The cumulative number of street children multiplied by the sample size and divided by the precise target audience was computed to determine the totality of street kid to dialogue with for this work.

The following calculation was made to determine how many officers would be dialoged for this Study: The absolute figure of people engaging with the young ones was multiplied by the sample size, then the specific target group was divided by that number.

The researcher will employ stratified random sampling. She divided her research into five places into equivalent levels or strata, shown by both genders, forthwith chose people from randomly from either level by counting from one to ten and thereby taking the component in the tenth place.

3.5. Research parameters

Quantitative data would be solicited adopting a standardized set of questions. A well-created self-completion questionnaire with closed-ended questions will be used.

Focus groups with children from orphanages and rehabilitation centers in the region will be held. The focus group would consist of official settings where highly structured assemblies of street children groupings environs, documentary study, and interview plans with organized orphan centers and children's homes were also used.

3.6. Tools of data collection.

Interviews and set of printed questions were adopted to amass data for the Study. A questionnaire is more resourceful since it necessitate reduced time, costs comparatively low money, and enables the collection of data from a considerably wider audience (Denscombe, 2017). Questionnaires were utilized in the Study to gather data from the executives of fourteen organizations that work on programs for the rehabilitation of street children.

This program was created to gather intelligence on the homeless kids residing on the streets, including information about their social and cultural backgrounds, economic standing, orphan status, and degree of vulnerability. Interview schedules constituted the second strategy. An interview is the oral, in-person delivery of a questionnaire to a participant in a sample.

Ten managers and guardians were interviewed for this Study's focus assembly of chosen organizations that work with street children. Due to the live intercommunication, which enables the investigator to clarify some of the Study's key points, the interview program was more reliable. Additionally, it enables the researcher to cope with ambiguous or insufficient responses by posing more queries.

3.6.1 Testing of the instruments

The accuracy of an experimental measure of an idea is what determines an idea's validity (Bollen, 2017). The researcher will administer a pilot survey to at least fourteen randomly selected respondents, but from the same sample as the one used in the research, for the sake of certifying the interview and census methods.

3.6.2 Effectiveness of the instruments

Validity/effectiveness simply mean how well a study instrument carries out its intended purpose. Validity is the extent to which a factual measure of a notion accurately captures the concept (Yilmaz, 2013). The researcher conducted a pilot survey with a different responder than the one used in the research but used the same sample in order to validate the questionnaire. The County Children's Office asked a jury of three judges with knowledge of the children's program to gauge the applicability of the concepts adopted in the questionnaire's creation. Their endorsements were integrated into the last set questions. The expert used test-retest coefficient stability technique to handle the questionnaire twice to identify distinct but same responses to the Study's model.

3.6.3. Authenticity of tools of research

The consistency of the data produced by the tool on repeated trials is what is known as the dependability of the tool; hence, the proneness regarding uniformity observed in replicated computations is what is known as the dependability of the tool. The steps that were taken were as follows: A few comparable respondents who were not part of the main Study were given the advanced questionnaire; the returned questionnaire was manually

filled out. The same set of participants was given a comparable questionnaire two weeks later, and their responses were once again manually graded. The extent of accuracy was then controlled by connecting the double score sets.

3.7 Data collection plan

The investigator asked the University of Nairobi for written permission to allow him to obtain information from the organizations under examination after verifying the Reliability and consistency of the instruments. Following approval, the researcher asked the Kenya Research Counsel for a research permit, which was then sent to the County commissioner with a request for permission to conduct the research. The investigator called on the organizations to acquaint herself with the interviewees after obtaining formal consent to conduct the Study. The investigator then distributed the prepared set of questions to the organizations and responders.

3.8 Statistical investigative approach

The investigator assembled the completed instruments, organized them, and then utilized descriptive statistics to analyze the data. The depictive demographic design of frequencies, proportions, and mean was used to analyze quantitative data. The information was displayed in tables. The investigator calculated percentages of the responses by the people who submitted information and looked at general and demographic statistics. A report was created by condensing and organizing qualitative data.

