

Challenges and Prospects of Child Protection Practices

**Exploring Prospects and Challenges of Child Protection Practices in Arada and Lideta
Sub-Cities in Addis Ababa**

By: Getachew Kebebew Abate

Addis Ababa University, Graduate School of Social Work

Thesis Presented in Partial fulfillment of Masters of Social Work (MSW) Degree

Challenges and Prospects of Child Protection Practices

Addis Ababa University

Research and Graduate Programs

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Getachew Kebebew Abate

Graduate School of Social work

Approved by Examining Board

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Advisor	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Examiner 1	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Examiner 2	Signature	Date

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Declaration

I, the undersigned, declare that, this thesis is my original work and that all sources of material used for thesis have been duly acknowledged.

Getachew Kebebew

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Advisor's approval

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as a University advisor.

Wassie Kebede (PhD)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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List of Acronyms

ACPF	African Child Policy Forum
ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ANPCAN	African Network for Prevention of Children against Child Abuse and Neglect
ANPPCAN	Association for National Planned Program for Vulnerable Children and in Need
CCTVC	Close Circuit Television Camera
CFJ	Child Friendly Justice
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
DRC	Declaration of the Rights of the Child
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FSCE	Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment
HPR	House of People Representatives
NASW	National Association of Social Workers
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OPRIFS	Organization for protection, rehabilitation and integration of female street children
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nation
UNCRC	United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
U.S.	United States

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Abstract

This study was designed to exploring prospects and challenges of child protection practices in Arada and Lideta Sub-Cities in Addis Ababa .Child abuse is one of the burning social problems globally. In developing countries like Ethiopia, child abuse is an increasing problem. In response to this, many countries are adopting the international child protection laws and developing their own national strategies to maintain the wellbeing of children. However, these international and national efforts are being challenged by many factors. Participants in this research were Arada sub- city Woreda four, nine and ten police men and parents and Lideta First Instance Court judges and social workers. Nine (males=5 and females=4) participants were selected using purposive sampling techniques. This study employed a qualitative research method with case study design. Data were collected using, semi-structured in-depth interviews, key informant interviews, document analysis and systematic observation. The results of the study indicated that Ledeta Federal First Instance Court and social work office provided free psycho-social and legal support for abused children, witness using CCTV and initiating child friendly justice, adoption and custody, justice for abused children without swear, child-family bench counseling. Moreover, Arada sub-city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations practiced protecting children from being beaten, physical attack, sexual abuse and psychological attacks. Lack of special rest rooms at some police stations, loosely execution of child protection laws, delay in reporting child abuse cases, absence of valid evidences of child abuse, escape of criminals particularly abusers on street children, repeated postponements of the court due to process; lack of awareness to bring cases of abused children to the court and inability to understand and explain the nature of the abuse by children are identified as the major challenges of child protection practices in the study areas. Despite of these challenges, the presence of child-friendly bench, the involvements of social work professionals in court justice system, separated rooms for treating abused children in social work office, the family bench counseling services, the use of CCTV Camera, the involvement of some international NGOs are some of the good practice and that have bright feature prospects for child protection practices.

Key words: Child, Child protection, abuse, child abuse

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Chapter One: Background

1.1. Introduction

According to UN, a child is any human being under the age of 18 that calls on States Parties to take all appropriate measures to ensure and protect children's rights which are including the right to a name and nationality, freedom of speech and thought, access to healthcare and education, freedom from exploitation, torture and abuse (Blanchfield, 2014). Children are among the most vulnerable sections of the society due to the level of their mental and physical maturity preventing them from protecting their own rights and interests. Hence, much of human rights instruments and domestic legislations impose obligations on the part of the government to provide special protection to children (Tesfaye, 2017).

According to UNICEF (2015), children in the world account for nearly half of the total population. Similarly, based on the study by UNICEF (2017), children lie at the heart of Africa's present and future that currently comprise 47 percent of Africa's overall population. Moreover, Central Statistical Agency, National Census Report in 2008 (as cited in Periodic Reports of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, 2012) indicated that, in Ethiopia children below the age of 18 years constitute 52.9% of the total population.

This implies children account to the largest portion of the population that international communities should pay attention to the children and they need special care and protection from any injuries and harmful practices because they are mentally and physically immature. They need to be brought up in an environment capable of providing care and affection (Goel, 2009).

