

# Contribution of Law Enforcement Institutions in Protecting Street Children's Rights in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

## ABSTRACT

Tanzania is one of the countries which have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which means they are committed to protecting the rights of all children. Moreover, over 50% of the population of Tanzania is aged 18 years and under, the need to invest in the development and protection of children becomes more important. There are an increasing number of street children in many cities in Tanzania. The reasons for causing street children are widely known. There are law enforcement institutions for protecting children. However, it is not widely known on the contribution of these institutions in protecting street children rights. The study determined the contribution of law enforcement institutions in protecting Street children's rights. Specific objectives of the research were to examine roles of law enforcement institutions in protecting children's rights at various levels of the society and determine communities' attitude towards violation of children's rights. The study was conducted in Temeke and Ilala municipalities in Dar es Salaam city. A cross sectional research design was adopted. A representative sample of 120 street children was used. Both primary and secondary data were collected. A questionnaire survey, focus group discussion, key informant interview and personal observation methods were used to collect the primary data. The Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) for Windows Version 12.0 was used for data analysis. Results of this study revealed that some of the street children's rights for protection were being violated by various law enforcement institutions. From perspective of communities, many of them regarded the street children as criminals. The study concludes that many street children do get the rights for protection. From the findings, it is recommended that the law enforcement institutions should not always use forces due to the notion that the street children are criminals.

*Keywords: street children, laws enforcement, violence, police, institutions*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background Information

Tanzania, as in other African countries, has witnessed a tremendous increase in unsupervised children either living alone or working on urban streets. The rapid population growth has been associated with an increase in the number of children living alone on urban streets or spending most of their day on the streets in the quest for survival. There are an estimated 437,500 street children in Tanzania. The majority of these children have for various reasons either abandoned or have been abandoned by their families and have migrated to urban areas in order to earn a living. Many live on the street because of the violence and abuse they suffered at home. Many more face daily abuse on the streets from the police, sex tourists and even each other. This social problem is acute in big cities, like Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Tanga, Mbeya and Mwanza, where the rates of urban population growth have been exploding [1].

Approximately one-quarter of females and nearly 3 out of every 10 males aged between 13 and 24 years experience emotional violence by an adult prior to turning 18. Between 4% and 5% of females and males aged 13 to 24 years are being threatened with abandonment by an adult prior to turning 18 years of age [2]. Some of them are forced to grow up on their own, with limited or no support from adult caretakers. A study on child disciplinary practices at home, with data from 35 low- and middle income countries, indicates that on average, three in four children between the ages of 2 and 14 are subjected to some kind of violent discipline, more often psychological than physical [3]. While almost three fourths of children experience psychological aggression, about one-half experience physical punishment [4].

32 Urban street children are seen as a problem and have been target of harassment by law enforcement organs such  
33 as police, judiciary and local governments. In fact, the official government attitude towards street children has  
34 been very negative as they are considered to be hooligans, vagabonds and prone to commit crimes. There are  
35 many cases of street children being beaten by police, detained and sometimes repatriated to their rural homes  
36 [5].

37  
38 Law enforcement refers to any system by which some members of society act in an organized manner to  
39 promote adherence to the law by discovering and punishing persons who violate the rules and norms governing  
40 that society. Furthermore, law enforcement may be most concerned with the prevention and punishment of  
41 crimes, organizations exist to discourage a wide variety of non criminal violations of rules and norms [6]. For  
42 the purpose of this study, law enforcement Institutions considered a deliberate action taken by Police and  
43 Judiciary (court and prison) which violates children's rights, especially those living and working on Streets.

44  
45 Tanzania has ratified most major international human rights instruments on children. These include; the UN  
46 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which is ratified in July 1991, the African Charter on the Rights  
47 and Welfare of Children (ACRWC) ratified in May 2003, and ILO Convention on child labour. The  
48 Government of Tanzania also has taken certain steps aimed at promoting child development. These steps  
49 include ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, signing the OAU Charter on the Rights of  
50 Children, and Enactment the Law of the Child Act (2009) aimed at promoting and protecting the rights and  
51 interests of children including street children.