3.9 Ethical consideration

Obtaining a writing of authorization from the University of Nairobi prior to the investigation allowed researchers to identify ethical considerations. The researcher then went in quest of a study authorization from the Kenya Research Council, thereby granted to the County commissioner in order to authorize the research. Before conducting the research, the investigator asked the interview subjects for their consent. The information

that was gathered was handled discreetly. The investigator maintained her objectivity while maintaining sensitivity to human dignity.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS INTERPRETATION, AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

The data gathered for the Study using the techniques outlined in chapter three are presented, examined, discussed, and interpreted in this chapter. The objective is to transform unprocessed data into usable data that is presented in a visually appealing and understandable manner. The purpose of the interpretation is to derive acceptable and sensible conclusions from the Study's data. The research questions listed in chapter one's introduction are the basis for the presentation, analysis, and interpretation. They are:

1. How much of Nairobi's growing population of street kids is a result of economic factors?
2. How do social variables affect the population increase of street kids in Nairobi?
3. To what extent have political issues influenced Nairobi's growing population of street kids?
4. Describe the manner in which cultural influences have influenced the rise in the number of children residing on streets of Nairobi.

The chapter is divided into the following motifs: case feedback estimates, demographics sample, economic influence, political influence, social holds, and cultural influence on the development of street children.

4.2. Case feedback estimate

According to County Social Services, the research's target population consisted of around 500 children. Only 190 (82.773%) of the 234 children who were included in the sample (or 100%) were actually interviewed. The data presented in the tables below was acquired through a questionnaire that was provided to 238 street children, 10 police officers, and

child welfare workers. In Nairobi, samples were collected from Mathare (40 children), Kibera (56 children), Dandora (42), and CBD (59 children). Observe the table. Questionnaires' were answered by clusters made up of affiliates of the general society, street children of various ages, and child social professionals.

Table 4.1: **Case dissemination**

Region	Recurrence		%	
	Anticipated	Noted	Anticipated	Noted
Mathare	58.5	40	25	16.0
Kibera	58.5	54	25	21.6
Dandora Dumpsite	58.5	42	25	16.8
CBD	58.5	54	25	21.6
Total	234	190	100	76

4.3 Demographic characteristics of the sample

The researcher attempted to ascertain how street children were distributed in terms of gender, age, education level, family size, period of stay time spent the streets, and ventures engaged in whilst homeless for reasons of ascertaining whether these aspects had an impact on the review.

4.3.1 Gender distribution

Table 4.2 **Gender distribution**

Zone	Boys		Girls	
	Prevalence	%	Prevalence	%
Mathare	24	60	16	40
Kibera	34	63	20	37
Dandora Dumpsite	27	64.3	15	35.7
CBD	34	63	20	37
Total	119	62.63	71	37.37

The Boys make up the major part of the minors population in the streets, according to the data in table 4.2. Averaging roughly 63% of the total, males made up 62.63 % of the street children in Mathare, 60 % in Kibera, 63 % in the Dandora Dumpsite, and 64.30 % in the CBD. Girls made up roughly 37.37 percent of the population, with 40%, 37%, 35.70%, and 37%, respectively, coming from Mathare, Kibera, Dandora Dumpsite, and CBD.

Our survey may have a gender imbalance. Some of them engage in prostitution on the streets, are only spotted there at night, are hush-hush to requests for interviews, and are slightly inclined to connect with organizations that help street kids. Boys make up the bigger percentage of the street children, according to the data in table 4.2. Averaging roughly 63% of the total, males made up 62.63 % of the street children in Mathare, 60 % in Kibera, 63 % in the Dandora Dumpsite, and 64.30 % in the CBD. Girls made up roughly 37.37 percent of the population, with 40%, 37%, 35.70%, and 37%, respectively, coming from Mathare, Kibera, Dandora Dumpsite, and CBD.

It's possible that our survey has a gender imbalance. Some of them engage in street prostitution, are only spotted on the streets at night, are less amenable to requests for interviews, and are less likely to contact groups that assist street kids.

