

Addis Ababa University

College of Social Sciences

School of social work

Title: Exploring the Factors Pushing Criminal Suspects to Commit Crime:

The Case of Soddotown in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.

Prepared By: Fereje Fanchu

Advisor: Comdr. Demelash Kassaye (PhD)

June, 2017

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Exploring the Factors Pushing Criminal Suspects to Commit Crime:

The case of SoddoTown in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.

By: Fereje Fanchu

A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies of Addis Ababa University in  
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Social Work

June, 2017

DECLARATION

I, the under signed, declare that this MA thesis entitled " Exploring the Factors Pushing Criminal suspects to Commit Crime: The case of Soddo town in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia." is my original work and has not been presented for degree requirement by any other individual; and that all the source materials used for this thesis have been acknowledged.

Student Name: Fereje Fanchu

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Confirmed by:

Name :.....( Thesis Advisor)

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Addis Ababa University  
School of Graduate Studies

Title: Exploring the Factors Pushing Criminal Suspects to Commit Crime:  
The Case of Soddotown in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.

By  
Fereje Fanchu Gechere

School of Social Work

Approved by Board of Examiners:

.....

.....

Advisor

Signature

.....

.....

Examiner

Signature

.....

.....

Examiner

Signature

**List of Acronym and Abbreviation**

BFED      Bureau of Finance and Economic Development

CSA      Central Statistical Agency

FDRE      Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

SNNPR      South Nation Nationalities and People Region

## **Acknowledgements**

First and for most, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to my advisor Dr, Commander Demelash Kassaye for his constructive and consecutive support, suggestions, comments, encouragements and useful hints to develop this thesis work. Secondly, my deepest gratitude thanks goes to my parents and my relatives for their support starting from childhood up to now through their material and mental help.

I greatly appreciate the staff of Wolaita zone police commission for their provided the required data equally. My heartfelt thanks go to the participants who answered the required data without hesitation.

Finally, I would like to thanks my friends who are Mr. Mekonin Debara and Awoke Bezabih for their kindly cooperation that providing any kind of materials for me

to finish my research project.

**Thank You!!!**

### **Abstract**

As third world, urbanization has not been accompanied by industrialization, because unemployment born crimes are expanding in urban areas. Thus, this study explores the Pushing Criminal suspects to commit Crime. The types of crimes most dominantly practiced in the sodd town, pushing factors, as well as prevention methods were included. According to the contextual definition and related literature explanation, crime is a product of psychological mechanisms (instantiated in the brain) combined with environmental input that activates them or inhibits their activation. In addition Crimes such as robbery, assault, rape, and murder comprise a subset of human behavior. Furthermore the problem impact on psychological, physical, psycho social aspects of the society. In order to assess the life of participants, the researcher used qualitative research

.under this research type, explanatory method has been utilized and the researcher interviewed 20 informants, specifically 11 offenders and 9 police officers. The result has shown that a number of pushing factors lead people to becoming a victim of crime. Based on the finding of this study, the main pushing factors of offenders explained by key informants are unemployment, peer pressure and substance addiction. Moreover, the researcher concluded that crime waves, however, come and so and no one stay young and adult forever. Therefore, involvement in crime appears to decrease consistently. Finally, the researcher strongly recommended that government and academic institution professionals should pay much interest about the problem in order to outline the root cause of crime based on the nature of causes, and they should arrange the welfare measures as it requires deserves.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **Introduction**

The aim of this MA thesis entitled, “Exploring the Factors Pushing Criminal suspects to Commit Crime in Soddo town Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.”, was to explore the factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime in Sodo town. The Specific objectives were to identify the major factors that pushes individuals to involve in various criminal

acts in the town, identifying the common types of crimes that have been practiced in the Soddo town and examining the major prevention methods of crime. The qualitative research paradigm is employed as the main method to explore the practice.

The Study participants were enlisted from police commission especially from traffic accident and crime investigation department and offenders who are sentenced under Soddo police commission. The thesis covers five chapters. Chapter one sets out the study introduction, study background, problem statement, research questions, study objectives, significance of the study, scope of the study, purpose of the study, operational definitions of key terms in the study, study areas and limitation. The second chapter presents a review of related literature; while the third chapter discusses research methodology. The next chapter presents and analyzes the data generated. The final chapter deals with the discussion, conclusions, and recommendations.

- **Background of the Study**

In the history of human society in one way or another, there has been no time that man becomes free of problems. Man, crime and reaction to crime are part of the regular operation of the society. Man has attempted to understand the problem and factor of crime since ancient period of time. It has also formulated different mechanisms on how to

control crime and to reduce the number of criminals. During the medieval and early modern periods, the empirical explanation of crimes was stated. The principal explanation during this time was crime was due to innate wickedness and the instigation of the devil. During these courses of time, although rational change had been taken place in the society to understand the real causes of criminal behavior, the systematic study of crime causation is a recent origin (Gibbons, 1992). In fact, criminology is a study of crime and criminal behaviors. Criminologists are also professionals who try to discover why people became criminals and when and where varies type of crimes occur and how crime can be prevented (The New Book of knowledge, 2007).

Crime has been a practicing in the society since people began to live together in groups. However, at different times and wide variety of societies people have different idea about crimes. Thereby an act is considered as a crime in one society or country may be legal in another. For example, in the United States people are free to practice any religion and the same sex marriage (gay marriage) where as in other countries it may be crime to practice. Some laws prohibit behavior that endangered people or properties while other outlaw behavior that is viewed as morally wrong. Values and moral change over times and so do beliefs about what behaviors considered crimes. Despite such differences however certain acts are considered crimes in most modern societies (The New Book of knowledge, 2007).

According to the Bimal K.N. (2013) there are different reasons for development of crime in different countries like political, social, economic and even moral or spiritual

in nature where as geographical analysis suggests that countries with more urbanized population have higher registered crime rates as do those with strong rural life styles and communities. The ongoing process of urbanization in developing countries is contributing to juvenile involvement in criminal behaviors.

Ethiopia is faced with many social and economic problems which in turn causes crime. Ethiopia is suffering from the lack of basic needs of life, such as food, health care, housing and education. Ethiopia's rapid population growth also presents great problems for the nation. Homelessness in the capital city is a serious social problem. The growing of slum areas in major cities of the country causes criminal activity. Many street children resort to theft to feed themselves (Andargachew, 2004).

Studies carried out by Macions and John. J. (2005) pointed that urbanism is viewed as the combined concept of size, density and the presence of certain institutions associated with an urban life style. Demographic studies reveal the common characteristics of urban communities like; a heterogeneity of culture with concomitants differences in beliefs and behaviors, differences among group members with relationship between people restricted specific needs, increased mobility, impartiality, and anonymity, people who vary in age, race, ethnicity, norms and values. These are predisposing factors that breed urban criminality. Therefore, deteriorating conditions of living in urban areas has produced its share of Juvenile delinquency, drug dependency, prostitutions, mental illness, physical disabilities, suicides, family and personal organization, garbage and sewerage disposals and trapped Jams and congestion conditions that creates fertile

breeding grounds for crime (Macions. JohnJ).

Many social scientists also argued that crime is closely related to work; education, poverty and that truancy, youth unemployment and crime are by product or even measures social exclusion. Thus, criminals often have limited education and possess limited labor market skills (Ann and Robert, W. 2000).

Soddo is one of the second biggest towns in the southern, Nation, Nationalities and People region that has a long and old history. People who are living in the town engaged in various economic activities like agricultural products and small enterprises for the development of the town. Now a day most of unemployed people are migrating from rural area to the Soddo town. Those who migrated from rural areas also faced a future of low-wage employment, unemployment, poverty, drugs, and crime. Therefore, the development of urbanization decreased the traditional social control values in the town and social bonds in the society at the time going to be diminished. As result, there are a large number of criminals in the town and opportunity for individuals to become criminals wider than prior. Accordingly, this study has mainly explored the factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The study has addressed and explored the factors pushing the criminal suspects to commit crime: the case of Soddo town in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia. According to Bureau of justice statistics (2000) urban and sub urban violent crimes tend to be different in nature and frequency. Violent victimization rats tend to be higher in urban areas than

in suburban or rural areas, and urban crimes are more likely to be committed by strangers.

Bimal K.N. (2013) has done study on the title of “Juvenile Delinquency: Its magnitude and impact at Gondar Town in Ethiopia” this study indicate that crime is more related with Urbanization, Economic, social and Cultural factors. Accordingly, the problem of juvenile delinquency is universal in nature and more relevant and found in developing countries worldwide. Both boys and girls of adolescent age from different background are easily victimized and get involved in different kinds of anti-social activities in the community such as crime involving theft, vandalism, or violence, the victim always suffers loss.

Habtamu (2007) also has done in the title of assessing the pattern and trends of crime against the women prison. The study explains the case of delinquency in relation with genetic factor and socialization. According to this study, genetic factor related manhood and womanhood can be responsible for some of explicit and implicit behavior of man and women. Albeit the research has done, it fails to indicate clear target about the pushing factors of offenders to commit crime and the most dominantly practiced crimes in the area.

Andrgachew (2004) has conducted study on crime problem and its correction methods in Ethiopia also explained that crime problem and the way of correction methods that has been taken through during Haile selassie up to current regime (FDRE). Even if the study has conducted, the researcher did not indicate clear benchmark about the driving factors of people to commit crime and its type.

In addition studies carried out by Nega. J & Berhanu, (2014) done research on the title of Crime Situations and Reaction of Criminal Justice System in Oromia, Ethiopia. It attempted to analyze incidence and types of crime, determine crime and criminal rate, appraise the efficiency and measures taken by criminal justice system, and provide possible explanations on crime situations using a selected theoretical framework. Socio cultural theoretical frame work is used in explaining factors of crime. Even if the study has conducted, the researcher did not point out the driving factors of people to commit crime in the urban areas and the type of crimes that have been practiced in the urban area.

So this study has filled a critical gap of research as far as types, exploring factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime in the Sodo town. Many studies have conducted as researcher examined above, explain that different aspects of crime in Ethiopia. However, no research that specifically focused Soddo town in Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.

### **1.3 Basic Research Questions**

- What are the major factors that motivated individuals to involve in criminal acts in the Soddo town?
- What are the common types of crimes most dominantly practiced in the Soddo town?
- What are the major prevention methods of crime that has been taken from the government and the community?

## **1.4 Objective of the Study**

### **1.4.1. General Objective**

- The general objective of the study was to assess the factors pushing offenders into a criminal act in Soddo town at Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia.

- **Specific Objectives**

- To assess the major factors that push individuals to involve in various criminal acts in the town
- To identify the common types of crimes that have been practiced in the Soddo town
- To examine the major prevention methods of crime.

- **Operational and Conceptual Definition of Key Terms**

Offender: offenders are delinquents who convict under the law and commit illegal action.

Burglary: the unlawful entry of structure to a felony or thefts.

Criminal law: a body of law that regrets actions which have the potential to harm interests of the state or the federal government.

Criminology: is interring disciplinary professions built around the scientific study of

crime and criminal behavior including their form, causes, legal aspects and control.

Felony: a serious criminal offence specially one punishable by death or by incarceration in prison facility for a year or more.

Misdemeanor: a criminal offence which is less than a felony, one punishable by incarceration for a year or less.

Larceny: unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Arson: any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn with or without intent to defraud a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle, or air craft, personal property of another etc.