Children are one of the vulnerable groups of the population who are exposed for different maltreatment in all corners of the globe, in all walks of life. Abuse and neglect, violence against children, child prostitution, child pornography, sex tourism, child labor and trafficking in children are just some of them (Hopkins, 2013). Similarly, Save the Children (2013) stated that, children experience abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation in all the countries in the world and which many of them are affected.

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According to UNICEF (2008), children need to be provided with protection against all sorts of risks and vulnerabilities underlying many forms of harm and abuse including sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking, hazardous labor, violence, living or working on the streets, armed conflict and harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, child marriage and lack of access to justice and unnecessary institutionalization. In protecting children from these forms of maltreatments, there are different international and national laws and policies like Declaration of the Rights of the Child 1959, Minimum Age Convention 1973, U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, Child Protection and Placement Agreements 1996 (Wendy et al., 2007).

In the same manner, Africa has a strong normative policy and frameworks for investing in its children in the 21st century. All African countries ratified the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Among the world's continents, Africa also chose to adopt its own bill of rights for children of the 1990 African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. This charter reinforces the provisions of the CRC, issues such as protection from apartheid and discrimination; armed conflict. Basically the main concern of African policy about children is to protect Africa's children and women from violence, exploitation and abuse especially child marriage and harmful practices (UNICEF, 2017).

In the same manner, Ethiopia is a signatory of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The Federal Constitution provides the umbrella articles for the protection of the rights of the child in aspects of social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical and mental violence, injury or abuse or neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment, or exploitation, including sexual abuse. Article 36 of the Constitution relates to the protection of the rights of the child that has been enshrined in the CRC. Despite these important measures harmonizing national legislations with the provisions of the convention, there still exist significant gaps in protecting the rights of the child like lack of an effective juvenile justice system in the country (U.N, 2005).

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As Tsegaye (2011, pp. 11) stated, “in Ethiopia, government is demanded to develop a comprehensive, rights based national policy and strategy that is rooted in the convention and sets real, achievable and measurable targets. Policy and legal frameworks become primary and crucial in that they provide and legitimize the measures to be taken to ensure that children are protected and their rights are maintained. The key elements and structure of the required policy and legal framework include national policies, acts, regulations, operational standards. A national policy is supposed to draw general directions of addressing the issues of children at national level, which is, in principle, expected to embrace all rights of children as stipulated in the CRC”.

There is also child friendly justice that focuses on child protection system. In Ethiopia, CFJ is part of child protection practices particularly concerns children who come into contact to a justice system. It stipulates the principles and manners of treating children and handling their cases through the processes of justice (Tsegaye, 2011). In the Ethiopian justice system, the movement of making the court system sensitive for the child victim has begun in 2004 by establishing the child protection unit at ‘Woreda’ police offices of Addis Ababa city administration (Save the Children, 2005).

In the same way, UNICEF and the Federal Supreme Court in Ethiopia initiated a court advisory body and established a child friendly court by involving advisory body consisting of more than 24 social workers to assist benches handling cases of children (Wulczyn et al., 2010). As my own professional experience, while I was working in Arada sub-city Woreda six Women and Child Affairs Office from 2016-2017, I handled different child related cases such as victims, rape, offenders and child custody issues collaborated with Federal Court to get justice. Justice is given based on the information shared by the witnessing bodies including abused children and the perpetrators.

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This was the way how child related legal issues were dealt but due to many reasons the court proceedings of such cases were failed for many occasions. The major challenge was from the abused children themselves due to the fact that most of them are immature in terms of cognitive, social and psychological developments prohibited them to clearly narrate their suffer. The other is, even though the abused children were old enough to disclose the offences and its related consequences, they usually became anxious to see the court which compromised the objectivity of the information they shared to the court. But different literatures explain that children should participate in any decision making process and try to air their views.

Supporting this, the Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes that children have civil, political, economic, social, health, and cultural rights. One of the most important rights in the CRC is the right of participation, as set out in Article 12. Article 12(1) recognizes the right of children capable of forming views to express those views in all matters affecting them and directs that due weight be accorded those views, depending on the age and maturity of the child as well as the matter at issue. Article 12(2) also provides for the right of the child to be heard directly or indirectly through a representative in any administrative or judicial proceedings affecting the child. Children can exercise themselves, and involvement in decision-making that most directly impacts on their lives (Bala & Houston, 2015).