Girls don't need to leave their homes because they have fewer behavioral issues and family disputes. Other methods, such as "marrying them off" when they are as young as 12, may be used by families to get rid of daughters. Then the girl would have a new family. The majority of youngsters live with parents and other relatives, and the money they make on the city streets is utilized to give the household their essentials.

4.3.2 Age Structure

Table4.3: Age Structure

Age	Density	%
0-4yrs	20	10.20
5-9yrs	60	31.50
10-14yrs	70	38.10
15-18yrs	40	20.20
Cumulative	190	100.00

The table above displays the results of the interviews with kids of different ages.

The typical age group of street kids is 10 years old. This is an indication that young boys and girls who are far younger than the majority age of 18 make up the expanding population of street children. Children aged 0 to 3 made up 10.08% of the population, followed by those aged 4 to 8 (31.09%), 9 to 13 (38.66%), and those aged 14 to 18 (20.17%).

4.3.3 Extent of Education Among street minors

Table 4.4: Degree of Education Patterns

Learning ranks	Prevalence	%
Absolutely No Form of Education	130	69.03
Undertaking Elementary education	38	19.29
Finalized Senior School	22	11.68
Going to high school	0	0
Total	190	100

These young people haven't even completed elementary school. In each of the five locales, a bigger portion of youngsters lacked mainstream education, and not a single one had finished high school. Only 11.68% of those polled had completed primary school, 19.29% were still in elementary school, and 69.03% had no formal education at all. (Those without a high school diploma were regarded as lacking formal education.)

Given that the mean age was between 9 and 10 years, or the maturity age for an elementary school student, the figures shows that a great number of street minors leave school early, making up 69.03% of those without a formal education. There is no doubt that everyone in Kenya has access to free elementary education(Orodho, 2014). However, every school, whether public or private, requires that every student wear a uniform and pay various expenses such as enrollment costs, desk costs, P.T.A. dues, etc. The children who were evaluated for their maturity revealed that their parents were unable to cover these levies. In the course of cluster deliberations, it was brought up that a great deal of kids couldn't meet the school expenses school and return to a home without food. They must work, and the income they provide helps support the family.

Table 4.5 Chances of Truancy

Grounds for Child Truant Nature	Total	%
Lacking fees	56	41.18
No parent	30	22.06
Truant	11	8.09
Prioritize money making activities	9	6.61
Never attended school	11	8.09
Other	19	13.97
Total	136	100

The kids who didn't receive a formal education either never went to school or withdrew because of an array of justifications. According to table 4.4, 22% of respondents were unable to enroll in school because their parents had passed away, while 41% claimed financial hardship.

4.3.4. To what extent have minors resided on the streets?

The interviewer questioned the kids for the duration they've resided on the streets. Probably, this will likely reveal if the growth were more recent or not.

Table 4.6: Duration lived

Lifespan on Streets	Recurrence	%
Birthed In the Street	8	4.21
Below year 1	82	43.16
1 to 3	60	31.58

3 to 5	30	15.79
Over 5	10	5.26
Total	190	100

Table 4.6 displays the length of time that minors been homeless. Quite a number of street youngsters (43.16%) have lived there for less than a year, followed by those who have lived there for between one and three years (31.58%), and some of these children may have been begotten by homeless parents (Clark, 1982). This would indicate that there are more street kids in the capital, which is likely a result of Kenya's recent difficult economic conditions. It is significant to highlight that 4.21% of respondents have spent at least five years living on the streets. The vast majority of respondents in this group claimed that intertribal conflict had forced them out of their homes and villages. The numbers are stable, but the continued upper surge of the children is being witnessed. Due to drug use, a lack of access to necessities like food and healthcare, and taking part in misdeeds, which frequently results in incarcerations or demise at the hands of masses, quite scarce individuals find an escape route for returning to the outside world; this portion is incredibly small. These factors together account for the extremely low life expectancy of children living on the streets.

On the streets, 4.21 percent of people were born. These are mostly the result of older street kids raping victims, street girls using prostitution as a means of support, careless sexual encounters, and a very tiny number of street families. Based on the focus group discussions, parents and caregivers claimed that they had started to observe the street kids also giving birth to their young ones. Seeing complete families out on the streets was not unusual today.