52  
53 Despite the commitment made by the government to protect children rights, yet there are various cases on the  
54 violation of children rights particularly street children. There is inadequate information available on the extent  
55 of violation of child rights. Kopoka [7] as well as Kibassa and Lugalla [8] cited by Luena [2] reported that street  
56 children in Tanzania experience severe difficulties, hardships and violence every day. They are always harassed  
57 physically and verbally abused by both adults and law enforcement institutions; they are victims of increasing  
58 abuse. Therefore, the aim of this study was to determine the contribution of law enforcement Institutions in  
59 protecting the children rights particularly street children.

60  
61 There were many reasons for this study to be carried out. Current situation of Urban Street children were seen as  
62 a problem which further compounds the nature of the Urban Crisis. Little has been done in either solving or  
63 assisting these children; therefore the findings of this will contribute to the existing body of knowledge about the  
64 situation of rights of children particularly street children. The information that generated in this study was  
65 important for policy implications, laws amendments to the Children's welfare, establishment of possible  
66 interventions to help Street children in Tanzania.

67  
68 The Study is guided by The Law of the Child Act of 2009, the Law that recently enacted by the Parliament of  
69 the United Republic of Tanzania to provide reform and consolidation of laws relating to children, to stipulate  
70 rights of the child and to promote, protect and maintain the welfare of a child with a view to giving effect to  
71 international and regional conventions on the rights of the child; to provide for affiliation, foster care, adoption  
72 and custody of the child; to further regulate employment and apprenticeship; to make provisions with respect to  
73 a child in conflict with law and to provide for related matters. The main objectives of this study were to examine  
74 how law enforcement institutions protect street children's rights, and to determine community attitudes towards  
75 violation of children's rights.

76

## 77 1.2 CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

78 Fig. 1 presents relationship among variables for studying **contribution of law enforcement**  
79 **institutions in protecting street children's rights**. The framework is based on the Functionalist  
80 theory by Talcott [9]. According to this theory, a society was likened to a living organism in which  
81 each part of the body contributes to the survival of the organism. Society comprises of institutions  
82 such as the family, religion, law enforcers, judicial and others of which human being is the central  
83 focus. Street children were the product of the society. Street children are living organism who  
84 depended on other organs, so that they can survive and their rights can be protected. If one or two  
85 organ fails to fulfill children's needs, this causes a continual increase the number of street children.

86

87 The background variable involves age, Sex, family size and OVC category of which street child  
88 belongs, this has a connection with the independent variable that include Law enforcement institutions  
89 roles of the Police officer, judiciary (court) and local government activities and community attitudes on

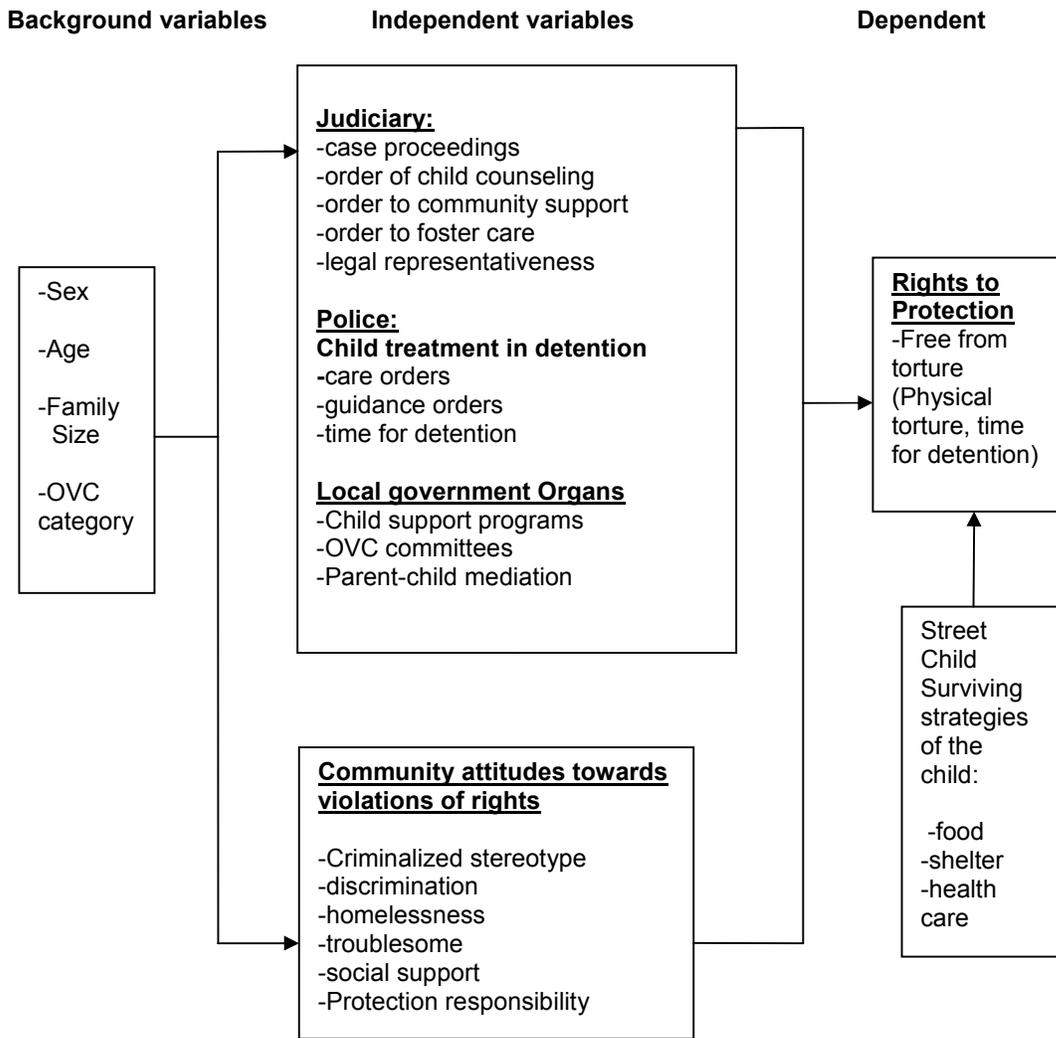
90 the attainment of street children’s rights. If those roles are not fulfilled well affect the dependent  
 91 Variable that affect the right to protection from torture and led to the increase the number of street  
 92 children and the way they fight for survival.