Moreover, given the extreme level of impoverishment prevailing in Ethiopia, it inevitably turns out that the use or abuse of child labor becomes a common practice. According to a survey carried out by the Central Statistical Agency, 83 percent of Ethiopian children in the age cohort of 5-14 are engaged in either a productive activity or the performance of household chores. When the age cohort is pushed to 15-17, the proportion rises to 97 percent. More appalling is the fact that 62 percent of children aged 10-14 and 39 percent of children aged 5-9 are engaged in at least one type of employment besides household chores. The survey revealed that all-in-all; 15.5 million of the 18.13 million children are working either in the household or outside (U.N, 2005).

Likewise, as the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (2017, pp.2) noted, “there are also different child abuse in Addis Ababa such as child trafficked from rural areas to Addis Ababa for forced labor in the weaving industry and in domestic work”. Since Arada and Lideta sub-cities are found in Addis Ababa, the same thing is practiced in these areas.

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The main reasons for selecting this area is that the area is found in the center of Addis Ababa which is full of chaos and disordered that many illegal and immoral practices have been common that can spoil the children to protect their basic rights. This may result with high degree of violence of the child's rights and victim. The other reason is while I was working at Arada Woreda six Women and Child Affairs Office from 2016-2017; I have observed many children were coming to the office due to the challenges of different violence (abuse, rape, punishments etc.). Therefore, the aim of this study is to explore the current future prospects and challenges of child protection practices in Arada and Lideta sub-cities.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

The Convention on the Rights of Children (1989), article 3 clearly stated that “in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.” (p.2). This indicates that, universally all child protection activities must take children's views into consideration and they have to be heard in front of child protection implementers.

Similarly, children in Ethiopia have rights which are ratified and adapted in the international and national level such as United Nation Convention on the Rights of Children (1989), African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990) and The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (1995).

Specifically, the FDRE Constitution (1995, pp'11) under its Article 36 has incorporated key principles of the UNCRC such as “the best interests of the child principle which specifically stated that every child has the right to life, name and nationality, to know and be cared for by his/her parents or legal guardians and not to be subject to exploitive practices nor be permitted to work in hazardous situations and to be free of cruel and inhuman treatment have been compromised.”

However, practically, there are gaps between this notions and the practical implementation of the legal frameworks as well as the judicial procedures. Child abuse and neglect are intensive and continual issues in the child protection activities through vary across places, culture and society (UNICEF, 2004; 2008). Moreover, the national response to children in

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general and children without appropriate care in particular is still spoiled by several gloomy features; such as trafficking, abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence etc.

Similarly, children in Ethiopia are violated by different maltreatments such as physical, sexual, neglect and psychological/emotional abuse (Genaye, 2008 and Getnet, 2001). In Ethiopia, between 1999 and 2009, over 37,000 children were supported within Save the Children's programs including 26,047 cases of children who were victims of exploitation and abuse and 11,496 children in conflict with the law (Save the Children, 2012). In addition, as African Child Policy Forum stated on violence against children in Ethiopia, about 49% of children with age between 11-17 years experienced physical punishment. Of these, about 12% revealed that the physical punishment was severe (ACPF, 2014).

There are also a number of problems that children are facing at service providers or legal systems level like courts, police stations, correctional and remand homes. Supporting this, the ACRWC (1990) noted that most African children remain critical due to the unique factors of their socio-economic, cultural, traditional and developmental circumstances, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, hunger and the child's physical and mental immaturity he/she needs special safeguards and care.

According to studies conducted in Ethiopia particularly in Addis Ababa, there are different maltreatments that are affected the overall development of children (Marshet, 2013, Tizita 2015 and Amare, 2017). Marshet (2013) had conducted on a study the social workers practice in the court with sexually abused children. The finding of the study indicated that social workers have diverse roles such as acting as an intermediary between the sexually abused child as a witness and the court and preparing the child for court under special circumstances.

Tizita (2015) also had carried out a study on child protection response through community based multi stakeholders approach. The results of the study indicated that the major roles of the executive committee are coordinate and monitor the implementation of the strategic plans. In addition, the main roles of sub-committee are engage and suggest any workable and sustainable intervention and report activates to the executive committee and the interventions techniques that are followed by the community based multi-stakeholders council mainly focused on prevention measure.

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Likewise, Amare (2017) also had conducted a study on critical analysis of the statutory rape provisions of the criminal code and their application. The finding revealed that in Ethiopia, the criminal code includes provisions that address the crime of statutory rape and children under the age of eighteen years are not legally able to engage in sexual intercourse. According to this study, Ethiopian Criminal Code fail to provide equal legal protection to minors and to treat offenders of the crime of statutory rape differently is the drawbacks that would hinder the enhanced protection of children.