4.4. Consequence of economic elements on the upsurge of children in the streets

The purpose of the Study was to determine whether economic pressure—whether it be the thwarting of destitution in the households or the perception of a prosperous future

on the streets—had a remarkable repercussion on the evolution of street children in Nairobi.

We conducted a focus group conversation with 10 boys in Mathare, ranging in age from 8 to 18, to further investigate the topic of why kids end up on the streets. Random selection was used to select the participants, who represented parentless kids and those with one or both parents, as well as kids living on the streets. Group two was composed of children caretakers totaling to eight as shown in the records, including seven women and one man. We conducted two focus groups with 11 adult parents or fosters of children, the majority of whom were women, in CBD and with 11 boys picked using the same criteria as in Mathare.

All five groups talked about the causes of youngsters living on the streets, among other things. We gave each group a semantic differential scale with a range of -3 to +3 and asked them to decide which justification was the most crucial. The outcome for the two child-groups and the three adult-groups were then averaged. These presentations of the findings are as follows.

Table4.7: Grounds of Being on the Streets

Why are children on the street	Discernment of Children Score	of	Discernment of Guardians Score
Need of food		3	2
Mistreatment by folks		3	1
Insolence and laziness		0	3

Orphan hood	2	2
Unavailability of School fees	3	2
Love for money	-1	3
Overcrowding at home	2	3
Parents disagreements	2	2
Superstitions	2	3
Ousting from home	2	1
Destitution	3	3
Tribal clashes	1	1
Cattle rustling	1	2
Negative peer influence	-1	3

Although poverty is commonly blamed for the phenomena of street children, it is not the only thing that drives kids to live on the streets. The most convincing justifications concerned money, such as the inability to pay for school fees, hunger, a desire for money, and an overabundance of people living in the same house, which may possibly point to overconsumption of the family finances.

Other important causes include parental abuse, insubordination and slothfulness, interpersonal discords within the family, and expulsion from the family home. These factors are all related to the social dynamics of the family. The issue of parental negligence, carelessness, and indifference is equally important. Because they feel "someone else" should help them because they are unable to help themselves or their children, in many instances folks believe that their youngsters are not entitled to any protection from them. According to most of the children, sexual assault, regular battering

are some of the reasons why they choose streets over their homes. Few children in Kenya are willing to talk about these taboo subjects, and even fewer are willing to admit that they have experienced domestic or sexual abuse. In addition to making children quit learning, parental neglect is an eye opener for them to start finding ways of caring for themselves.

The goal of the Study was to comprehend what young people did on the streets. The table below displays the findings.

Table 4.8: Ventures the minors engage in

Ventures	Prevalence	%
Cleaning vehicles	25	13.2
Imploring for assistance	45	23.7
Merchandising	55	28.9
Calling out passengers	17	8.9
Carrying baggage	15	7.9
Any Other	33	17.4
Total	190	100

Because it is difficult for them to engage in legitimate economic pursuits due to their look and poor public perception, the majority of them rely on the street begging to make ends meet. Furthermore, whether or not they engage in other economic activities, some people who give them money do so out of compassion, which these kids simply exploit. As a result, their two major occupations are begging and selling trinkets.

These kids are less likely to engage in activities like car washing as they become more difficult and valued. When a child adopts an adult body image, they are compelled to engage in criminal activity or job similar to that of other underprivileged adults in order to survive. The root of this is that while little children are given alms because they are deemed cute, as they come of age, they are deemed vicious, and finding donations out of regular people becomes extra challenging.

Table 4.9: Mean income by minors on street

The mean wages in a day	Abundance	%
Not more than 100	12	6.32
101-199	50	26.32
200-300	75	39.47
300-400	30	15.79
400-500	15	7.89
≥ 501.	8	4.21
TOTAL	190	100

The national explanation uses both the KIHBS and the KNBS approach (2005-2006), which compares everyday utilization to official poverty lines. Both rural and urban areas had monthly poverty rates of 1,562 and 2,913 Kenya Shillings (K.E.S.), respectively. Minimal budgetary provisions for both food and non-food costs were also included. Sixty eight percent of street youths claim that the income they generate from their actions is at least as much as that of an unskilled worker or higher. They rarely made more than KSH 400, though; just 7.98% made KSH 401–500 and 7.56% KSH 500 or more.