### **1.6 Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study has to explore the pushing suspects to commit criminal acts. Furthermore, the studies has shown the gap for future research and recommended solutions for the identified problems. In addition, crime is serious issue in developing countries and the concerned bodies like community, schools, police commission and religious institution should teach youths to reduce involving in criminal activities in the Soddo town. In general, this study finds out the factors pushing suspects to commit crime and its prevention methods.

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

This study has dig out the pushing factors of offender suspects to commit crime. It is also

very important that showing the rigorousness of consequences to the society and how to protect offenders before committing the criminal acts. Moreover, the findings of this study has helped policy makers and social work practitioners in the area of assessing why the offenders suspects to commit crime and also it has expanded the knowledge prospect in social work, and serves as a landmark for other researchers to carry out a detailed study on the area under investigation.

### **1.8 The Scope of the Study**

The Soddo town which is my study area found in center of Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia delimited with Soddo Zuriya Woreda. The scope of this study was focus on exploring pushing factors suspect to commit criminal acts in the Soddo town because there are many people who are involved in unnecessary activities, such as crime involving theft, vandalism, or violence, the victim always suffers loss to satisfy them and to fulfill their daily basic needs.

### **1.9 The Description of Study Area**

Wolaita is one of the 13 Zonal Administrations of the Southern Region in Ethiopia, Located 300 kilometers south of Addis Ababa. It has a latitude and longitude of [6°50'N 37°45'E](#).Based on the 2007 Census conducted by the [Central Statistical Agency](#) of Ethiopia (CSA), Specifically, my study area which is Soddo town has total population of 78,253 of whom 38,565 are men and 39,688 women, based on the 2016, Wolayta Zone Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (BFED). In addition, Soddo town which

found in the center of Wolayta Zone delimited with Soddo Zuriya Woreda.

### **1.10 Limitation of the Study**

In this study, the investigator has faced the scarcity of resources and unwillingness from the side of participants of this study to record their voices. Therefore, this thing was one of challenges to easily handle during the process of data collection.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **Literature Review**

This part of the study has presented about reviewed literature regarding with the exploring the factors pushing criminal suspects to Commit Crime. The literature also evaluated the holistic concept of the study and fit the objective set by the investigator. Moreover, this part enhanced the finding of the study in relation to the general and specific objectives.

### **2.1 Conceptualization of Crime**

#### **2.1.1 The Evolutionary Psychology Definition of Crime**

According to evolutionary psychology, all human behavior, criminal or otherwise, is a product of psychological mechanisms (instantiated in the brain) combined with environmental input that activates them or inhibits their activation. In addition Criminal acts such as robbery, assault, rape, and murder comprise a subset of human behavior. They occur at non-trivial rates in all known cultures in predictable patterns. For example, in every culture, criminal behavior such as sexual assault, non-lethal violence, and homicide shows cross-culturally predictable age and sex distribution. These forms of criminal behavior are perpetrated many times more by males than by females (David M.

Buss 2012).

### **2.1.2 Sociological Explanations of Crime**

Studies carried out by D. Zembroski (2011) explain that crime is a product of conflicts over the distribution of resources and the illegitimacy of such a distribution, especially as it impacts the poor and the groups that seek to organize and bring conflict out into the open. Many sociological explanations of crime had proffered that economic deprivation acts as a motivational factor in the manifestation of crime. While the causal role that economic hardship plays in promoting criminal behavior differs, most explanations had advanced some variant of the basic theme that poverty in a stratified society weakens institutional legitimacy and undermines the social bonds between these institutions and the impoverished (Lisa Stolzenberg et.al, 2006).

Studies carried out by Stergios. S. (2001), from all other type of crime, organized crime emerges out of the power that is created by the absence of state enforcement, and which can have many sources: geographic, social, and ethnic distance, prohibition, or simply collapse of state institutions. Different criminologists define crime differently and its definition also different from country to country, place to place and time to time. Crime as “an international act in violation of the criminal law committed without defense or excuse and penalized by the state as a felony or misdemeanor”

In addition, studies carried out by (Frank, 1999) explained that, Crime is also a term that refers to as many type of misconduct and forbidden by law. Murder also called

homicide is a crime in all countries. In a United State stealing a car is a crime so it is resisting arrest possessing or selling illegal drugs and using mails to cheat someone.

Other crimes including appearing a nude on Public Street driving while under influence of alcohol and reburying a bank. The list of acts considered crime is constantly changing. In England during 1970s it was not a crime for people to steal money entrusted to their car by employer. Today this type of theft is called embezzlement which is a crime (world book encyclopedia, 1992).

As literature explained above, all human behavior criminal or product of psychological mechanism that combined with environmental factors, product of conflict over the production of resources, the absence of state, geographical, social, economic, are also some of pushing factors that people motivated to commit criminal acts. Therefore, the researcher believed that those all above mentioned realities are the result of criminals and that should be pushing factors of offenders to commit criminal acts.

## **2.2 Factors Pushing Criminal Suspects to Commit Crime**

### **2.2.1 The Role of Early Life Experiences**

Patrick V. Murphy (1985) noted that, early life experiences appear likely to have an especially strong influence on the development of criminality because individuals acquire their traits sequentially. The traits we possess at any juncture are the result of the cumulative cognitive, affective, physical, and social effects of a sequence of events that began at conception. As a result of these events, individuals acquire a strategic style over

the course of their lives. Some individuals develop a strategic style that emphasizes the use of force, fraud, or stealth to obtain resources and is characterized by self-centeredness, indifference to the suffering and needs of others, and low self-control criminality.

### **2.2.2 Family Structures as a Factor of Crime**

The families are uniquely placed in contributing to raising healthy responsible members of society. But the task of putting children first goes well beyond the family to include communities and society. Dysfunctional family conditions contribute to future delinquency (Dennis O.Edewor, 2014).

### **2.2.3 Unemployment as Factor of Crime**

Researching has long been curious about the impact of economic fluctuations on crime rates. These questions reflects a long standing suspicion that private deviant behavior has public roots in the economic conditions of the wider society. Unemployment is one measure of economic well-being although its impact falls heavily on minority rather than all citizens generally. In addition, increases in price and a decline or disappearance of income involve obvious material consequences. Beyond these important effects, economic change presumable alters the attitude and emotion of affected individuals and their families.

It is conceivable that these material and non material changes accumulate to increases the probability of crime and violence (Richard T. Shaufor, 1995). The empirical evidence on the relationship between unemployment and criminal activity

has been the subject of much investigation. As Freeman (1996) pointed out, unemployment has an influence on the opportunity cost of illegal activity. High rates of unemployment growth could be taken to imply a restriction on the availability of legal activities, and thus serve to ultimately reduce the opportunity cost of engaging in illegal activities. Most empirical researches on the relationship between unemployment and crime have provided evidence on the positive relationship on unemployment and crime. For example, Clinard, M. B. and Abbott, D. J. (1986), observed the relationship between unemployment and crime and they found that, unemployment had a significant effect on crime.

#### **2.2.4 Addiction as a Factor of Crime**

This is not an important factor in criminal behavior, though it may play a part in the causation of crime in later adolescence and more particularly in adulthood. It is a crime in itself, but, like truancy, it may also be a causal factor in other criminal behavior, such as stealing, sex offenses, or disturbing the peace.' A great variety of mental, physical, and environmental factors contribute to drug addiction as to any other form of undesirable behavior (K. M. Bonham Bridges, 1997).

#### **2.2.5 Peer Influences as Factor of Crime.**

Studies carried by Steinberg, L. (1987) explained that the factors such as peer criminals, peer approval of delinquent behavior, attachment or allegiance to peers, time spent with peers, and peer pressure for the involvement of the crime have all been associated with adolescent antisocial behavior. Hence, the influence of peers and their

acceptance of criminal behavior are significant, and this relationship is magnified when youth have little interaction with their parents.

Negative peer group members indulge in activities that might require funding. They therefore ask the new entrants to arrange the funds by stealing from their parents or from other students. The new entrant also agrees to do it in the hope that he/she will be considered as a member of the peer group. Gradually this stealing exceeds the limits and goes beyond the parent's and class mate's purses and go towards stealing other people money (Seigal, 2003).

#### **2.2.6 Social Environment as Factor of Crime**

Our social structure mirrors to citizens and communities what we value and how we set priorities. Social root causes of crime are: inequality, not sharing power, lack of support to families and neighborhoods, real or perceived inaccessibility to services and lack of leadership in communities, low value placed on children and individual well-being, the overexposure to television as a means of recreation (Dennis O.Edewor, 2014).

#### **2.2.7 Inequality as Factor of Crime**

A different perspectives has focused not on national income will being as a whole but instead on the inequality . They say measure of inequalities like income, Wealth, land or other are unequally distributed thorough out population. When these indicators are compared with national offense rates, an inverse relationship is generally found. The most common progression of vents that generates social relations that in

turn create latent conflict, that conditions are ripe will become violent conflict  
(Macions . John J. 1994)

### **2.2.8 Economic Factors/Poverty as a factor of crime**

Many social scientists argue that crime is closely related to work, education and poverty and that truancy, youth unemployment and crime are by products or even measures of social exclusion. In addition, lack of financial resources, lack of educational opportunities, and lack of meaningful employment options, poor housing, lack of hope and the prejudice against persons living in poverty (Dennis O.Edewor, 2014).

As literature reviewed above, some individuals develop a strategic style that emphasizes the use of force, fraud, or stealth to obtain resources, public formlessness/environmental instabilities, poor administration of justices, poor socialization, religious sentiments, a shortage of farm land; poor land management, unemployment, peer influence, substance addiction, inequality and mental instabilities are some of root factors of crime. In general, these all factors are the result of economic, social environment, personal and family structures. Consequently, the researcher believed that those root factors should be similarly affect people to commit criminal acts in the study areas.

### **2.3 Types of Crime**

A crime is an act which is prohibited and made punishable by law or an act consists of the commission of what is prohibited or the omission of what is prescribed by law. There are many different types of crimes, from crimes against persons to victimless

crimes and violent crimes to white-collar crimes. The study of crime and deviance is a large subfield within sociology, with much attention paid to who commits which types of crimes and why (Ashley Crossman, 2016).

### **2.3.1 Crimes against Persons**

According to the Ashley, (2016) crimes against persons, also called personal crimes, include murder, aggravated assault, rape, and robbery. Personal crimes are unevenly distributed in the United States, with young, urban, poor, and racial minorities arrested for these crimes more than others.

### **2.3.2 Crimes against Property**

Property crimes involve theft of property without bodily harm, such as burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson. Like personal crimes, young, urban, poor, and racial minorities are arrested for these crimes more than others (Ashley, 2016).

### **2.3.3 Crimes against Morality**

As Ashley, (2016) Crimes against morality are also called [victimless crimes](#) because there is not complainant, or victim. Prostitution, illegal gambling, and illegal drug use are all examples of victimless crimes.

### **2.3.4 White-Collar Crime**

White-collar crimes are crimes committed by people of high social status who

commit their crimes in the context of their occupation. This includes embezzling (stealing money from one's employer), [insider trading](#), tax evasion, and other violations of income tax laws (Ashley, 2016).

Most of the time, this type of crime also occurred the fraud in the professions. For example, health care's fraud, (committed by physicians), financial fraud (committed by savings and loan industries), police and political corruption (violation of public trust) hate crime and Computer or cybercrime (Steven E. Barkan, 2012).