The aforementioned studies have their own contributions to understand the protection practices and challenges of Ethiopian children. However, there are still knowledge gaps which have not been addressed yet by the above studies. From these, the focuses of these studies focused on a single aspects either challenges or protection rather than to be inclusive (challenges, current and future prospects) of child protection practices. This implies that there are gaps regarding with thematic aspects.

Moreover, there are gaps with regarding to methodological approaches, theoretical/models and study areas. For stance, Marshet (2013) examined the specific area of social workers practice only to address the sexually abused children and used theoretical/models like the Victim Advocacy Model and the Improvement Model, which is highly differ from this study in theme and theories. Tizita's (2015) study is also limited to specific thematic and study area which is differ from this study both area of the study and thematically. Similarly, Amare's (2017) study also is different from the current study in terms of theme and area of focus.

Therefore, this study will serve as a ground for the improvement of child protection practices in the study areas by focusing in more inclusive manner (challenges, current good trends and future prospects) regarding to child protection practices in the study areas. It focused on various challenges and good trends regarding to child protection practices which are practiced as per the national policy frameworks like African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child, National Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia and The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Therefore, what makes unique this study from the above studies is that, thematically (explore challenges and prospects of child protection

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practices), theoretically that were applied (ecological system and attachment theories) and study areas focused in Lideta and Arada sub-cities to fulfill the existing knowledge gaps.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

General Objective

The general objective of the study was to explore prospects and challenges of child protection practices in Addis Ababa.

Specific Objectives

This study was planned to achieve the following three specific objectives:

1. To identify the key child protection services being provided by Lideta Federal First Instance Court and Social Work Unit and Arada sub-city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations.
2. To identify the existing challenges of child protection practices.
3. To assess the future prospects of child protection practices.

1.4. Research Questions

Taking the objective set above into account, the study responded to the following research questions:

1. What are the key child protection services being provided by Lideta Federal First Instance Court and social work office and Arada sub-city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations?
2. What are the major challenges of child protection practices?
3. What are the future prospects of child protection practices?

1.5. Significances of the Study

Studying challenges and prospects of child protection practices has multiple advantages to child protection practitioners and policy makers. Thus, this study has the following major significances: Identified key child protection services so that governmental offices and NGOs working on the issues would take measures to enhance the existing services and to add additional child protection services. In addition, the outcomes of this study would provide new insight to

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similar settings in other sub-cities of Addis Ababa so that relevant measure will be taken in the future to scale up child protection practices.

1.6. Scope of the Study

Basically the scopes of this study focused on three major spheres; central theme, unit of observation under the study and focus of study sites. Scope by theme contained Exploring Prospects and Challenges of Child Protection Practices. Particularly, it emphasized on the key child protection services and the existing challenges of child protection practices as well as experiences and the future prospects of child protection practices. All these issues explored from the perspectives of experts like judges, police officers, and social workers and the study areas limited to Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations and Lideta Federal First Instance Court and Social Work Unit.

1.7. Conceptual Definition

The conceptual definition is the abstract and most general universal meaning which is understood by many people. Therefore, in this study, this definition was used in the sense of the above concepts.

1.7.1. Conceptual Definitions

- ✓ **Child:** according to UN, “a child is any human being under the age of 18 that calls on States Parties to take all appropriate measures to ensure and protect children’s rights” (Blanchfield, 2014, pp. 1).
- ✓ **Child Protection:** “child protection is preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children, including commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labor and harmful traditional practices” (UNICEF, 2004; 2006,pp.1).
- ✓ **Child Friendly Justice:** “refers to justice systems which guarantee the respect and the effective implementation of all children’s rights at the highest attainable level, giving due consideration to the child’s level of maturity and understanding and the circumstances of the case. It is, in particular, justice that is accessible, age appropriate, speedy, diligent, adapted to and focused on the needs and rights of the child, respecting the rights of the child including the rights to due process, to participate in and to understand the proceedings” (Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, 2010,pp.2).

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- ✓ **Child Abuse:** “child abuse is doing something or failing to do something that results in harm to a child or puts a child at risk of harm. It can be physical, sexual or emotional. Neglect, or not providing for a child’s needs, is also a form of abuse” (Gupta & Aggarwal, 2012, pp.416).