93

94 This study was guided by the functionalist *theory* of sociology pioneered by Talcott Parsons [9].  
 95 According to this theory, a society was likened to a living organism in which each part of the body  
 96 contributes to the survival of the organism. This theory conceptualizes the society as having networks  
 97 of interrelated parts (organs) or systems working for the benefit of the whole society. Society  
 98 comprises of institutions such as the family, religion, law enforcers, judicial and others of which human  
 99 being is the central focus. Street children was the product of the society, implying that, reasons for  
 100 high rates of street children are to be found among and within the society itself. Street children are  
 101 living organism who depended on other organs, so that they can survive and their rights can be  
 102 protected. If one or two organ fails to fulfill children’s needs, this causes a continual increase the  
 103 number of street children.

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109 **Figure 1: Conceptual framework depicting the linkage between law enforcement organizations**  
 110 **and community attitudes on the attainment of street children’s rights**

111

112

## 113 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

### 114 2.1 Study area

115 The study was conducted in Dar es Salaam city, Tanzania. The city consists of three Municipalities namely,  
116 Ilala, Kinondoni and Temeke. According to Population and Housing Census of 2012, the population of Dar es  
117 Salaam was projected to be 4 364 541 [10]. Ilala Municipal was 1 220 611 people. Temeke Municipality has the  
118 population size of 1 368 881 people, while Kinondoni Municipality has 1 775 049 people. Ilala and Temeke  
119 Municipalities were selected for the study. The major reason for selecting these Municipalities is, they have  
120 various activities that attract street children to engage in those activities and petty trades.

121

122

### 123 2.2 Study population

124 Population of the study includes male and female street children of the age between 6 and 17 years. Street  
125 children are used to refer to children who work and/or sleep on the streets. Pilot study showed that it was  
126 difficult to find and interview children below six years rather than those above that age. This is due to the fact  
127 that most of the parents or guardians tried to be more close to their children of below six years and protecting  
128 them rather than those above that age. Also children below six years are too younger to be in streets and most of  
129 are not involved in peer influence because of their age rather than those above that age. Hence, the parents or  
130 guardians wanted to protect their children away from higher risks of being affected by the hardships.

131

### 132 2.3 Research and sampling design

133 A cross-sectional research design was used in the study. This design allows collection of data on different group  
134 of respondents at one point in time from a sample selected to represent the entire study area population. The  
135 selection of this design was based on the nature of study objective and limited resources such as time and  
136 money.