Table 4.10: Expenditures

Income Utilization	Prevalence	%
Contribute to Household income	100	50.76
Protection purposes	80	40.61
Drinks and hard substances	70	35.53
Essentials	197	100
Extras	56	28.43

An example of how youngsters might spend money they earn on the street is shown above. Due to the fact that people can spend money on a variety of things, the double filling was permitted. Contrary to popular opinion, the youngsters said that they spend the majority of their money on essential requirements and on helping to support the family's budget. Some admitted to purchasing drugs and alcohol, while others claimed they paid older lads to protect them on the streets. The majority of people who live at home with their parents or other adults would contribute to the family's income, but since the majority of people today are homeless, this contribution was not substantial. Most of these street-dwelling kids form gangs, and they must pay to be protected from other gangs and even from being exploited by other gang members.

4.5. Social factors and street children's growth

The research emphasizes how unstable home environments caused by broken and reconstituted families, parent deaths, and divorce made some kids feel like living on the streets was preferable. Underage who choose to abscond their dwellings on grounds other than poverty have greater challenges in their rehabilitation than do those who are forced to do so by it, according to The House of Hope Child Organization and The Covenant Street Rehabilitation Center Programs. People who are homeless because of poverty are easier to rehabilitate because their primary problems will be handled once their fundamental needs are met.

Table 4.11. Frequency of fighting

Recurrence of weekly fighting	Prevalence	%	
1	91	64.0	
1 - 3	15	10.6	
Above 4	36	25.4	
Aggregate	142	100	

Money, intoxication, and an apparent lack of cause were listed as the causes of domestic disputes, yet a sizable percentage of children (84%) had no understanding of why their parents kept arguing.

4.6 Cultural consequence on the upsurge of street children

Children are becoming more prevalent on the streets as a result of some cultural ideas. For instance, as was previously discussed among single-parent orphans, paternal orphans were more likely to end up on the streets. This was primarily due to the belief that women are homemakers and fathers are the only breadwinners in culture. Furthermore, the father's crucial disciplinarian and supervisory roles are severely weakened by his passing. Some children, especially teenage boys, find it challenging to listen to women's instructions, including those from their moms. Such children are more likely to become lost from this cultural vantage point. For example, most of the street children in Nairobi belong to the Agikuyu community (Wainaina, 2002). The reason being the community reside in large numbers in and around Nairobi. Additionally, some exerts has suggested that the community underwent huge alteration following independence than most households originating from other tribes. The fact remain that many Kikuyu males were imprisoned as a result of their resistance to colonization (Edgerton, 2000). Family customs quickly

changed as women were compelled to fill the duties previously held by husbands and dads (Macgoye, 1987).

Large families have long been seen as a sign of wealth, and some people still believe this today. As previously discussed, as economic pressure increases, the likelihood that a family's children may end up on the streets increases with family size. Many girls have also taken to the streets as a result of cultural expectations that girls in their prime years should be married off and that men of legal age should be able to support the family financially. The groups of guardians' high regard for "bad spirits" may reflect their steadfast Traditional beliefs, a sense of helplessness and powerlessness, or a combination of the two.

For kids, living on the streets is a life of fear. Street life includes robberies, beatings, harassment, and poverty, being sick, and living in a hostile society. The youngest street kids expressed concern about getting run over by autos. A larger percentage of people live in constant terror of the police, who bother them, arrest them, and take them to jail whether or not they have committed any crimes.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter examines the following subthemes' summaries, deductions, and counsels for additional Study, and contributions to the flow of knowledge.

5.2 Summaries of the findings

Several research findings were reported in chapter four based on the data and other material that were collected, processed, and used to orate the research goals of the academic work. The following section will present the study results in a nutshell.