Chapter Two: Literature Review

2.1. The Concept of Child Protection

Since children are among the most vulnerable populations, they need particular protection from all segments of the community. The concept child protection is understood in various ways by different organizations. UNICEF defines child protection as preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children, including commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labor and harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriage (UNICEF, 2004; 2006).

Similarly, Oladiji (2012) indicated the concept of child protection as taking measure in order to protect the rights of children that can be understood from the perspective of the UNCRC which draws the human rights to be respected and protected for every child under the age of 18 years. Correspondingly, child protection refers to strategies and structures aimed at protecting children from abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence (Save the Children 2013-2015). Moreover, child protection is also safeguarding of the children from different maltreatments includes early marriage, child labor and other forms of exploitation, and all forms of abuse, including sexual abuse and physical violence against children in homes, schools and wider communities (UN, 1989).

Every society has to think carefully about how to protect its children in various ways. Normative standards (laws, culture, and religion) may shape how members of a community choose to protect children and the choices made may well affect the very nature of childhood. However, the major questions are how children will be protected from violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect, as well as man-made and natural emergencies, as a matter of a child's fundamental rights (UNICEF, 2010).

Accordingly, children can be protected by the collaborative efforts of family, state and justice System .The Parents, other family members, and guardians shall ensure that children grow up in an atmosphere of happiness, love, protect children from all acts and situations that put the child at risk of neglect, abuse, maltreatment, and `exploitation which helps to development and respect the child's dignity, honor and personality and understanding which promotes the

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development of the child's full potential. In justice system, the information shall be provided in a child-friendly manner respecting the child's age, maturity, and capacity. In any proceedings affecting a child's rights or interests, the child has a right to get free legal assistance and counseling and experts able to assess the maturity, capacity, and wishes of the child to determine the child's best interests (Hopkins, 2013).

2.2. The Historical Development of the International Child Rights Protection System

According to Kosher and his colleagues (2016), Prior to the 16th century (The Pre-industrial Period), children were considered legally and socially as the property of their parents; they were not seen as human beings with their own status and rights. Parents, mainly fathers, were given unlimited power and control over them and were allowed to treat them as they wished; corporal punishment was almost universal and was accepted as appropriate. The Industrial Period (the 19th Century up to the Mid-20th Century), children were considered to be endangered by conditions of immigration, industrialization and urbanization in ways that would create undesirable behavior and threaten society. This brought about a new agenda in regard to children's status and led to the emergence of the idea of protecting children. In Liberalism and Romanticism period, some streams of philosophical thinking emerging in the 17th and the 18th century also contributed to generating the notion of children's rights. From the 17th–19th century numerous Enlightenment thinkers focused on childhood education and how children learn. The Enlightenment's attention to the development of the individual child was an important milestone leading to the 20th century concept of the rights of the child.

A noticeable change in the thinking on children's rights occurred in the second half of the 20th century, with a shift from issues dealing solely with children's protection or nurturance rights to those dealing with children's right to self-determination or self-expression. In 1919, the view of children's rights was emphasized by several bodies and committees of the League of Nation those were established to deal with the issues of working conditions of children, trafficking and stateless children. Similarly, in the 1924, Declaration of the Rights of the Child was adopted by the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations and was the first international instrument explicitly acknowledging children's rights. Correspondingly, the Declaration of

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children right 1959 was established after the Second World War and the events leading up children's rights to an almost complete standstill (United Nations, 2007).

Moreover, in 1989, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), providing the first-ever comprehensive international law standards for the promotion and protection of children's rights. Before the adoption of the CRC, children's rights were viewed as a quest for charity. The conventions are the world's leading tool, and the most important instrument, for the advancement of children's rights through establishing the basic standards accepted worldwide, and, therefore, it serves as the foundation for domestic laws and policies focusing on children's rights (Nielsen, 2012). In this regard the most notable UN manifestation to advance children's rights is the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ruppel, 2009). The Convention has carved out the aspects of children's rights that are being promoted over the last number of years (Hayes, 2002).

The other historical movement regarding child rights protection was children liberation movement emerged in the United Kingdom and the United States in the late 1960's and 1970'. These liberationists called for the end of paternalistic approaches towards children, for the elimination of the discrimination between children and adults, to grant children the same constitutional rights as adults, and ultimately to make children free beings. The liberationists' approach marks a significant change in the field of children's rights. To a large extent, this movement shifted attention away from the welfare paradigm and the general developmental perception of childhood in law, by offering new ways to conceptualize childhood and a new understanding of children's human rights (Peleg, 2012).