137

### 138 2.4 Sampling procedure and sample size

139

140 Ilala and Temeke Municipalities have been purposively selected for the study to represent Dar es Salaam city. In  
141 Ilala Municipality; Kariakoo market area, Mnazi mmoja, Fire and Jangwani was purposively selected. While  
142 Feri (kigamboni), Chang'ombe, Tandika sokoni, were purposively selected to represent Temeke Municipality.  
143 Thereafter, One hundred and twenty street children, quarter of them should be those ever experienced  
144 prosecution was purposively chosen from the two municipalities with equal contribution of thirty respondents.  
145 Through snowball sampling technique, 10 street girls were voluntarily picked for interview from Ilala  
146 municipality. Therefore, one hundred and twenty respondents constituted a sample size to be used by the study.  
147 The sample size of at least thirty respondents was reasonably large in social science research studies to ensure  
148 normal distribution of the sample mean [11]. Magistrates, Police officers and Probation officers (Social  
149 workers), Community members and Street leaders were used as key informants.

150

### 151 2.5 Data collection

152 Both qualitative and quantitative techniques of data collection were used. Qualitative data were  
153 collected through interview schedule and FGD guided by a check list of questions. Participants in the  
154 FGD were prosecuted street children from Remand home and Kisutu Juvenary court. Information  
155 such as case proceedings, care and support given to street children and types punishment used to  
156 these children was obtained.

157

158 Quantitative data were collected by using a questionnaire survey. A questionnaire formulated of  
159 closed and open-ended questions was used. Information pertaining to accessibility of children's rights  
160 and law enforcement institution was obtained using checklist. Data pertaining to attitudes of the  
161 community on the violation against street children was collected by using a questionnaire survey.  
162 Secondary data were obtained from different documents that found in Kisutu Juvenary court and

163 Temeke Municipal court. Information about prosecuted street children was collected from Temeke  
164 Municipal court.  
165

## 166 **2.6 Data analysis**

167 Both quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods were used. For quantitative data collected  
168 through questionnaire survey, descriptive statistics was employed. In descriptive statistical analysis,  
169 frequencies, percentages, means, standard deviation and other measures of variation were  
170 employed. The entire process of quantitative data analysis, a computer software programme namely  
171 SPSS was used. Before, the analysis, the data collected through questionnaire survey were cleaned,  
172 summarized and coded before entering into the SPSS computer soft ware. For qualitative data  
173 analysis, a content analysis method was used for data collected through FGD and key informant  
174 interview data collection methods. The meaningful information was summarized and analyzed for  
175 reporting.  
176

## 177 **2.7 Ethical Consideration**

178  
179 Ethical consideration gave priority in this study in order to meet research ethics. Ethical considerations  
180 which the researcher prioritized include the researcher's self introduction to the street children,  
181 explanation in detail of the purpose of this study and its importance to street children before the  
182 beginning of the interviews. The researcher asked street children to participate voluntarily in the  
183 interview and assured them confidentiality of the information they provided. The researcher preserved  
184 the anonymity of street children during the interview (filling the questionnaires) although some of them  
185 preferred to provide their names. The researcher permitted to conduct this study by authority of  
186 Sokoine University of Agriculture as well as Municipals directors of both Ilala and Temeke  
187 municipalities.  
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## 191 **3.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 192 **3.1 Roles of law enforcement institutions in protecting street children's rights at the** 193 **various levels**

194 The roles of law enforcement institutions in protecting street children's rights have reported differently  
195 by the study depending on the different categories of law enforcers. According to this study, the law  
196 enforcers mean a Police, Magistrate, Social welfare officer especially those who are working at the  
197 Court. This section aimed to find out the following roles pertaining to children rights which are excised  
198 by law enforcers.