5.2.1 Demographic features of informants

The bulk of street children are males, according to the Study, which examined how they were distributed in terms of gender, regions of origin, age, and educational attainment. Mathare has 72.72 percent of the world's street kids, Kibera has 60%, Dandora Dumpsite has 63 percent, and Mathare has 64.30 percent. In Municipality, 10, or an average of 71.85% of the total, were boys. Girls made up roughly 37.37 percent of the population, with Mathare, Kibera, Dandora, and CBD each contributing 40%, 37%, 35.70%, and 37% of the total.

Street children are typically 9.5 years old. Minors beneath the age of three made up 10.08% of the population, followed by kids between the ages of 4 and 8 (31.09%), 9 and 13 (38.66%), and 14 and 18 (20.17%). These kids haven't even finished their primary education. In all five of the Study's locations, 19.33% of people were enrolled in primary school, and just 11.34% had completed it. 69.32% of people had no any form of education.

5.2.2 Economic elements and Childs' homelessness menace

Street kids are disproportionately orphaned. The differences between paternal, maternal, and double orphans are significant. Among street children, paternal orphans make up a significant fraction. Most kids spend their days on the streets and live with their mothers. Being on the streets is most frequently due to poverty, lax parental supervision, and domestic disputes. Additionally vulnerable are double orphans. The minors are quite prone to make the city alleys their residential areas for their entire lives. Maternal orphans are less common on the streets. A multitude of homeless youngsters are incapable in acquiring the basic education as they cannot afford the tuition. As a result, they spend the unutilized opportunity to engage in income generating activities for a chance of survival.

Folks with more huge households are in most cases have financial difficulties, which increases their vulnerability to living on the streets. Some kids have the misconception that life on the streets can be better for them due to the fact that minors can engage in unsupervised money-making activities there. Girls from financially struggling families have been drawn to the streets by prostitution involving minors, a lucrative industry in Kenya. Some of these young females have even done so with the knowledge and consent of their parents and guardians.

5.2.3 Social determinants and Homelessness

According to survey, minors are turning away from home as a result of failing educational systems, careless parents, unreasonably large families, rising levels of poverty, and a society that is unable to secure a bright future for its young people. Parental or guardian maltreatment, disobedience and idleness, conflict in the family, and eviction from the household. The issue of parental negligence, carelessness, and indifference is equally important. Many parents don't feel compelled to look after their kids. According to many children, child molestation in conjunction with other forms of assault, such as regular battering, force them to abscond from their homes and end up on the said public spaces

alone and starving. The assumption that some children are being tormented by bad spirits results in neglecting these youngsters, which may force them onto the streets.

The idea that having a large family will result in having many children places a significant financial load on families, which pushes kids out into the streets.

5.2.4 Political factions and Upsurge in children homelessness

The Study discovered the same reasons that are impacting the growth of the populace of minors in Kibera, Mathare, CBD, and Dandora. There is political instability in the country as elections near and after elections. Intertribal clashes either leave the children homeless or cause the death of parents. Based on the violent post-election period hostilities that culminated after the 2007 general elections. When asked why they were living on the streets, over 30% of minors coming from the said zones who were interviewed hinted it was because their parents had been uprooted because their homes had been destroyed during tribal battles. Since that time, their parents have always struggled to support their folks. During the collective action with the Kenya Defense Forces (formerly the Kenya Armed Forces) in opposing the hostile communities across the country, hundreds were slain and mutilated, which worsened the instability of those areas.

5.2.5 Cultural elements and Homelessness

In addition, Dandora, Mathare, and Kibera had the largest proportion. These are the locations where most individuals are trying to make ends meet through. Most individuals migrating to the city to try out their luck end up on the streets when life becomes unbearable.

The investigation also discovered that the number of females to male youngsters is not balanced, with the males being higher. This is the situation because as females get older, they will marry, and their parents or guardians will receive cows as dowry. As a result,

girls receive more attention than boys. Boys are more likely than females to end up on the streets under the same conditions.