2.2.1. The League of Nations and Child Rights Protection

Under the earlier patriarchal model where father's power over his household was like that of a God, children were assumed as a property or possession of their father. As a result, children have been people that were to be "seen and not heard (pp.266-267)". However, in the late nineteenth century children in Europe and North America came to be considered as a special population in need of protection. "Child saving" attracted the attention of many social reformers to the extent of leading the development of child welfare systems, juvenile courts and other special arrangements for children (Todres, 2014).

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International Save the Children United Kingdom founded by following the inspiration of an English woman, Jebb in 1919 was among the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with the specific aim of improving the lives of children (Oladiji, 2012). Its primary goals were maintaining peace; ensuring fair working conditions of men, women and children; securing just treatment of the native inhabitants; preventing trafficking of women, children and narcotic drugs; supervising arms trading; maintaining freedom of communication and transit; and preventing and controlling diseases. In accordance with these goals and as part of a broader project of rehabilitation of war victims, children's welfare was on the League's agenda from the beginning of its work (Peleg, 2012).

This Charity Organization Society shifted from raising funds to save homeless and orphaned children to the issue of children's rights. As a result, Ms. Jebb drafted a document that affirmed the rights of children and the duty of the international community to put children's rights in the forefront of planning. The draft document presented five points to the League of Nations. Since the league's primary goal as stated in Article 23 is by being subject to the provisions of existing or coming international conventions to make an effort in order to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labor for men, women and children, in fulfilling its goals for children in particular, the League of Nations on September 26, 1924 ratified Ms. Jebb's five point document as the First Declaration on the Right of the Children or the Declaration of Geneva as it came to be known. This First Declaration on the Rights of the Child contained five basic principles (Oladiji, 2012).

Recognizing that 'mankind owes to the child the best that it has to give', the five simple principles of the declaration indicated the ground of child rights in terms of both protections of the weak and vulnerable and promotion of the child's growth. The Declaration also indicated as the care and protection of children was no longer the sole duty of families or communities or even individual countries rather as it is the whole world legitimate interest (Bhakhry, 2006).

Accordingly, under its five principles it conferred upon men and women of all nations the following obligations: child must be given both material and spiritual means required for its normal development; child that is hungry should be fed; the child that is sick should be helped; delinquent child should be reclaimed; and the orphan and the homeless child should be sheltered;

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child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress; child must be protected against every form of exploitation and child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents are to be used in the services of its fellow men (Declaration on the Rights of the Child, 1924).

Thus, the Declaration was brief and only inspirational for it called member states to be guided by its principles without any legal obligation (Oladiji, 2012). Second, the 1924 Declaration of Geneva entailed more of the duties of “men and women of all nations,” rather than the rights of children, “regarding children more as beneficiaries of child welfare than as subjects of law” (p.268) (Todres, 2014).

Generally, this landmark document was the first international instrument recognizing the universality of children's rights and welfare .The declaration further asserted that children should be the first to receive relief in times of distress, and that children need to be in a position where they can earn a livelihood, whilst being protected against every form of exploitation. The last paragraph of the Declaration stated that children should be brought up with the consciousness that their talents must be devoted to the service of their fellow men (Peleg, 2012).

2.2.2. The United Nations and Child Rights Protection

Because of the League of Nations was not able to properly implemented and prevented the community in genera and the children in particular from different maltreatments, another world war was occurred. The Second World War surrounded the entire planet, and caused even greater suffering for non-combatants, particularly children. Thus, in 1945 the United Nations Organization replaced and the League of Nations and enacted 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child on November 20 at the international level and in the same year, the United Nations established a specialized agency — UNICEF with a mandate to care for the world’s children (Bhakhry, 2006).

As stated in its preamble, the UDHR is a “Common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations” (p.3). The Declaration further states that, “All Human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood” (p.4). Thus, since it proclaims the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all human beings as the foundation of freedom, justice

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and peace in the world it embodies more measures to protect the children, throughout a “common standard” of achievement for all people and all nations that naturally the standard set forth includes children (UDHR, 1948). In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration (Verlag & Graz, 2012).

Though all of the provisions of UDHR address children implicitly, only two of them explicitly address children’s issues. First, Article 25 states that motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance, and adds that all children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection. Second, in Article 26, which deals with the right to education, provision is made to ensure that parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children (UDHR, 1948).