### **2.3.5 Organized Crime**

According to Ashley, (2016), organized crime is committed by structured groups typically involving the distribution and sale of illegal goods and services. Many people think of the Mafia when they think of [organized crime](#), but the term can refer to any group that exercises control over large illegal enterprises (such as the drug trade, terrorist group, illegal gambling, prostitution, weapons smuggling, or money laundering).

A key sociological concept in the study of organized crime is that these industries are organized along the same lines as legitimate businesses and take on a corporate form. There are typically senior partners who control profits, employees who manage and work for the business, and clients who buy the goods and services that the organization provides (Ashley, 2016).

## **2.4 Definitional Approaches of Crime**

What constitutes crime varies from culture to culture, and from time to time? Criminals have been various things to different people throughout time (Dennis O.E. 2014). The offenders have variously been seen as heroes, villains, fools, revolutionaries, deviants, scumbags etc. However, criminologists try to be scientifically objective and open-minded, rather than succumb to popular definitions. It's an important part of what makes criminology a science (other than its research and research methods). Some people regard the definitional problem as the most important task in criminology. In addition the writer listed some of the most common definitional approaches of crime as follows.

#### **2.4.1 Crime as Legalistic Behavior**

In this view, crime is defined as behavior that violates the criminal code. Although this isn't suitable for criminologists of the criminal law (who take law as problematic,) it's by far the most common approach in criminology, and it makes the field inherently conservative. It's associated with the arguments made in 1947 by Paul Tappan ("Who is the Criminal?" *American Sociological Review* 12, 1, 96-102) who was responding to a challenge thrown down by the famous philosopher Mortimer Adler. Thus, legalistic approach in criminology believes in the same principles of criminal law (Dennis, O.Edewor; 2014).

#### **2.4.2 Crime as Conduct norms**

In this view, every group one belongs to, regardless of political boundaries, regardless of embodiment in law, has conduct norms. Therefore, norms are the unspoken

rules of right (normal) and wrong (abnormal) that are contained in custom, tradition, ethics, religion, family, and other social institutions. The importance of the Sell in definition is that it frees criminologists as scientists to define their own subject matter (Dennis O.Edewor.2014).

### **2.4.3 Crime as Social Harm**

Dennis O.Edewor(2014) in this view, crime is any socially harmful act or analogous social injury, whether legally permissible or not. Thus, crime includes untimely death, illness or disease, deprivation of food, shelter, clothing, medical care, racism, sexism, and tobacco, etc are social problems that could be crime.

### **2.4.4 Crime as Human rights Violation**

In this view only anything that causes social injury (imperialism, sexism, racism, poverty) is crime, but also anything that thwarts the right to a dignified human existence (freedom of movement, free speech, a good education, employment, the right to unionize, life, liberty, happiness, and so on). The concept of human rights has the advantage of cutting across cultures and over time ( Dennis O.Edewor, 2014).

### **2.4.5 Crime as Deviance and Social Control**

According to Dennis O.Edewor(2014) crime is deviance or norm-violating behavior is associated most with sociological criminology. The norms can originate from any source; religion, political belief, etiquette, fashion, or criminal law. In fact, deviance

occurs whenever there is stigmatization, isolation, rejection, segregation, punishment, treatment, or rehabilitation. Social control can be coercive (forceful), normative (attitudinal), or an exchange solution (sets of rewards and incentives). Not all deviant acts are criminal (and vice versa).

#### **2.4.6 Crime as Social Problem**

As a social problem, crime is one of many enduring conditions that seems to have always been there and shows no signs of going away (like homosexuality, teenage pregnancy, poverty, or aging). As mentioned above explanation, crime is a critical phenomenon in the world. The term crime pervades the vocabulary of both literate and illiterate individual in the society because it is an important concept that has to do with threat to life and property (Dennis O.Edewor; 2014).

As literature explained above, behaviors that violets criminal code and any socially harmful acts may result criminal behaviors for human beings. In addition, any things that causes social injures such as imperialism, sexism, racism, poverty, inequality are also some of pushing factors that people motivated to commit criminal acts. Therefore, the researcher believed that those all above mentioned truths are the result of criminal behaviors that should be pushing factors of people to commit criminal acts in the study areas.

#### **2.5 Theoretical Thoughts of Crime.**

All of the theories that are described to explain crime in terms of the social

environment, including the family, school, peer group, workplace, community, and society. These theories, however, differ from one another in several ways: they focus on somewhat different features of the social environment; they offer different accounts of why the social environment causes crime, and some focus on explaining individual differences in crime while others attempt to explain group differences in crime (Encyclopedia of Crime and Justice, 2016).

Criminologists spend a lot of time trying to understand why criminals commit crimes. Still no one knows exactly what causes crimes probably because different individuals commit crimes for different reasons. Also different scholars, philosophers and poets have speculated about the causes of crime and possible remedies since ancient times and modern criminology was much to the wisdom on the ancient philosophers displayed. In fact there are two schools of thoughts for the cause of crime (Wolfgang, Marvin, 1970).

## **2.6 Theoretical Framework**

Criminologists agree that understanding the true cause of crime remains a difficult problem (Seigel, 2003). Searching for a 'single' cause in crime studies begs for attempting to deal with only parts of the issue. Such attempts would eliminate the possible 'causal' explanation of a variety of phenomena. This view of causation is inappropriate because of the existence of multiple causes, or factors in human behavior (Shoemaker, 1996). A criminal act might not have a single factor, that is, it is quite difficult to identify a single factor that independently influences causation of crime.

Modern criminological theories are turning away from the search for final causes and are dealing with probabilities rather than demanding misleading certainty. Criminal responses are not regarded as the inevitable consequences of any single factor (Johnson, 1981).

Social scientists have developed a variety of theories in an attempt to explain the causes of criminal behavior. Of the various models of explanation of crime (Biological, Psychological, Sociological and economic), sociological and biological theories are used as a framework. So there will be no single factor to explain such varied phenomena. Most of these theories are closely tied to the focus of the discipline in which they were developed.

### **2.6.1 Biological theory**

Biological explanation looks for physical different between criminals and non-criminals. This idea was extremely popular in the 1970s and 1800s. Today most criminologists do not believe that people are born to be criminals but they do believe that physical and hereditary factors may influence some criminal behaviors. (Adler, F. Gerhand, 2001).

### **2.6.2 Psychological theory**

Psychological explanation sees crime as caused by personality differences emotional process or easily childhood experiences. For example, some adult criminals were neglected or abused as children, others suffer from various forms of mental illness. Most criminologists believe that psychological factors may contribute too but fully explain criminal behaviors (Charles. Z. 1996).

### **2.6.3 Sociological theory**

Social explanation mainly focuses on the society in which criminals live rather than on individual criminals. This theory includes many theories in itself such as labeling theory, differential association theory, control theory conflict theory, cultural transmission theory, strain theory and others . These theories consider how factors such as poverty, unemployment poor housing lack of education and racism may contribute to crime. They assume the behavior is affected by the society in which the people live (Adler, Freda Gerhard, 2001: p: 320). In general, no single theories explain all criminal behavior. Therefore today some any criminologists are combining biological , psychological and social theories to produce more complete explanation of crime.

### **2.6.4 Strain Theory**

Strain theory is one of the structural theories and it mainly argues that discrepancy or disjunction often exists within a society between its goals and its system of legitimate

means for achieving success, such as the availability of educational and occupational pursuits: such system is not evenly distributed within the society. According to this theory, people engaged in crime because of their experience strain or stress, they become upset, and they sometimes engage in crime as a result. They may engage in crime to reduce or escape from the strain they are experiencing. For example, they may engage in violence to end harassment from others, they may steal to reduce financial problems, or they may also engage in crime to seek revenge against those who have wronged them. And they may engage in the crime of illicit drug use to make themselves feel better (Adler, F. Gerhard, 2001). According to this argument, although most people can obtain some types of job, the ability to secure a high paying position, or one with advancement potential, is dependent on a variety of condition that a large part of a population does not possess.

## **2.7 Extent of crime**

Richard T. Shaufor (1995) pointed that, crime is one of the world's social problem. Almost every generation has felt itself threatened by increasing crime and violence. However no country has yet developed complexly reliable methods for measuring the volume and trend of crime. Without the experience of the other societies, we are greatly limited in our ability to anticipate the effect of changes without own society. In absence of comparative record against which to evaluate specific policies our own efforts to deal with crime and violence are guided by intuitions, untested theories and political expediency cross-national comparisons of crime and violence also can provides the

empirical foundation for tests of theories about crime low demography and social change. Thus, tests using comparative records can add to our knowledge about the social origin of crime and violence (Richard T. Shaufer 1995).

### **2.7.1 Crime in Ethiopia**

The study carried out by Nega, J.& Berhanu,N. (2014) Criminal rate was determined based on the total number of convicted offenders and the total population of above 15 years. Fewer than 16 populations were excluded from the calculation because the Ethiopian Criminal law considers them as juvenile delinquents, not criminals although the police crime format includes records of juvenile delinquents (age group 9-15). The rate was calculated per 100,000 population based 2007 Population and Housing Census of Ethiopia. The total population and population above age 15 of the region was 27,158,471 and 13,477,319 respectively hence the obtained criminal rate was 715. Or about 96,363 people are statistically offenders. Given 'the dark figure' (unknown crimes and unidentified criminals) in crime data, the actual criminal rate is unarguably expected to be larger than 715. This implies that these 715 people/100,000 population are not fully productive citizens in the socioeconomic development endeavors. Therefore, crime concern goes beyond personal matters to affect larger socioeconomic, cultural and political structures and processes.

### **2.7.2 Crime in other Country**

Countries vary greatly in their definition of crime and in their reliability of crime statics. The conditions that affect the amount of crime also vary from one country to

another. Such condition included the proportion of people living in cities, the proportion of old and young in the population and the degree of conflict among various cultural, economic and racial groups. Comparison of the changing crime rates within country prove more valuable than comparing the rates of two or more countries (World book of encyclopedia, 1992). Studies show that crime rate for both violent crimes and property crime rate in Great Britain increase to 60 percent and the property crime rate increased to 55 percent; United property crime decreased by 3 percent.

The comparisons of the crime rate of various nations indicate that rate of crime increases accompany with increases the rates of social change. The crime stay relatively stable in traditional societies where people believe their way of life will continue. Crime rates tend to rise in societies where rapid social changes take place in where people live and what do for living and their hopes for their future well being crime rates are particularly high in industrious nations that have large cities (World book of encyclopedia, 1992).

## **2.8 Consequences of Crime**

According to Moulder, France V. (2002) any social phenomena which violate the formal rule have negative consequences on the society. There are many problems which resulted due to crime, mainly social, economic political, religions and others. Crime is a major part of every society. Its costs and effect touch just about everyone to

some degree. The types, costs and effects are widely varied e.g. When a person is arrested and convicted the process of trial is taken place and which involves monetary and financial costs. Also communities and government spend public funds for police departments, prisons, jails, courts and treatment programs including the salary of prosecutors, judges public defenders, social workers, security guards and probation officials.