#### 199 **3.1.1 Case proceedings pertaining to street children**

200 Street children were interviewed in order to understand that if their cases were listened to an open  
201 court (Table 1). The response was 93.3% of 105 children interviewed reported that cases proceedings  
202 pertaining to street children were not listened to an open Court, while only 6.7% of the street  
203 children's cases were being listened to the open court. So far this is opposite from other research  
204 done by UNICEF [12] which reported that cases involving children are commonly conducted in an  
205 open court, and children handcuffed when sent to court or prison. One of the judges in Kisutu  
206 Juvenary court reported that cases related to children were listened in a special room and not in an  
207 open court as reported by other researchers. Further, she explained that children criminal offense  
208 cases were listened very early in the morning in order to let the children go back home/ school.  
209

#### 210 **3.1.2 Courts give orders related to child counseling and community**

211 On the point of, if the Court gives order to child counseling when a child commits crime, 64% of street  
212 children interviewed indicated that they were receiving counseling, while 36% of the children did not  
213 receive any (Table 1). Results from Social welfare officers who worked with Kisutu Juvenary court  
214 agreed that there was an order related to child counseling; their main roles are to conduct interview in

215 the court, to provide advice and psychosocial counseling and support to children, re-unite the children  
216 with their families and withdraw them from any kind of abuses the children receiving in the streets.

217 **Table 1: Questions pertaining to law enforcement organization**

218

Statements	Response (%)	
	Yes	No
Are case proceedings pertaining to street children listened in open court? (n =105)	6.67	93.33
Do courts give orders related to child counseling once street children commit crimes? (n=50)	64	36
Do courts give orders for responsible community members to provide Social and protection support to street children (n=46)	4.35	95.65
Is there any order of foster care for street children given by courts to responsible care givers? (n=45)	0	100
Are street children left free from labour exploitation or any kind of harassment when a child is in detention under police? (n=99)	72.72	27.28
Is there any special Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) programs organized by the local government which support street children? (n=94)	1.06	98.94
Are there any OVC committees for supporting most vulnerable children such as street children in the district? (n=85)	1.17	98.83
Have you ever participated to any parent/relative-child mediation unit of the district? (n=107)	1.87	98.13

219

220 From the survey, it can be reported that there was no any foster care service for street children given  
221 by courts to responsible care givers by 100% (Table 1). Currently, Tanzania does not have a foster  
222 care system, and efforts to establish an effective foster care program have been insufficient. Legal  
223 advocates for children have recommended that a foster care system be created, and that the views of  
224 the child be considered when deciding on a foster care placement if the child has the capacity to  
225 express an informed opinion. When placing a child under guardianship, legal advocates for children  
226 have recommended that the court appoint a guardian to represent the child in court, preferably a  
227 social welfare officer, as it would be best if the child would not have to come to the court. Government  
228 under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare provides a license to nongovernmental organizations  
229 (NGOs) that deal with children to foster children.

230

### 231 **3.1.3 Street children harassment in detention**

232 From Table 1, the results show that 72.7% of the street children were free from harassment when a  
233 child had been in detention, while 27.3% of the street children indicated that they experienced some  
234 harassment when they were in detention. Other children reported kinds of harassments such as are  
235 abusive language, corporal punishment and cleaning police offices, all these denial the rights from  
236 torture. These results are opposing with study done by Carabain [5]. The author reported that urban  
237 street children are seen as a problem and have been target of harassment by law enforcement  
238 organs for example; police, judiciary and local governments. In fact, the official government attitude  
239 towards street children has been very negative as are considered to be hooligans, vagabonds and  
240 prone to commit crimes. There are many cases of street children being beaten by police, detained  
241 and sometimes repatriated to their rural homes.

242 Results from the key informants support that the role of police is to provide security in protecting a  
 243 child and escorting a child up to the prison when the child is in the custody or remand home to make  
 244 sure that the child is in the safe hand. These results were in line with those given by few street  
 245 children who said that they were not beaten by police, when the police found them on the street they  
 246 just be arrested and sent them to police station.  
 247

248 **3.1.4 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) programs organized by the local governments**

249 Street children were asked to explain if there had been OVC programmes and committees organized  
 250 by the local governments (Table 1). The results show that 98.94% of the street children indicated that  
 251 there were no any programme on OVC organized by local governments, while 1.1 % of the children  
 252 accepted that there were OVC programmes organized by the local governments for helping these  
 253 children. The results, also, show that 98.8% of the children interviewed said there was no any OVC  
 254 committee that supporting vulnerable children, while only 1.2% agreed that there were OVC  
 255 committees. This is very big challenge to the government especially local governments that they failed  
 256 to provide protection to the vulnerable children  
 257

258 **3.1.5 Parent/relative-child mediation**

259 Children were asked if there had been any parent/relative-child mediation has been made in order to  
 260 solve their problems. About 98% of the children interviewed said there was no parent/relative-child  
 261 mediation before they left home, while 1.9% of the street children indicated that the parent/relative-  
 262 child mediation existed (Table 1). The results show that most of the children left their home because  
 263 of the different reasons like poor life condition, lack of parental care and others were convinced by  
 264 their fellow children that in Dar es Salaam, there is good life and not family conflict.  
 265