The interviewee also came to the inference that even while the kinship group is being threatened by rising levels of poverty, urbanization, individualism, and Western influences, it still functions as a safety net. Like other Africans, Kenyans typically take tremendous pleasure in their extended families. It has served as a pillar of African culture and customs and as a safety net for the continent's poor, elderly, and children.

5.3. Conclusions on the findings

Our survey in the CBD turned up surprisingly few of them considering that the County Department of Children's Services and Save the Children Foundation estimated in 2013 that there were around 60,000 residing in streets of the city. It is however, acknowledged, that girls who engage in nighttime street prostitution make up a sizeable portion of the street kid population and that due to the methodology of our Study, we may have missed them. Homelessness among minors is a symptom of social unrest and a lack of social protection, even though they may not be many. The magnitude of social system failure that each street child represents should be given more weight than their sheer number.

Boys who are neglected by society make up the majority of street children. They either opted to live on the streets because it seemed to have more to offer than family life, or they were forced onto it by poverty, abuse, neglect, and political instability.

5.4. Recommendations

The factors affecting the number of youngsters residing in the alleys in Nairobi. According to the following explanations, numerous important recommendations stem from this Study's findings:

5.4.1 Economic factors

The best way to deal with the subject of child homelessness is to stop the flow of kids onto the streets by providing economic and communal aid for households headed by sole maternal figure, preventing child sexual and financial abuse, and implementing policies and programs that reduce poverty and support families.

Preventing children from engaging in unsupervised economic activity in the city and its unregulated housing. This will dispel the myth that young children can earn money independently or in another way on the streets while also allowing them to participate in the economy for learning, entertainment, and occasionally even survival purposes.

It is possible to make sure that street children receive the necessities, including education, and are shielded from buying drugs and alcohol by educating the community about the need to give to them through respectable organizations. The county government must take tough action against child prostitution.

Paternal orphans should receive more attention because they are commonly ignored and are not counted in official orphan statistics, despite the fact that it appears that these children are more likely than others to break off their relationships with their families and end up on the streets.

5.4.2. Social factors and street children population

Programs for homeless children in Kenya ought to have intensive casework projects that examine the dynamics of every minor's relationship to their kindred instead of being high-volume service projects that get rid of little ones out streets alleys and put them up in institutions or foster households. Every young person has a different problem, arrives on the street in a different way, and requires a different kind of support network. While these

intensive re-socialization programs are in place, the children living on the streets might gain a lot from services like safe havens and alternative education.

Supported foster care is an option when there is no family for children to be reunited with or when that alternative is unsafe. An allowance can be given to approve families that foster children. The right of the kid to a family and a sense of community must be protected, or alternatively, institutionalization as a norm must be rejected. Additionally, it's important to support the family and the community and get them involved in the quest for answers to their issues. Priority should be placed on prevention, and any intervention should be varied, considering the minor's uniqueness and, in particular, the particular needs of females. Helping broken marriages and families is crucial because they are among the leading causes of child runaway and ending up on the city alleys.

5.4.3. Societal elements and street children populace

Politics should be appropriately engaged. Politicians need to stop saying divisive and inflammatory things, and the government needs to take action. The deep-rooted land dispute and other ancient infringements that have led to tribal confrontations every election season must be resolved as soon as possible by the government. Rigorous compliance with the rules that dictate how the military deals with civilian communities. The community should be made aware of the advantages of small, controllable families in contrast to the traditional preference for populous households. Accrediting women to improve their status in the society; as a result, kids would be able to appreciate them just like they would their fathers. Additionally, this would help mothers become financially stable so they could care for their children. There is no one intervention that would meet the requirements of all kids because there are so many varied reasons why kids can be living on the streets.

A section of children seem to have demands that is possible to be met with ease, like paying tuition fees. Children who have become successful "street entrepreneurs" may not be motivated to be "re-socialized." The situation is significantly more complicated for those who need to flee their abusive parents or guardians.