Moulder, France V. (2002) explained that Psychological and financial, there are costs of community victim or person moving to new neighborhood. Loss of school days and danger of increasing level of fear, which set off another spiral of costs crime not only affects economic productivities when victims miss work but community also are affected through loss of tourism and retail sales. Even though called victimless crimes of prostitution, drug abuse and gambling have major social consequences, other costs of crime to victims can include medical costs, property losses and loss of income. Losses to both victims and non victims can also come in the form of increased security expenses including stronger locks, extra lighting, parking in more expensive secured lots, security alarms for homes and cars and maintaining guard dogs considerable money is spent to avoid being victimized (Moulder, France V. (2002).

Political consequences which are largely unknown many commentators imply that the crime waves breed ill for democracy which disillusionment with government and also reducing mass participation. Also analysis of many survey data indicates that victimization may cause increased political participation at the individual level rather

than empowered, that in many countries crime victims are more politically active than their non victimized. In generally, victimization has an ambiguous impact on options about democracy and dictatorship (Moulder, France V, 2002).

## **2.9 Crime Prevention**

### **2.9.1 The Government based urban crime Prevention**

Mar, G. Shaw (2007) explained that at the national and sub-regional levels, many countries have integrated strategies and mechanisms that facilitate the development of strategy and policy at the local level. These have been developed in countries with very different historical, political and economic contexts. They include legislative and policy initiatives, often backed by major investment in resources. Argentina, Belgium, Chile, France, the Netherlands, Peru and South Africa have used national initiatives and city safety and security contract mechanisms to encourage and guide action at the city level. The crime prevention policies include a mandate to all city governments through local government to develop integrated area/community public safety plans with the community, police and other agencies.

As literature examined above, the national and sub-regional level many countries have integrated strategies and mechanisms to develop safety plans with the community, police and other agencies, Therefore, the researcher also believes that Ethiopia is increasingly establishing community-oriented policing systems in recent time. It is, however, not always easy to develop effective community policing or to transform local police services so that they are more proactive and work in partnership with government

and the community in order to combat crime.

### **2.9.2 The police Responses to the Crime**

Studies carried out by Lyman, Michael D. (2007), when citizens learn of local crime incidents from news, media accounts, one of the first community resources the citizens look to for assistance is the police. They ask the same question. What the police are doing to control crime? How can the police make community safer without over extending their authority and sacrificing personal freedoms? Do they have sufficient resources to do so? Although it could be argued that perhaps too much reliance is placed on police agencies and the criminal justice system to deal with major criminal issues and set out the prevention methods to safe guard the societies' life from the criminals.

### **2.9.3 Criminal justice Approach to Prevent Crime**

According to Steven E. Barkan, (2012) the criminal justice approach is grounded in sociological criminology recognized the limits of the criminal sanction “it acknowledges that little is any crime reduction can be achieved by relying on law and criminal justice, and that any crime reduction that can be achieved comes only at a great cost of dollars and treats to civil liberties and civil rights.” At the same time it recognizes that crime is serious problem and that the public must be kept safe from dangerous offenders, serious measurements should be taken as listed below.

- Reduce reliance on imprisonment and put more emphasis on community correction.

- Prisons and jails should be smaller overcrowding should be reduced and other descript prison and jail condition should be improved.
- Eliminate the death penalty.
- Expand community policing and considering directed police activities in crime.
- Increase the hearing of minority and female police offices and develop “zero tolerance” policy for the hostility and discrimination, they now the experience from the other officers.
- Under take measures to reduce police brutality and racial profiling, increase gun control efforts and increase intolerance for white-collar crime and political corruption.

#### **2.9.4 The Community based Crime Prevention**

It includes all those actions that help to “change the conditions in neighbor hoods that influence crime, victimization, and the resulting insecurity. Community crime prevention emphasizes community mobilization, using the notion of “community” in the sense of either a social group or a living environment, and includes the aim of improving the quality of life of residents (Mar, G. Shaw,2007).

As Andergachew (2004) pointed out that, it is imperative to look first in to and

understand its natures and dynamic so as to effectively combat crime. For any crime to happen, there are three elements that are always present these are motive; which refers to reasons or causes why a person or a group of person perpetuate a crime; instrumentality, which is the means or implement used in the commission of crime.

Opportunity, which consists of acts of omission and/or commission by a person (the victim) which enables others (criminals) to perpetrate the crime. Therefore, the three elements of influencing and interacting crime are the environmental factors. For purpose of crime prevention and control; there are two elements in the environment to consider. The first element is the situational or circumstance that is inherent to beyond the control of man such as weather, time, season, terrain etc.

The second element is the situation which can be influenced by man such as poverty, ignorance, injustice, fear, lost of family, value etc. With these elements to consider, crime is therefore every body's business thus, the prevention and control of crime need the cooperation of the community with the law enforcers (Andergachew Testay 2004).

As literature reviewed above, government based crime prevention, police response, Criminal justice approach to prevent crime and Community crime prevention are the most notably important to prevent the criminal activities. Among them, community based crime prevention emphasizes community mobilization, using the notion of "community" in the sense of either a social group or a living environment,

improving the quality of life of residents and it also needs cooperation of the community with the law enforcers. Therefore, the investigator also believed the above raised mechanisms should used similarly in the study areas so as to effectively combat crime.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **Methodology**

This section deals with the methodological approaches that have been used in the research. The main topics extensively dealt in this section are the research design, methods of data collection, selection of participants, selection criteria, sampling techniques, data analysis, ethical considerations and data assurance in carrying out through the entire study.

### **3.1 Research Design**

This study exploited the qualitative approach to investigate exploring factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime in Soddo town Wolaita Zone Southern Ethiopia. In order to collect the data, criminals were purposively sampled to take part in the study. Qualitative information was also provided by offenders who are serving under Sodo police commission. In addition, data was collected through key informant interview with police Officials of Wolayta Sodo police commission. Though the main and first

hand source of data is primary, it was supplemented by information gathered from secondary sources of data. Review of relevant document, literature, published books, journals and research report that have direct or indirect relation with the research objective was also reviewed. As Hancock, Beverley (2002) pointed out that qualitative research is also concerned with the opinions, experiences and feelings of individuals producing subjective data.

The study has also employed the qualitative case study design. According to Yin (2003) a case study is an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon within its real life especially when boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident. In addition, it can be conducted and written with many different motives, including the simple presentation of individual cases or the desire to arrive at broad generalizations based on case study evidence. In another way, a qualitative case study assumes that social reality is a human creation; it interprets and concretizes meaning from people's beliefs and practices (Denizen and Lincoln, 2011)

As it is mentioned above by the reviewed literature on case study, the researcher also believes in subjective reality of things. The information for the experience to be investigated that is factors pushing suspects to commit crime can be gathered through involving the study participants to express the pushing factors of criminal activities in the Soddoo town. Consequently, this study used case study as a strategy to examine the problem undertakes.

## **3.2 Method of Data Collection**

This section deals with data collection methods and the researcher was used both primary and secondary sources. Using both techniques helped the study to generate accurate information to the study. Hence, the primary data are those which are collected for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character. On the other hand, secondary data are those which have already been collected by someone else.

To confirm the above description, the researcher used qualitative approaches to data collection. For the reason that, data collection methods are time consuming and consequently data is collected from smaller numbers of people in qualitative research. The benefits of using these approaches include richness of data and deeper insight into the phenomena under study. The data from qualitative studies often derives from face-to-face interviews and focus groups discussion so tends to be time consuming to collect (Hancock, Beverley, 2002).

### **3.2.1 Primary source of data collection**

In the qualitative research there are several methods of collecting primary data. Therefore, the researcher used the common method that is In-depth interview.

#### **3.2.1.1 In-depth interview**

In-depth interviews are those interviews that are designed to determine underlying motives and desires. The interview guiding questions has designed and formulated to

collect information about the factors pushing people to commit crime. As Neale and Boyce, (2006) noted that in-depth interview is important for a detailed collection of information about a phenomenon under study. It also provides a comfortable situation between the researcher and the study participant because information is gathered through conversation. For these reason, in-depth interview will use for primary data collection and it has been guided by open-ended interview guiding questions that had prepared in compliance with the research question. Therefore, the researcher continued dealing with the study participants until the capability of data to answer research questions.

### **3.2.2 Secondary Source of Data Collection**

In this study, different data have been collected from various materials of published and unpublished sources such as books, journals, internets and other related sources assumed important for this particular study. As Creswell, (2014) described that a qualitative documents may be public documents such as newspapers, official reports etc or private documents such as personal journals and diaries. The data collected through such techniques were finally included in a part where reviewed of literatures are governed.

### **3.3 Selection of Participants**

The population sample has taken from employees of Wolayta Sodo police commission traffic accident and crime investigation department and offenders who are sentenced under the commission. Among those inhabitants the researcher has selected 20

participants meant for investigation; after those 11 offenders (6 males and 5 female as discussants) were selected from a total number of 27 prisoners for interview from the age of 18-35. Moreover, the researcher has also selected (9 key informants composed of 4 females and 5 male as participants) from a total number of 25 police officers who are experienced in the cases related to crime investigation. In order to select these informants, the researcher went to the office of the police commission in Sodo town Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia selected as a study sites. Before conducting the interview, the researcher explained the objectives of the study to heads of the administrative position in the police commission and asked them to give individuals who are potentially good enough to provide relevant information on the issue expected to be understood. Participants who are designated were also communicated to undertake the sessions of interview on the exploring factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime.

### **3.3.1 The Selection Criteria**

The investigator has conducted included offenders from the age of 18-35 because when a crime is committed by young person's between the ages of nine and eighteen years, the penalties and measures to be imposed by the courts in Ethiopia and naturally it is believed that when the age is greater than 35, people may reduce the commission of crime because they gave much emphasizes to his or her family. Therefore, officers at any age level who had worked at least five years in Wolayta Soddo police commission head office, particularly in the department of traffic accident and crime investigation department. In addition sex and educational status are the other selection criteria for the

both offenders and police officers.

### **3.4 Sampling Technique**

In this study, the researcher used purposive sampling technique to purposely select participants based on their experiences and relation to the issue undertaken in this study because it is the most common sample techniques and the most productive sample to answer the qualitative research questions (Marshall MN, 1996). In addition, purposive sampling also helps to develop criteria that most guide to select the participants taking place In-depth interviews. Finally, the researcher developed an inclusion criterion, possibly drawing the informants issuing in-depth information based on their knowledge and experience.

### **3.5 Interview Guiding Questions**

The interview guiding question is open ended questions that have prepared to collect information on the problem of pushing suspects to commit criminal acts in the Soddo town. Then after, interview guiding question had prepared in English and for easy to understand by the respondents, it was translated in to Amharic.

### **3.6 Method of Data Analysis**

The qualitative data analysis methods that are getting to know the data is an important point in qualitative data analysis. This includes transcribing the data and to read and re-read the text. In addition, identifying themes and organizing them in to coherent categories is also included (Powell and Renner, 2003). Then the researcher was

building the patterns of categories, and themes from the bottom-up, by organizing the data into increasingly more theoretical units of information. Go behind in each interview, the researcher transcribed and translated the recorded in not book data from Amharic in to the English language.

As a result, after collecting the compulsory data, checking completeness and reliability, the results has feed into data obtained through different qualitative techniques so as to make rich description. Finally, data recorded in not book and then organized and analyzed through careful interpretation of meanings and cross checking of associations between categories.

### **3.7 Ethical Consideration**

Before collecting the data, researcher asked official permission of Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia police commissioner bureau and Zone administrative bureau by showing the legal clearance (cooperation letter) which has given from the school of Social Work department. Finally, the researcher has conducted the research and collected information with knowledge of the participants, their informed consent, expressed willingness and protecting confidentiality of any kind of information to care for privacy.