266 **3.2 Community Attitude towards Violation of Children’s Rights**

267 This section aimed to determine community attitudes towards violation of children’s rights. Does the  
 268 community perceive street children as criminals?, the results (Table 2) were 58.2% of the children  
 269 agreed with the statement, while 27.3% disagreed. However, 14.5% of people interviewed were  
 270 undecided.  
 271

272 **Table 2: A Likert Scale presenting questions pertaining to community attitude towards**  
 273 **violation of children’s rights**  
 274

Statement	1	2	3
Street children are all typically criminals	27.3	14.5	58.2
Street children are to be excluded by the surrounding community	74.5	3.7	21.8
Street children are not homelessness by origin	7.3	1.8	90.9
Street children are of much disturbance to the community	7.5	3.7	88.8
Holistic social support is needed for Street children	5.6	0	94.4
The surrounding community does not take responsibility in protecting street children from crimes and abuses against them	3.6	1.8	94.6

275 **N=55; 1= Disagree, 2= Undecided, 3= Agree**  
 276  
 277

278 On the statement of Street children are to be excluded by the surrounding community; 74.5% of the  
 279 respondents disagreed with the statement, while 21.8 % agreed with the point, others (3.7%) were  
 280 undecided (Table 2). The focus of the question was to discover if holistic social support is needed for  
 281 Street children, 90.9 % of the respondents agreed that holistic social support was required in order to  
 282 rescue the life of these children for instance other children were very young at the age of ten and

283 eleven years that they were supposed to be in schools, having parental love and care, while 7.3%  
284 disagreed on the matter and 1.8% undecided (Table 2).

285

286 Basing on the findings, 94.4 % of the respondents agreed that holistic social support was needed to  
287 rescue the life of street children, while 5.6 % disagreed with the point (Table 2). Collective social  
288 support is needed to reduce and/ or to combat the problem of street children. Other community  
289 members interviewed responded to the question of 'Street children are of much disturbance to the  
290 community; 88.8% agreed that street children are of much disturbance to the community, while 7.5%  
291 disagreed and 3.7% were undecided (Table 2). Results from this study show that majority of  
292 community members perceive street children as hooligans they should be forcefully removed from  
293 streets because some street children use drugs including cocaine, "mirungi", marijuana, and heroine  
294 and so as the means of refreshing themselves and also a means to overcome stresses of being in the  
295 street. During FGD respondents stated that street children use those substances so that they can be  
296 courageous over abuses and other difficulties of life in the streets. Moreover, other street children are  
297 thieves that is a reason community members perceive them are of much disturbances.

298

299 On the question of the surrounding community does not take responsibility in protecting street  
300 children from crimes and abuses against them; the answer was 94.6% of the respondents agreed with  
301 the statement, while 3.6% disagreed and 1.8% were undecided (Table 2). These results came to  
302 agree with the research done by Shivji [13] which shows that about 40% of all human rights violation  
303 is committed by individuals and, therefore, demands against violation can also be legitimately made  
304 against individuals. It is true that surrounding community does not take the responsibility in protecting  
305 children from crime and abuse because some of the members of community are the one who abuse  
306 these children through physical and sexual abuse. Results from the FGD shows, one of a girl street  
307 child was complained about the way perpetrators abuse her, to quote a street girl of 16 years:

308

309 *"My name is Asha (not her real name) and I am 16 years old. One day, I went with a man*  
310 *who took me to a restaurant. People came to this restaurant and promised us jobs. We were*  
311 *happy to be able to work and help support our families. But we had to work very long days.*  
312 *The man said, 'You did not get here to go to school, you came here to work!' I hardly got food;*  
313 *never got paid and so I decided to run away. I walked 850 kilometers to get to Dar es Salaam.*  
314 *I felt very bad when I was working on the streets, because I had no place to sleep. A man*  
315 *took me into his house. This man was harassing me when I was staying in the house. He*  
316 *abused me; then he beat me because I became pregnant. He said he was not responsible for*  
317 *my pregnancy. I felt it was too much; I ran away. I went back to the streets. One night I met a*  
318 *lady. I told her about my problems and she took me home. It was a brothel. There were many*  
319 *other girls brought in. Many were involved with sexual relationships with the men. At that time*  
320 *I was still pregnant. I am not sure if I got a disease because most men refused to wear a*  
321 *condom. I had sex with many men from Tanzania, but also with white men."*