Accordingly, when the UDHR was ratified; it was understood as children’s rights had been taken care of on the whole. However, first, UDHR does not clearly show the idea of children as holders of rights but it solely captures attention to their need for special protection (Ofodile, 2010). Second, even after its ratification children had less power in society and across the globe they were left more disempowered and victimized by human rights violations than the citizen (Oladiji, 2012).

As a result, the UDHR was not found to be fully ample to deal with the situation of children in the post-Second World War era. Children were accepted as a particularly vulnerable group, who needed specific measures towards their protection or in terms of providing rights that would permit their full and healthy development. This was the main reason that the General Assembly of United Nation ratified the 1959 DRC (Bhakhry, 2006).

Correspondingly, the U.N. also notes that children need special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth, reiterates the 1924 Declaration’s pledge that mankind owes to the child the best it has to give, and specifically calls upon voluntary organizations and local authorities to strive for the observance of children’s rights (The Law Library of Congress, Global Legal Research Center, 2007).

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Accordingly, one of the key principles of the DRC is that special protection against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation in order to enhance the child's physical, mental and social development (Declaration of the Rights of the Child, 1959). Thus, the 1959, declaration of the Rights of child proclaimed numerous rights to children based on the assertion that humanity owed to children the best it could offer them. Moreover, the source of the principle of best interest of a child is this Declaration (Omondi, 2014).

2.2.3. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

The landmark on the journey towards the CRC was the nomination of 1979 by UN as the International Year of the Child (Hayes, 2002). Accordingly, the possibility of UNCRC was first elevated by the government of Poland in 1978 when UN member states designed activities and agendas that would take place during the International Year of the Child in 1979. Then during the International Year of the Child, the UN Commission on Human Rights taken in to account the Polish proposal and organized a Working Group to review and create a final outline (Blanchfield, 2014).

Moreover, the UN Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) in an international human rights treaty that promotes the rights of all children worldwide. Generally, the treaty guarantees children the right to survival, the right to develop to their fullest potential, the right to protection from abuse, neglect and exploitation and the right to participate in family, cultural and social life (Mathur, 2016). Besides, children's participation rights have also been recognized in proceedings respecting child protection, health, youth criminal justice, immigration, and education (Bala & Houston, 2015).

Thus, the Convention outlines the rights of children in detail and declares as children do not only need care in peacetime but also from violence during armed conflicts (Harju, 2013). Besides to this, for the Convention to be more than only rhetoric, its implementation by the States Parties must have to be monitored (Hayes, 2002). Accordingly, "today the CRC is the most internationally accepted human rights treaty in history, forging an "age of rights" for children" (Todres, 2014, p.268).

2.2.4. African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

Member States of the Organization of African Unity Parties has the presented charter entitled 'African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child'. The Declaration on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (ACRWC, 1990).

According to Sillah and Chibanda (2013), the ACRWC was designed to serve as a blueprint for the observance of children's rights by every African country. It became the model of what children's rights ought to be taking into consideration that the child due to the needs of his physical and mental development requires particular care with regard to health, physical, mental, moral and social development. It also requires legal protection in conditions of freedom, dignity and security. There is need to unearth elements of doubles standards, hypocrisy and blurred articles that might leave room for manipulation by states in the basis of the interpretation of the ACRWC, at the expense of the African child.

Similarly, the preamble to the ACRWC makes two important statements regarding the instrument's conception of the rights and welfare of the child. Firstly, it identifies the Charter's foundation as the principles of the international law on the rights and welfare of the child as contained in the declarations, conventions and other instruments of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations. Secondly, the Charter charges that the concept of the rights and welfare of the child should be inspired and characterized by the virtues of African cultural heritage, historical background and the values of the African civilization which the rights and welfare of the child are derived from universal sources, must be alive to the reality of African children (Kaime, 2009).

Taking this into consideration, the virtues of their cultural heritage, historical background and the values of the African civilization which should inspire and characterize their reflection on the concept of the rights and welfare of the child, considering that the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of the child also implies the performance of duties on the part of everyone (ACRWC, 1990).

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Supporting to this, the ACRWC also recognizes “that the child occupies a unique and privileged position in the African society,” “that the child should grow up in a family environment in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,” and acknowledges that the situation of African children “remains critical due to the unique factors of their socio-economic, cultural, traditional and developmental circumstances, natural disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation and hunger.” (Skujyte, 2011, p.23).