### **3.8 Data Quality Assurance**

The strengths of qualitative research based on determining whether the findings are accurate from the standpoint of the researcher, the participant, or the readers of an account. In addition, a procedural perspective that has recommended for research proposals is to identify and discuss one or more strategies available to check the accuracy

of the findings account (Creswell 2014).

Some of primary strategies, organized from those most frequently used and easy to implement to those occasionally used are as follows:

Triangulate different data sources of information by examining evidence from the sources and using it to build a coherent justification for themes. If themes are established based on converging several sources of data or perspectives from participants, then this process can be claimed as adding to the trustworthiness of the study.

Spend prolonged time in the field. In this way, the researcher develops an in-depth understanding of the phenomenon under study and can convey detail about the site and the people that lends credibility to the narrative account. The more experience that a researcher has with participants in their settings, the more accurate or trustworthiness will be the findings

Use peer debriefing to enhance the accuracy of the account. This process involves locating a person (a peer debriefed) who reviews and asks questions about the qualitative study so that the account will resonate with people other than the researcher. This strategy involving an interpretation beyond the researcher and invested in another person adds trust worthiness to an account.

The researcher has also clearly discussed with the participants what the research objectives before the interview started, because it is very important to ensure the trust worthiness of the data and to answer the raised questions. In addition, the researcher

consulted persons having experience on the topic, their professional involvement in the study happened throughout to the end, during, emerging categories from those transcripts, the interviewee transcription and the final report.

Moreover, the researcher avoided long and complex questions, leading questions, false permission and finally the researcher has understood that the active participation of the respondents is the most significantly important to dig-out the causes suspects offenders to commit crime and also the investigator has made smooth relationship with the respondents, in order to formulate the central idea of the research.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **Data Presentation and Analysis**

This chapter recounts the study findings. The researcher collected qualitative data and changed in to meanings and themes following the procedures of coding, organizing and identifying themes eventually emerged. The themes have therefore been emerged based on the responses of the participants. The participants were briefly explained about the types of crime, pushing factors leading offenders to commit crime and the way to prevent acts of undue of law.

**Table-1**

**4.1 The Informant Profile Background of Offenders**

<b>R no</b>	<b>Pseudo Names</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>sex</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Occupational status</b>	<b>Marital status</b>
1	Mulatu	29	M	10+3 Diphiloma	Waiter in hotel	Married
2	Anjulo	30	M	10 grade completed	Daily worker	Married
3	Aster	23	F	BE degree	Un employer	Unmarried
4	Bekelech	25	F	Diphiloma in accounting	Cashier in hotel	Unmarried
5	Alemayehu	30	M	Diphiloma in marketing management	Daily worker	married
6	Abel	22	M	High school complete	Garage worker	Unmarried

7	Selam	21	F	Completed level three Diphiloma	In governmental office	Unmarried
8	Asefa	20	M	12 <sup>th</sup> grade student	Un employer	Unmarried
9	Abush	24	M	Technical and vocational student	Student	Unmarried
10	Aynalem	23	F	3 <sup>rd</sup> year University student	Student	Unmarried
11	Tewabech	21	F	2 <sup>nd</sup> year University student	Student	Unmarried

With reference to the educational background of offenders, were one holders of first degree, two of them were university students while four are graduated with diploma, one was technical and vocational student and three are completed of 9-12 grades respectively. The marital statuses of all offenders were unmarried except three. The occupational statuses of offenders were students, jobless and daily workers. In general, five females and six men were selected for the providing information under study taken through.



#### 4.2 Police Officers Bio-Data

**Table 2**

r/no	Pseudo Name	Age	Sex	Education	Marital status	Work experience
1	Habtamu	39	M	Degree	Married	14 years
2	Semeyat	41	M	Degree	Married	16 years
3	Ashenafi	34	M	Degree	Married	10 years

4	Endale	37	M	Degree	Married	12 years
5	Shewaye	28	F	Diphiloma	Married	5 years
6	Negash	29	M	Diphiloma	Married	6 years
7	Mihiret	35	F	Degree	Married	13 years
8	Tenaye	26	F	Degree	Married	6 years
9	Zelalem	40	M	Diphiloma	Married	9 years

Concerning the educational background of police officers, about 38% are holders of first degree, while 45% are graduated with diploma and 17% are completed of 9-12 grades respectively. Among them, the police officers selected to take part in this study are with the police rank of two commanders, four inspectors and 3 constables. Among them, four females and five men were included under this study.

The commission has diverse departments namely, audit and inspection department, women affairs, compliance hearing and legal service, public relation service, and intelligence service, investigation department among them crime and traffic accident investigation are in charge of carrying out crime detection. The commission has been playing significant role in promoting peace and security in the town of wolaita Zone Sodo town and maintaining peace and order of the dwellers.

#### **4.3. Pushing Factors criminal suspects to commit Crime.**

All participant performed diverse type of crime. Accordingly, five women and six men participants were included in the sample from 27 prisoners. The researcher discussed the findings as the following three themes. These themes are emerged as main factors that

lead offenders to commit crime. These are unemployment, substance addiction and peer pressure.

#### **4.3.1 Unemployment**

Unemployment often creates a sense of despair, particularly amongst youth and can provoke angry expression including theft, substance and alcohol abuse as well as child and family violence. Failure in school and an unstable job situation can combine to continue an individual's involvement in crime. The empirical evidence on the relationship between unemployment and criminal activity has been the subject of much investigation. As Freeman (1996) pointed out, unemployment has an influence on the opportunity cost of illegal activity. High rates of unemployment growth could be taken to imply a restriction on the availability of legal activities, and thus serve to ultimately reduce the opportunity cost of engaging in illegal activities. Most empirical researches on the relationship between unemployment and crime have provided evidence on the positive relationship on unemployment and crime. For example, the study conducted by John Howard (1995) shows that a high number of youth and adults admitted to correctional facilities are unemployed. Persistent unemployment often creates a sense of despair particularly amongst youth and provokes angry expression including theft, substance and alcohol abuse.

Failure in school and unstable job situation can combine to continue an individual's involvement in crime. This finding also indicates that, unemployment is one of the major factors affecting the amount of crime in Sodo town Wolayta Zone Southern Ethiopia.

Among 11 respondents 5 of them are unemployed. Due to under employment, offenders engaged themselves in various criminal activities. The participants believed that, their poor family coupled with their unemployment had influenced them to commit crime. Two respondents indicated that unemployment is a major contributing factor that leads them to commit crime. Although they had a college diploma, they couldn't get a job. When they failed to get a job, they decided to engage in illegal work.

They indicated that if they had a job, they wouldn't commit crime. On the other hand, majority of the respondents are daily worker before their arrest. Respondents indicated that, the level of their income had an influence on their tendency to commit crime. From the total respondents, four of them attended Diphiloma and they had a job. But they indicated that, their salary was not enough for them and to support their families. Some of them are expected to teach their younger siblings and others are supposed to support their families. The following statement summarizes their quotes about how they describe their level of income and how unemployment leads them to commit criminal activities.

Mulatu is 29 years old, married and a father of two sons. He expressed him being offender as follows.

*I was born in Soddo Zuriya Woreda and came to Soddo Town for a work. I have completed 10+3 diploma in Soddo technical and vocational school. I had had ssa good relationship with my family. I have learned a seriousness of criminal activities when I was a high school and also I had no criminal activities since my child hood. My financial source was my family and I was from poor family and eager to be employed as soon as I had got diploma from Soddo technical and vocational school. All things were not going as*

*right as I could. Therefore, I was enforced to stay without job for one year. Finally, I tried to support my life and my family by working as a waiter in Hotel and I did it but the money that I am getting was not sufficient and could not fulfill even half of my feelings. So that, I thought other sources to get money and I started to give illegal motor cycle license to the people.*

The other guy is Anjulo, he is 30 and married. He presented his stories as follows:-

*I was born here in Soddo town around Aroge Arada and I had completed 10<sup>th</sup> grade in 2006 E.C I had not Joined preparatory as like my friends and then I asked my family to give Money for me to went sugar corporation company which is found in SNNPR specially in Jinka as daily worker. Then since I had got money from my family and have gone to Jinka together with my friends. I started my daily work in company for five months. It was very difficult to live in the company as daily worker, because the money that the company had paid was even not enough for a food. Thus, I decided to come back to my family but I had no money and my friends too. Finally I searched everywhere how to leave a place where I and my friend had lived. One of my friends had Samsung smart phone but I had not. When he slept, I had picked his phone and sold it in order to get money that I needed to back to Wolaita. This was the first time for me to be committed in crime.*

In addition, Aster narrated her short story as follows.

*I am 23 years old and do not married. I was born in here in Soddo town*

*especially in Merkato sub city. I had graduated from Soddo University at the department of HPE (health & physical education since 2007 E.C. I have been living with my family since I accused. I am from a poor family when I was a university, I had thought that after graduating university as soon as I could an employer but things were not going as I wished. It was too difficult for me to stay without Job. Then I asked my dad and mom to get some amount of money to start 'shay buna' behind our home but they refused my idea and told me that it is shame that buying tea and coffee after having BA degree. Even I tried them to accept my idea but they did not. As all other friends, I have also my own feelings. Therefore, I desired another way to get money.*

Other offenders who had made a part of my research work also expressed her being offenders as follows:-

*I am Bekelch and 25 years old. I was born in Amaya Woreda and do not married. I had a good relationship with my family. I have diploma in accounting. I had no criminal activities since my child hood and I haven't got any criminal education before. I have been stayed two years after graduating Diphiloma without a job, because I have no COC result. I came here WolaitaSoddo with my brother who is working at Christian Hospital. I would not get a job and became unemployed since then, I became dependent on my brother which made me discouraged, one day my brother asked me that either I like to work in some hotel as cashier or not. Then, I agreed with him because my intention is only getting money in any direction. When I was working in the Hotel, I tried to get money to pay the COC examination but the money that the hotel owner had paid was not enough so I desire another source to get money. One of our hotel customers has put iPod smart phone that valued 4500 birr on the chair behind the table while he was eating his breakfast. After eating his breakfast, he has forgotten his phone and going out. Immediately after he*

*has leaved a hotel, I took a phone and hid it. The guy came back and asked me whether I was take it or not and I answered that I have not seen it. Then, he had gone to the hotel manager and told to him that he has left his Mobil behind me. Again he came together with manager and asked me, but the answer was the same, once more I said that I had not seen a phone. Finally, the manager called to the police and made me to be arrested. The reason that I was accused a serious case of material theft.*

Alemayehu added that how unemployment had leaded him to commit crime as follows.

*I am 30 years old and I was born in Wolaita Soddo specifically markato Kebele. I was living with my families. I had got a serious of criminal education when I was a high school. I have diploma in marketing management. I have married and have two sons. I was a daily worker. I would like to tell you that how unemployment made me to participate a commission of crime when I was complete a diploma in marketing management, I had thought that I could be un employer but things were not going as I wished. I stayed without job and continued my daily work. Then after, I decided to marry and I did it. After one year's marriage, my wife gives a birth two sons. It was also another bad time for me because I get money from only my daily work the money that I get from a daily work was not enough even to bought milk for my two kids. Therefore, I thought another way to get money. At that time, every day my wife said me that "please do not think more, our life will be changed and our kids will be grown up if you believe in Jesus" this was her daily saying but my internal feeling was how to get money so as to satisfy her and my life. Then since, I decided to buy master motor cycle keys and I did it. Finally I was steal motor cycle that valued more than 32,000 birr and I had sold it. This unlimited wants made me to be arrested.*

According to the above stories I argued that being a family of poor and could not

offered what someone wanted was not going in right way, people may commit in a criminal activities. This fact has been aggravated by lack of job. A person should have good and objectives so as to get money and property. The attitude that a society has towards unlawful enrichment corruption provide little social protection to get money within a short period of time. In addition concerned bodies like government and community could not give much attention for creation of job opportunity.