322

323 Asha is now at a recovery center for girl prostitutes. Since sexual child abuse violates a  
324 child's rights, it was expected in this study that most of the street children who were sexually  
325 abused could report to the police what happened to them so that legal actions could be taken  
326 against the perpetrators. Contrary to the expectation, only few street children reported events  
327 of sexual child abuse to the police, most of them do not like to do so because of fear of police  
328 and also feel shame.

329

330 The findings of this study give the impression that street children have been severe problem in many  
331 countries especially in developing world. The basic rights of the child are frequently violated by the  
332 community, parents and guardians who have been left to bring up children and care for them and their  
333 interests without taking into account their economic status, education, traditions and customs and the  
334 environments in which they live. The children in the streets have been receiving various abuses,  
335 which in humanity point of view is not supported in any communities. This shows that majority of the  
336 population has no knowledge regarding rights to protection of children, despite the children have  
337 rights to be protected against all forms of abuses, neglect and discrimination so that they may grow  
338 up with a healthier life and be an active members of societies. Further, some community members  
339 neglect the existence of street children as they regard them as criminals. However, law enforcement  
340 institutions; partly play their roles in protecting the children's rights.

341



## 342 4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

343

### 344 4.1 Conclusions

345

346 From, the findings, this study concludes that roles of law enforcement institutions have played their  
347 roles positively. This came to agree with the results of the questions responded from street children  
348 and law enforcers and researcher's observation, the results from interviewed reported that cases  
349 proceedings pertaining to street children are not listened to an open Court. Experience from Kisutu  
350 Juvenary court shows that Case related to children were listened in a special room and not in an open  
351 court.

352

353 Basing on the findings, roles of law enforcer depicted as to hear and determine cases, to conduct  
354 interview at the court and provide psychosocial counseling and support to the children, to escort a  
355 child to police station, despite of those roles still they are facing a lots of problems such poor  
356 infrastructure. There is only One Juvenary court in Tanzania, lack of cooperation between parents,  
357 some law are contradicted and lack of resources. These entire factors have made to have some  
358 challenges in delivering the service.

359

360 The study concludes that the overall community attitudes towards street children have been positive.  
361 Findings further revealed that of holistic social support is needed in order to rescue the life of these  
362 children. In addition, surrounding community does not take responsibility in protecting street children  
363 from crimes and abuses against them. Child rearing and parenting was a community issue where  
364 emphasis was placed on child discipline, schooling and preparation for an adult role in the community  
365 that cause the continuity of the increased number of children in the street.

366

### 367 4.2 Recommendations

368

369 Based on the study findings, the following recommendations are made:

370 i. Findings of this study showed that there is a challenge of having proper infrastructure hence  
371 there is only one Juvenary court in Tanzania. Therefore the Government should increase the  
372 budget to build infrastructure such as Court, Cells, police station and offices in order to  
373 provide privacy when hearing Juvenary cases. Also Police, magistrate and Prison police  
374 officer needs special training on how to handle children / Juvenary delinquency. There is a  
375 need to have police officers specialized on children's issues who can work with Social  
376 Welfare Officers and others in protection and offending concerns.

377 ii. Findings from the survey show that there is no foster care service for street children given by  
378 courts to responsible care givers. Tanzania does not have a foster care system, and efforts to  
379 establish an effective foster care program have been insufficient. Legal advocates for children  
380 have recommended that a foster care system be created, and that the views of the child be  
381 considered when deciding on a foster care placement, this will help a child to be placing  
382 under guardianship and the court appoint the a guardian to represent the child in court,  
383 preferably a social welfare officer, as it would be best if the child would not have to come to  
384 the court.

385

386 iii. Despite the fact community attitude towards street children have seen positively still collective  
387 social support is needed in order to help these group of young children. Community in  
388 collaboration with local government authority should establish committee that support OVC  
389 groups by doing follow up. Research has demonstrated that no amount of intervention  
390 programming designed for street children can be successful unless the community is  
391 prepared to respect, protect and provide opportunities to street children.

392

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