5.5. Proposed fields for additional investigation

On the grounds of the analyses and decrees of this academic work, numerous directions for further research have been identified. Despite there is substantial reason to admit that the aforementioned economic, political, cultural, and environmental components greatly aid to the explosion rise of youngsters residing in the public spaces, with some parents and children claiming witching. The reason is due to the lack of any other plausible explanation, as a section of them originated from extremely secure economic and political environments, and the Study did not find any noteworthy social or cultural issues that may prompt a young person to go to the streets. Due to the growing number of street children, this Study advises more investigation into the involvement of witchcraft, curses, or evil spirits.

Street children's numbers decreased between the ages of 13 and 18 years old, according to data analysis on demographic characteristics of learners. The WHO defines a kid as being under 18 years old; thus, children above that age were excluded from the Study. However, it was noticed that the likelihood of a child leaving the streets rose as they got older, especially after the age of 13, which is why the Study excluded children over that age. A research project is necessary to find out where street children go after turning 18 years old.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Cherished Informant,

My name is Alice Oluoch, a student at the University of Nairobi pursuing a Postgraduate Diploma in education. The focal point of this research is aspects that motive the increase of child homelessness in streets of Nairobi.

My request is for you to assist with the desired information outlined. The accuracy accorded will be highly appreciated.

The intelligence acquired in this work will be appreciated and ethically utilized for resolve of scholarly reasons and will be handled in strictness and confidentiality.

Thank you in advance. With benevolence, react to all the availed questions in the print out to the best your capability.

Your help will be highly valued. Thank you.

Yours Faithfully,

Alice Anyango Oluoch

L40/32658/2019

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

The aim of the Study is to discern what aspects impact the rise of street kids in Nairobi town. The information collected will be treated with some respect and specifically for the Study.

Respondent's sign..... Date.....

Questionnaire for the Respondent

Instructions

Kindly provide answers for the questions in the blanks.

Use a Tick (✓) for the choice for the questions.

SECTION A: BIODATA

1. Gender ; girl () boy ()

2. Age range in years?

0-4 ()

5-10 ()

11 -15 ()

15-18 ()

3. Time lived in open spaces (in years)

1 ()

1- 2 ()

3- 5 ()

over 5 ()

4. Extent of Schooling

No form of Education ()

Went to junior/ senior School ()

Completed senior School ()

Went to High School ()

5. Do you have children?

Yes ()

No ()

6. Are you with children? Yes (). No ().If yes, how many?

1-2 () 3-4 ()

Other _____

7. What is your birthplace? _____

8. Name of village do you reside in for now _____

9. Are parents alive?

Yes ()

No ()

If NO highlight

Total orphan ()

Paternal orphan ()

Maternal orphan ()

SECTION B: family financial status

1. What is your main day job?

Farmer ()

Businessman ()

Businesswoman ()

Other ()

2. For the outlined list, tick what matches your main sources of income

Begging ()

Vending ()

Touting ()

Car wash ()

Human carrier ()

Any Other ()

3. What is your mean daily income?

Under 100 ()

100-300 ()

301-400 ()

401-500 ()

Above500 ()

SECTION C

Questions Related to Family and Income

1. Is there any source of income in the family per month? Yes () No ()

2. Who is the main breadwinner? Mother? () Father (). Approximate _____.

3. Does any of your parents/guardian take any alcoholic drinks? Yes (). No ().

4. If yes, how often.

Every day (). Twice in a week (). 4 or 6 times a week ().

5. Do fights erupt in the family? Yes (). No (). If yes how often?

How often? Every day (), 2 times a week (), 3 times a week ()

If yes, why?

(a) Money issues () (b) being Drunk (c) No reason () (d) no idea () (e) other ()

What is the size of people who share your homestead? 1-3 () 4-6 () 7-9 () >10 ()

Am obliged with your goodwill.

APPENDIX III: CLUSTER GROUP DISCUSSIONGUIDE FOR STREET CHILDREN

1. How did you end up in the streets of Nairobi city?
2. What are some of the difficulties do you pass through?
3. Is there any help get from;
 - a) The Government
 - b) Municipality
 - c) Private Organizations /C.S.O.s
 - d) Business community
 - e) Religious Organizations
4. What are some of the things that can be put in place that can reduce the difficult street life?
5. Specifically, can you identify the region where most street dwellers originate?