#### **4.3.2 Addiction**

Drugs and alcohol are one of the social factors that lead to crime. The urge to commit crimes by drug addicts and alcoholics is motivated by the desire to support their habits. Drugs and alcohol impair some one's judgment and reduce someone's inhibitions leading to greater courage. Criminologists estimate that 30 to 50 percent of crimes committed are due to the influence of drugs and alcohol (Ezzat A. Fattah. (1991)

In addition, it may play a part in the causation of crime in later adolescence and more particularly in adulthood. It is a crime in itself, but, like truancy, it may also be a causal factor in other criminal behavior, such as stealing, sex offenses, or disturbing the peace.' A great variety of mental, physical, and environmental factors contribute to drug addiction as to any other form of undesirable behavior (K. M. Bonham Bridges, 1997).

The following stories show that how addiction leads people to commit crime.

*I am Abel and 22 years old and have not married. I had completed secondary school in 2006 E.C Now I am working in Franco Garage I was addicted a bad habit while I was high school student at Areka secondary school. I used chewing chat, drinking alcohol and smoking cigarette when I had started working at Garage, I decided to stop that all I did before but*

*I couldn't. Even I did not look white color car without smoking cigarette. This practice unknowingly increased some of Garage workers in the Soddo town. In addition I and some of my friends who had working in the Garage was titled to the habit rather than working in their Garage. If I did not have money to drink alcohol and chew chat; I used to pick some material from the Garage and sell it. This bad habit was largely increased in my life.*

Another interviewer Selam who is 21 years old also expressed her life experience that pushed her to commit criminal activities. She was living with her family and she had not learned a seriousness of criminal activities also she has got money from her families. She presented her short stories as follows.

*I had completed level three diplomas. I was Christian and I had diploma in accounting when I completed diploma, I had stayed one year without a job. In this one year living without a job, I developed a new behavior that had not had before. These behaviors like drinking alcohol, chewing a chat with my friends. Even I continued these habits after getting a job. I had got a job in some of a governmental office. The money that the government had paid for me may not fulfill even my basic needs. Therefore, sometimes I made any materials get out of either my neighbors or my friends and sell it so as to get extra money. Therefore, this bad habit enforced me to commit criminal activities and made me to be arrested.*

### **4.3.3 Peer Pressure**

Studies carried by Steinberg, L. (1987) pointed out that, the factors such as peer

criminals, peer approval of delinquent behavior, attachment or allegiance to peers, time spent with peers, and peer pressure for the involvement of the crime have all been associated with adolescent antisocial behavior. Hence, the influence of peers and their acceptance of criminal behavior are significant, and this relationship is magnified when youth have little interaction with their parents

The promoters play an important role both in taking the immediate action and also in promoting in doing offences. Peer pressure causes one to feel and believe that there is nothing more important and exiting than belonging to a peer pressure. One thing that adolescent feel is being left out. The fear of isolation drives them to peers group who might be treating in harmful activities (Seigal, 2000).

Negative peer group members indulge in activities that might require funding. They therefore ask the new entrants to arrange the funds by stealing from their parents or from other students. The new entrant also agrees to do it in the hope that he/she will be considered as a member of the peer group. Gradually this stealing exceeds the limits and goes beyond the parent's and class mate's purses and go towards stealing other people money (Seigal, 2000). The instant impact of associating with peers was that of encouraging and for casting usage of addictive substances. The story of three respondents is an indicative of the influence of peers on their tendency to commit crime. Three interviewees indicated that, their peers lead them to commit crime. Most of the participants who had involved in my research work /study/ have committed different types of crime. They replied that, motivating factors of them to be criminals were peer

influences. The following stories show that how peers influence leads people to commit criminal activities.

Asefa who was my interviewer explained that how peers influence had led him to commit crime as follows.

*I was live in Soddo town especially in markato area with my family and I am 20. I am 12<sup>th</sup> grade student and I have got money from my family; I had not learned seriousness of crime before. When I joined to preparatory school, sometimes I stayed together with my class mates at rented houses, after a few month experience, I had developed new behavior that I had not had before because of my friends influence. I have used chew a chat, drink alcohol and use drug. The reason why I arrested is the case of theft and that was not lawful, because of the peer pressure.*

In addition to this story another guy whose name is Abush replied how peer pressure made him to commit crime as follows:-

He was 24 years old. He was not living with his family. His financial source was his family and he has also a good relation with his family until he left his family.

Abush stated that he had many friends when he has joined Soddo Technical and vocational school. Therefore, he started drinking alcohol and chewing chat with his new friends. This thing happened when he had come to Wolaita Soddo. He narrated his short story as follows:-

*I have half a class day from Monday up to Friday. I and my friend went to pool house which is behind our school at the shift time. In this pool house, we used chew a chat and smoke cigarette. Finally, we had gone to the hotel and drink alcohol. If we had not money, either to drink or chew a chat, we could have picked mobile and money from pocket. I have even*

*forgotten why I came here Soddo due to peer influence. I had nowhere to go in criminal activities and I was arrested while committing a theft.*

In addition Aynalme also replied that, she was 23 years old and live together with her family since she joined Wolaita Sodo University in 2007 E.C. She gives details about her short stories as follows:-

*I was born in Arbaminch. I developed new behavior which had not had before; because of peer influence; these new behaviors are drinking alcohol and chewing chat. My financial source was my family when I continued living together with my friends, I have been addicted by alcohol and smoking cigarette, and even some times I missed to attend a class if I did not use to smoke.*

*I had a good relation with my friends and my behavior was the same with them, we all were addicted by alcohol and cigarette. Finally we decided to make a good relation with rich people who are living around university in order to get addition money to satisfy our selves. Some of my friends had made relation as we wished but I did not. Finally, I desired another way to get money. That was the commission of theft.*

Tewabech stated that how peer influences made her to commit criminal activities as follows:-

*I am 21and born in Kindo Didaye Woreda in Wolaita Zone. I have not married and also I was living with my family since I have joined wolaita Soddo University. I have a good relation with my family. I was a protestant follower. I brought a new behavior after I had joined Soddo University because I have made relationship with two new classmates who had a bad behavior. As earlier I told you that I was a protestant. When I made relationship with those new classmates, my behavior completely*

*changed as like that of my new friends. My financial source was only from my family and also I was from a poor family. My family heard that I had developed new bad behavior and they stopped sending me money. Even if they stopped sending money, I continued drinking alcohol and chewing a chat with my friends. After a few months, I desired another way to get money and my friends too. Then, when students left the dorm, we started to break the locker and pick any kind of materials going out and we did it. Finally, I had broken the locker and took lab top which valued more than 8,000 birr and I had sold it with my friends.*

The finding of this study shows that out of 11 participants, 3 of them informed that their peers influence promoted them. According to these offenders, their friendship with peers had influenced their tendency to commit crime. While the remaining offenders did not have any contact with delinquents or criminals. The researcher observed that the life experiences of above participants showed how peers influence affect a good behaviors and motivated people to commit crime. I also argue that, peer influence should affect some one's behavior and that could be resulted criminals.

#### **4.4 Crimes most commonly perpetrated.**

The criminal acts most commonly practiced in the town were crime against person (includes murder, aggravated assault, rape, and robbery), crime against property (such as burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson), Crimes against morality (like Prostitution, illegal gambling, and illegal drug use are all examples of victimless crimes).

The researcher reveals that the total participants made to be the part of this study

participant (2:1) and( 2:5) regarded, the types of crime that most dominantly occurred in their town were “conflict, robbery, forged money circulation, illegal larceny, pocket money picking, motor cycle theft and arson.” For this reason, the criminal acts most frequently practiced were crime against person, Crimes against morality and crime against property.

#### **4.5 The Response of Police Officer key informants.**

One of the key informants (2:1) who involved in my study stated, the motivating factors of crime in the Soddo town includes “ disagreement between family members, being intoxicated(imbalance of chemicals such as drinking beyond their capacity ), selfishness to rich in a short period of time, poverty, unemployment, overcrowded housing, problem of parenting style etc”. Sociologists Wolfgang Marvin E (1970) has conducted crime studies that focus on the neighborhood and community rather than on the individuals. The highest crime rate occurs in the most deprived sections of large cities. These are the areas where it is the most difficult to train children to become law abiding citizens. Such areas have the highest rate of broken homes. Even in many homes where both parents are present, emotional conflicts, the financial problems affect family life, slum areas usually have the poorest schools, the streets are also the scene of much voice and crime gambling, prostitution, narcotics use and sale public drunkenness and the like.

Another participant 2:4 who was involved in this study reported that, “most of the time, criminal activities occurred in their locality”. As it is also possible to appreciate

from the police office participants' (2:3) and (2:9) acknowledged, the criminal acts are occurred in "Hotels, main streets and residential areas, particularly Merkato and Aroge Arda areas." This shows that most of the criminal acts dominantly practiced in the Soddo town are committed in the Hotels, main streets and residential areas

One of key informant (2:3) replied that the criminal acts in the town occur during "summer, winter and sometimes autumn" season due to the following reasons. Most of the people during the summer season were jobless, the students are far from schools and students who completed their education but not employed are overcrowded in the town. On the other hand (2:3) and (2:8) who have mad to be this study expressed, there are times crime occurs specially at the "winter season." In support of this, they have pointed out the reason that there are more holidays, much leisure times, social drunkenness, and gambling during summer season times. They also added that the criminal acts practiced in the town committed in the autumn season, because of unsatisfactory result scored by students who take regional and national examination and coffee is picked up. As result, the people get enough money (income) that pushes them to drink more and chewing chat. Finally the investigator concluded that criminal acts in the town occur during summer, winter and autumn seasons.

Almost all of police staff key informants who are involved in my study expressed that "the geographical location of the soddo town generally has its own contribution to the commitment of crime in the areas. because the town is not well planned as result; criminals can easily hide themselves while they are committing criminal acts, the most

houses of the town are not well constructed (i.e. slums) they are susceptible to robbery and the surrounding area of the town is forest cover, so it serves criminals as a hidden place after they have committed crimes.”

As key informant (2:3) who is involved in this study also expressed that female population were not in crimes such as “attempt to homicide as well as in circulating forged birr and the degree of involvement in the criminal acts are small as compared to the males.”

Almost all of police office key informant stated, the people belonging to “lower social classes are involved in different kinds of criminal acts for their own benefits. However, the proportion of the people involved is not equal.” In addition 2:4 of police office participant, also confirmed, “The most people involved in different types of criminal acts such as larceny, theft, robbery and other economic crimes for their survival belonging to the lower class (poor society). This is because most of the people are in habited where social services are in adequate, unemployment rate is higher, housing is overcrowded and recreation facilities are poor.”

Three of police office key informants such as 2:5, 2:7 and 2:8 who are made to be in this study said that, “the medium and higher class society also involved in criminality. They need to cooperate with lower class criminals, to became rich in short period of time and to fulfill daily basic necessity.”

#### **4.6 Crime Prevention Methods**

Based on the findings, the above all raised problems should be solved by the government, police commission and the community. These findings are consistent to the reports made by police staff key informants (2:2) who replied that, the government should create job opportunity, should reduce unemployment rate, provide youth training centers and should teach the worse of crime and its consequences. In his report much emphasis on the importance of government, police commission and community. They also believed that the community should also cooperate with the government and police staffs by protecting and informing if criminal activities happened in their surroundings.

One of police staffs (2:7) who made to be part of this study argued that, crime prevention can be implemented through punishment measures. The most basic arguments for punishment are that preserves law and order and respect for authority. From this point of view punishment does two things. It up holds the true, and prevents others from thinking they can get away with doing the something without punishment, is based on the idea that many people have a barely controlled desire to act in forbidden ways. By punishing those who break the law, we reassure ourselves that we are right in controlling this desire. Thus, punishment is believed to maintain broad support for the law.

Unlike the above argument, four of police staff key informants who are (2:1, 2:4, 2:7 and 2:9 )strongly believe that, the reform programs in the urban slums include improved housing, schools and recreational facilities and increased job opportunities for the youngsters and adults of the societies should be provided. They also added that the government should offering education to the people to take greater precaution, social

mobilization, political, social and economic issues are some of fundamental element that overcomes the problem. In addition Police sector should work with community or society and also coordinate and held conference, symposium, and produce radio and television programs. Therefore, society has enormous possibilities to develop new generation

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **Discussion, conclusion and recommendations**

This chapter presents discussion of the study findings with theoretical perspective, conclusions, and recommendations. The above eleven stories and a response of police officers gives underpinning information to the discussion part. The majority of respondent committed pity and material theft and they are also from poor family, the majority of offenders did not get criminal education before they had committed the criminal activities, which becomes one of the factors to commit various crimes in their locality. Moreover, response of informant and relevant literatures discussed as follows

#### **5.1 Discussion**

Based on the finding, crime against material and crime against personal related to Property crimes involve theft of property without bodily harm, such as burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson and Crime against personal such as murder, aggravated assault,

rape, and robbery are much supported by the key informants. These findings are consistent to the reports made by 2:3 and 2:5 key participants regarded; the types of crime that most dominantly occurred in their town were “, robbery, forged money circulation, illegal license, pocket money picking, motor cycle theft and arson.” . In their report they gave much emphasis on the crime against property such as burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson and crime against personal such as murder, aggravated assault, rape, and robbery. They added that, these types of criminal activities are dangerous and restrain human and economic costs. Moreover, crime against personal are unevenly distributed in the Sodo town, with young, urban, poor, and students arrested for these crimes more than others. Unlike the other crimes, organized crimes such as the drug trade, terrorist group, illegal gambling, prostitution, weapons smuggling, or money laundering and White-Collar Crime such as embezzling (stealing money from one’s employer), [insider trading](#), tax evasion, and other violations of income tax laws were not happened in the town.

Based on the findings the participants believed that, their poor family coupled with their unemployment had influenced them to commit crime. Five respondents indicated that unemployment is a major contributing factor that leads them to commit crime. Although they had a college diploma, they couldn’t get a job. When they failed to get a job, they decided to engage in illegal work. The following statement summarizes their quotes about how they describe their level of income and how unemployment leads them to commit criminal activities.

“My name is Mulatu and 29 years old. *I was born in Soddo Zuriya*

*Woreda and came to Soddo Town for a work. I have completed 10+3 diploma in Soddo technical and vocational school. I had had a good relationship with my family. I have learned a seriousness of criminal activities when I was a high school and also I had no criminal activities since my child hood. My financial source was my family and I was from poor family and eager to be employed as soon as I had got diploma from Soddo technical and vocational school. All things were not going as right as I could. Therefore, I was enforced to stay without job for one year. Finally, I tried to support my life and my family by working as a waiter in Hotel and I did it, but the money that I am getting was not sufficient and could not fulfill even half of my feelings. So that, I thought other sources to get money and I started to give illegal motor cycle license to the people”*

The study of this finding show that also unemployment leaded people to participate unlawful things in their surroundings. The above story was the much similar with the story made by the majority of key informants who had participated in this study. In their report they believed that any people who have no job may isolate from entire community and when they secluded from entire community, they may look for another way to get money which is the commission of crime. In Soddo town also unemployment has affected the living condition of people that leads people to commit crime.

The findings of this study also consistence with the idea of key informants who were participated in this study. Two of my key informants stated that, the drug addiction has leaded them to commit illegal things in their surroundings. They also believed that most of the time, they were addicted by substance drugs such as drinking alcohol and chewing chat. This bad habit detached them from entire community and enforced them to

commit in criminal acts so as to satisfy themselves. The following stories show that how addiction leads people to commit crime.

*“I am Abel and 22 years old and have not married. I had completed secondary school in 2006 E.C Now I am working in Franco Garage I was addicted a bad habit while I was high school student at Areka secondary school. I used chewing chat, drinking alcohol and smoking cigarette when I had started working at Garage, I decided to stop that all I did before but I couldn't. Even I did not look white color car without smoking ciggarate. This practice unknowingly increased some of Garage workers in the Soddo town. In addition I and some of my friends who had working in the Garage was titled to the habit rather than working in their Garage. If I did not have money to drink alcohol and chew chat; I used to pick some material from the Garage and sell it. This bad habit was largely increased in my life”*

On the other hand, the last findings of this study articulated that the peer influences such as developing bad behavior that had not had before, doing unnecessary things by the enforcement of peers etc. are much supported by the key informants. These findings are consistent to the reports made by key informants who had involved in this study have committed different types of crime in the case of peer influence. In their report they gave much emphasis on the peers' influence that made them to be criminals. The following statement summarizes their quotes about how peer pressure influenced them to be arrested.

*'I have half a class day from Monday up to Friday I and my friend went to pool house which is behind our school at the shift time. In this pool house we used chew a chat and smoke cigarette. Finally, we had gone to the hotel and drink alcohol. If we had not money, either to drink or chew a chat, we could have picked mobile and money from pocket. I have even forgotten why I came here Soddo due to peer influence. I had nowhere to go in criminal activities and I was arrested while committing a theft'*

### **5.1.2 Factors Influencing the Effect of Stress on Crime**

Stressful events and conditions make people feel bad. These bad feelings, in turn, create pressure for corrective action. This is especially true of anger and frustration, which energize the individual for action, create a desire for revenge, and lower inhibitions. There are several possible ways to cope with strain and these negative emotions, only some of which involve delinquency.

Strain theorists attempt to describe those factors that increase the likelihood of a criminal response. Among other things, strain is more likely to lead to crime among individuals with poor coping skills and resources. Some individuals are better able to cope with strain legally than others. For example, they have the verbal skills to negotiate with others or the financial resources to hire a lawyer. Related to this, strain is more likely to lead to delinquency among individuals with few conventional social supports. Family, friends, and others often help individuals cope with their problems, providing advice, direct assistance, and emotional support. In doing so, they reduce the likelihood of a criminal response. Strain is more likely to lead to crime when the costs of

delinquency are low and the benefits are high; that is, the probability of being caught and punished is low and the rewards of delinquency are high. Finally, strain is more likely to lead to delinquency among individuals who are disposed to delinquency. The individual's disposition to engage in delinquency is influenced by a number of factors. Certain individual traits like irritability and impulsivity increase the disposition for delinquency. Another key factor is whether individuals blame their strain on the deliberate behavior of someone else. Finally, individuals are more disposed to delinquency if they hold beliefs that justify delinquency, if they have been exposed to delinquent models, and if they have been reinforced for delinquency in the past. A variety of factors, then, influence whether individuals respond to strain with crime. Unfortunately, there has not been much research on the extent to which these factors condition the impact of strain and the research that has been done has produced mixed results

### **5.1.3 Causes of the Crime**

Based on the findings, the causes and circumstances for offenders to commit crime are usually found at each level of the social structure, such as social institutions, social groups and organization, and interpersonal relations. The most important of which are described by the key informants are low income, unemployment; peer influence and addiction are often linked to persistent disruptive behavior among the people, which can increase the likelihood of their involvement in criminal activities. However, criminal acts often occurs in social settings in which the norms for acceptable behavior have broken down, Urbanization and Geographical analysis suggests that “countries with more urbanized populations have higher registered crime rates than do those with strong rural

lifestyles and communities.” The ongoing process of urbanization in developing countries like Ethiopia is contributing to people involvement in criminal behavior. To confirm the above discussion, almost all of key informants who have made part of this study argued that the geographical location of Sodo town were one of motivating factors that offenders commit to crime. In addition, the participants also added that inadequate parental control, weak internal linkages and addiction are some of closely related factors that criminal motivated to commit crime.

#### **5.1.4 Nature of Criminal Acts.**

Criminal act is blight in any society the world over. These acts directly violate the laws of the society and trespasses on the rights of other citizens within the state. Stealing, killing, embezzlement, etc are all criminal acts. The fact that a criminal act is exhibited by both young and old people goes a long way to heighten the anxiety of the members of society. Criminal acts also reoccur among the same individuals consistently and this fact does not allay the fears of innocent citizens. An in-depth understanding of criminal behavior is a sine qua non to addressing the scourge effectively.

This study findings are much consistent with researching has long been curious about the impact of economic fluctuations on crime rates. This question reflects a long standing suspicion that private deviant behavior has public roots in the economic conditions of the wider society. In order to combat the criminal acts, firstly we have to identify the nature of crime. For instance, the finding of this study reveals that the crimes most frequently happened crime types in the study areas. These are crime against

material and crime against person.

### **5.1.5 The Crime Prevention Methods**

Based on the findings of this study almost all of key informants who had made by in this study reveal that, the prevention methods known as government based prevention and community based prevention methods should be effectively exercised in the study area, They also replied that, the government should create job opportunity, should reduce unemployment rate, provide youth training centers and should teach the worse of crime and its consequences while community should emphasizes community mobilization, using the notion of “community” in the sense of either a social group or a living environment, improving the quality of life of residents and it also needs cooperation of the community with the law enforcers . In their report they gave much prominence on the importance of community. In this finding, three of key informants who were part of this study responded that the role of police should deliberately structure in the society as whole. In their report they also gave much attention to the police, that police has been cooperatively working with the community and administrative bodies as well. The findings of this study is also the most significantly consistence with above interview of key informants. They argued that police should use the structure of beat patrol and community patrol methods in the area so as to combat the crime.

## **5.6 Conclusion**

On the basis of the results and discussions made earlier the researcher was conclude the following points. Crime does not occur in the vacuum, but it involves real human perpetration and victims. In the Soddo town, most crimes are committed by youngsters and adults. However, the most youngster group of the society is involved in criminal activities. For example, the young perpetrators commit a crime on street crime including violence, theft, drug and abuse. As a background of the offenders indicated, many of them stayed with their parents and relatives. This implies that most of the parents are not much concerned with shaping their children's behavior during their childhood. Moreover, marital status has something to do with crime and the result of this study indicated that the dominant number of criminals were unmarried.

There is fairly significant correlation between criminality and social class existing in the town. Although it would be grossly unfair to conclude that all or even most of the

lower social class society are criminals. In addition the street crimes are more likely committed by individuals with low income. Since crime is not confined to any single factor, it is difficult to extract a single factor that can influence the tendency of participants to commit crime. However, many conditions were predictably causing the crime; certain conditions are more favorable to crime than others. From this interview result, it is observed that some individual and social factors are contributed to promote the crime. Individual factors include drug addiction, mental illness, stress, depression where as the social factor include, peer influence, unemployment, financial problem, lack of recreational centers are assumed as exposure.

### **5.7 Recommendation**

The researcher comes up with the following recommendation to combat crime in a concerted way to reduce the tendency of youth offenders

- The causes of crime have not yet to be studied in the field area. Therefore, government and academic institution professionals should pay much interest about the problem in order to outline the root cause of crime based on the nature of causes, then they can arrange the welfare measures as it requires deserves.
- The Federal Government should follow the Implemented Policies and Strategies that how the Regional Government Realized those Policies in the Zonal level to Reduce Crime and Violence Through:-

- Providing job opportunity for youngsters and adults.
- Fair land allocation to the people both in rural and urban areas.
- The provision of ethical education in schools, health centers, seminars, workshops, Medias etc.
- The government should encourage private institutions so as to hire many people.
- Reform programs should be facilitated in the slum areas of the town to improve housing, schools, recreational facilities etc.
- Government, police commission and community as whole also must accept responsibility for keeping their neighborhoods safe.
- Community must take a unified stand against crime, violence, and disregard for the law, and must make a commitment to increase crime-prevention and intervention activities.
- Community should help the police to discharge their duties optimally. They could do this through giving vital information to them on the activities of undesirable elements in the society. Such invaluable information could help the police to perform creditably.
- Police agencies must help and build stronger, more self-sufficient communities in which crime and disorder will not thrive.
- Advising criminals by using different professionals like psychologists, physicians, and other may respond well through education and vocational training in the correctional system, not to reoffend while they come back to the society.

- Further studies should be carried out to see various factors contributing to criminality.

## **References**

Adler. F. G. (2001). *Criminology*. 4th ed. Mc Grow Hill Published, (Canada)

Andergachew. T. (2004). *The Crime Problem and Its Correction*: Department of Sociology and

Social Administration, Ababa University Press.

Ann. D. (2000). *Crime Causation: Economic Theories*, Wellesley College and NBER,  
and

University of Surrey press.

Ashley. C. (2016). *Types of crimes...* Retrieved from About.com: [Very well](#), [The Balance & Life wire](#)

Bimal, K.N., (2013). *Juvenile delinquent: its Magnitude and Impact at Gondar town in Ethiopia*

volume 2, No. 9 ISSN: 2319-4421... Retrieved from  
<http://www.ircjournas.org/ijmsr/sep2013/14.pdf>.

Bonham, K. M. (1997) *Bridges, Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency*, 17 Am.  
Inst.

Crim. L. & Criminology

Bureau of Justice Statistics (2000). *Urban, Suburban and Rural Victimization (1993-1998)*

Retrieved from the web on 7/13/05 from:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/usrv98.pdf>.

Charles R. Tittle (2000). *Theoretical development in criminology*, Volume 1, No. 9

ISSN:

22195-4213-5, URL [www.theor.dev.gov](http://www.theor.dev.gov) criminological theories

pdf

Charles, Z. (1996). *Issues and Solution for Social Problem*: 4th ed. Chicago: Nelson  
Halle, Inc

Clinard, M. B. and Abbott, D. J. (1986). *Crime in Developing Countries: A Comparative  
Perspective*. Canada: John Wiley & sons, Inc

Encyclopedia of crime and justice(2016). *Crime Causation: Sociological Theories*:

[http://www.encyclopedia.com/law/legal-and-political  
magazines/crimecausationsociological-theories](http://www.encyclopedia.com/law/legal-and-political<br/>magazines/crimecausationsociological-theories). Pdf

Freeman, R.B. (1996). *Why Do So Many Young American Men Commit Crimes and  
What*

*Might We Do About It?* Journal of Economic Perspectives, 1996.

Gibbons.

Dennis M. E. (2013). *Theory of Crime and Crime Control*: ISBN: 978-05-959-7, URL  
[www.nov.edu.ng/pdf](http://www.nov.edu.ng/pdf)

David M. Buss (2012). *The Evolutionary Psychology of Crime*: Journal of Theoretical  
and

Philosophical criminology, Vol. 1, (USA)

D. Zembroski (2011). *Sociological Theories of Crime and Delinquency*: School of  
Social

Welfare, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California,

USA

Ezzat A. Fattah. (1991). *Understanding Criminal Victimization: An Introduction to  
Theoretical Victimology*. Prentice-Hall Canada Inc, Scarborough,

Ontario.

Frank, S (1999). *Criminology in Today an Integrative Individual* :2<sup>nd</sup> ed. USA Saddle  
River New  
Jersey.

Gibbons, C.D. (1992). *Society, Crime and Criminal Behavior*: 6th edition, New Jersey,  
Prentice-Hall, Inc.

Habtamu Mamo (2007). *Assessing the Pattern and Trends of Crime Against The Women  
Prison*: Addis Ababa, Addis Ababa University (Thesis)

Hancock, B. (2002). *Trent Focus for Research and Development in Primary Health  
Care*: An  
Introduction to Qualitative Research. Trent Focus.

John, H. (1995). “*The Effect of Arrest on the Employment and Earnings of Young Men*”,  
Quarterly Journal of Economics, 110.

John, W. Cress well (2014). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed  
Methods  
Approach*: 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. University of Nebraska Lincoln.

Kathryn E. Mc. et.al (2010). *The Cost of Crime to Society*: New Crime Estimates for  
Policy and  
Program Evaluation.

Lisa Stolzen berg, et.al (2006). *Race, Economic Inequality, and Violent Crime*: Journal

of

Criminal Justice.

Lyman, Michael D. (2007). *Organized Crime, 4<sup>th</sup> ed*: US ISBN 0-13-173036-3. USA

Macions. John J. (1999). *Sociology 3rd ed, vol.5*: (Canada) Publication.

Marshal, M. N. (1996). *Sampling for Qualitative Research: Family Practice*, Vol. 13, No. 6.

Oxford University Press

Mouder, France V (2000). *Social Problems of the Modern World: 1<sup>st</sup> Ed* New Jersey

Neale & Boyce, (2006) *Conducting In-depth Interviewee*: Pathfinder International Tool

Series Retrieved on February 13, 2015, from [http:](http://www2.pathfinder.org/site/DocServer/m-e-tool-series-indepth-interviwes.pdf)

[//www2.pathfinder.org/site/DocServer/m-e-tool-series-indepth-](http://www2.pathfinder.org/site/DocServer/m-e-tool-series-indepth-interviwes.pdf)

[interviwes.pdf](http://www2.pathfinder.org/site/DocServer/m-e-tool-series-indepth-interviwes.pdf).

Nega, J. & Birhanu, N. (2014). *Crime Situations and Reaction of Criminal Justice System in*

*Oromia, Ethiopia: 2011/2012 Police Data*. Global Journal of Human-

Social

Science Sociology & Culture Volume 14 Issue 1 Version 1.0 Year

2014:

Global Journals Inc. (USA).

New book of knowledge, (2007). volume 4, (USA).

Norman, K. D. Lincoln (2011). *Handbook of Qualitative Research*: 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Thousand Oaks, CA:

Sage.

Patrick V. Murphy (1985). *Who Becomes Delinquents*: Second Report of the Cambridge Study in Delinquent. London: Heinemann

Powell, E. & Renner, M. (2003). *Analyzing qualitative data*: University of Wisconsin Madison

Wisconsin press.

Siegel, C. J. (2003). "*Criminology*" *Belmonte*: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

SNNPR Bureau of Finance and Economic Development website (2009) Wikimedia Foundation,

Inc

Skaperdas, S. (2001). *The Political Economy of Organized Crime*: Providing Protection When

The State Does Not Satisfy Publication.

Steinberg, L. (1987). *Single Parents, Stepparents, and the Susceptibility of Adolescents to*

*Antisocial Behavior*. ISBN 0-02-208431-8 1987 (USA).

Steven E. Barkan (2012). *Criminology: Sociological Understanding* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. University of Maine.

Richard T. (1995). *Sociology* 8<sup>th</sup> ed: McGraw-Hill Publishing Company

Wolfgang. Marvin E. (1970). *The Sociology or Crime in Delinquency* .2<sup>nd</sup>ed. New,  
Jersey

*World book of Encyclopedia* (1992) Volume-4.USA

Yin, R.K. (2003) *Case Study Research: Design and Methods* (3rd Ed.). Thousand Oaks,  
CA:

Sage Publication.

## **Appendixes**

### **Appendix I**

#### **Consent Form**

the objective of these interview guiding questions are to collect information about the exploring pushing suspect offenders to commit criminal acts, the types of crime, factors that affect offenders to commit crime and its prevention methods in the case of Soddo town. So you are kindly requested to provide information to this interview guiding questions by answering the open ended questions. All information will not be used for other purpose except to the intended research purpose.

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

- **Guiding questions prepared to interview for appropriate official of the police station.**

- What types of criminal acts are most dominantly practiced in the Soddo town?

Specify?

- What do you think the main factors that motivated people to various criminal acts in the soddo town?

---

---

- Do you think the geographical location of Soddo town has its own influence to commit criminal acts? How?

---

---

- How often do the criminal acts practiced?

---

---

- Where the criminal acts usually practiced?

---

---

- Who is the active participant in criminal acts? Why?

---

---

- When does the most crime in your town practiced? How?

---

---

- How the people report to the police when ever criminal acts are practiced in the Soddo town?

---

---

- What types of services do you offered the offenders in order not to commit a crime again? Would you specify it? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

- How do you express the cooperation of the society with the police in regarding to combat criminal acts in the sodo town?

---

---

- Either any preventive measures do you have used before criminal acts happened in the sodo town? \_\_\_\_\_ would you specify?

- Background information of police staffs

A name \_\_\_\_\_

B age \_\_\_\_\_

C sex \_\_\_\_\_

D occupational status \_\_\_\_\_

E Educational level \_\_\_\_\_

F marital status \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix II

- **Guiding questions prepared to interview for offenders who are under police commissioner.**
- Have you got any criminal education? \_\_\_\_\_ By whom and when?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Where were you live with your families?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What was the financial resource for you? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was the cause for you to be arrested?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What type of relation do you have with your family? \_\_\_\_\_
- How did you commit in this crime?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What initiated you to do this crime? \_\_\_\_\_
- Anybody who participated in this crime with you?
- Background information

- How old are you ( age)\_\_\_\_\_
- Sex\_\_\_\_\_
- Marital status\_\_\_\_\_
- Religious \_\_\_\_\_
- Educational status\_\_\_\_\_
- Place of birth\_\_\_\_\_

### **Appendix III**

- **Guiding questions prepared for focus group discussion.**
- What kind of crimes most dominantly practiced in the Sodo town?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What do you think the main factors that lead offenders to commit various criminal

acts in the Soddo town? \_\_\_\_\_

- From which class of society, most of the criminal acts committed in the Soddo town? \_\_\_\_\_
- In which season of the year and time most crimes are committed in the Soddo town? \_\_\_\_\_
- How do you think the police and the society work on co-operation regarding by protection of crime?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What aimed you like to recommend reducing the occurrence of crime in the Soddo town?