Accordingly, the best interests of the child and Protection of privacy are among the articles which give high consideration children’s issues. In all actions concerning the child undertaken by any person or authority, the best interests of the child must be in the primary consideration. Moreover, any child should not be subject to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family home or correspondence, or to the attacks upon his honor or reputation, provided that parents or legal guardians shall have the right to exercise reasonable supervision over the conduct of their children. The child has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks (ACRWC, 1990).

2.3. Theoretical Frameworks

Since the 1960s, several major theoretical frameworks have been used to explain child maltreatment, such as psycho-dynamic and psycho-pathology framework, social learning theory, attachment theory, ecological models, strengths and resilience frameworks, and social information processing theory (Schelbe, & Geiger, 2017). For this study, ecological system theory and attachment theory was used. Because these theories are highly fit with child protection practices. Therefore, this study applied these two theories as a theoretical framework to guild the research process as a whole.

2.3.1. Ecological System Theory

According to Krishnan (2010), this theory was developed by Bronfenbrenner and it stated that human development is influenced by the different types of environmental systems. A child’s development is shaped by the varied systems of the child’s environment and also by the interrelationships among the systems.

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Similarly, this study employed the ecological system theory to elaborate how systems interact to affect the developmental condition of the child. Basically, this theory much more relay on the interplay of the influences between children and their social environment. It looks at a child's development within the context of the system of relationships that form his or her environment. Bronfenbrenner's theory defines complex "layers" of environment, each having an effect on a child's development .According to systems theory, development cannot be explored or explained by any one single concept, rather by a more multidimensional and complex system (Ryan, 2001).

Similarly, this theory can help child welfare workers identify, assess, understand, and address the complex dynamics and interactions between the at-risk or abused child and her or his environment. The existing literature on child abuse recognizes that this multifaceted problem requires a framework that addresses all the contributing factors from a systems perspective. Psychosocial problems including domestic violence, parental psychopathology, alcoholism, poor parenting and drug use have been cited as contributing factors in child maltreatment and thus require attention from an ecological perspective (Leon et al., 2008).

Therefore based on this prospective, Bronfenbrenner (1917) suggested four levels of environment surrounded the child development. The first level is that of the micro system, which is closest to the child and contains the structures with which the child has direct contact. Structures in the micro system include family, school, neighborhood, court and police stations or childcare environments. The second level named the meso system; this layer provides the connection between the structures of the child's micro system, for example, relationships between the family and children, the family and the courts, or the family and the police stations. The third system, known as the exo- system, this layer defines the larger social system in which the child does not function directly. Parent workplace schedules, community-based family resources, and school departments are examples of this system. Lastly, the macro system refers the outermost layer in the child's environment. While not being a specific framework, this layer is comprised of cultural values, customs, social and political norms, and the legal system.

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Based on the above descriptions, it is possible to say that there must be a holistic response to child protection that recognizes the duties of all people at all levels in terms of respecting children's rights to protect and pertain to all children in all conditions. It is in this theory that explains the environment that the children grow contributes and affects the overall development of children. Achieving a world where children's protection are regularly respected needs ensuring that children grow up in an enabling environment or protective environment where every components of it contributes to the protection of children and where every actor does his or her part (UNICEF, 2004).

2.3.2. Attachment Theory in the Context of Child Protection

Attachment theory is the joint work of Bowlby and Ainsworth which is "drawing on concepts from ethology and cybernetics, information processing, developmental psychology and psychoanalysts. Bowlby formulated the basic tenets of the theory and he there by revolutionized our thinking about a child's tie to the mother and its disruption through separation, deprivation, and bereavement. Ainsworth's innovative methodology not only made it possible to test some of Bowlby's ideas empirically but also helped expand the theory itself and is responsible for some of the new directions it is now taking"(p. 759-775). That is Ainsworth contributed the concept of the attachment figure as a secure base from which an infant can explore the world (Bretherton, 1992).

Attachment theory is basically concerned with how children's early relationships affect their development and their capacity to form later relationships. It can increase understanding about what children may bring into the new relationships that care involves and looking forward, how one can build on the past, modify expectations and strategies that are no longer helpful, and help the development of new positive relationships (Centre for Parenting & Research, 2006).

As Schelbe and Geiger (2017) cited in Bowlby, attachment between a child and caregiver begins at birth when a child is completely dependent on the caregiver for survival and relies on the caregiver to provide consistent and responsive care. That is through this interactional process, an attachment is formed between the child and the caregiver that is reciprocal in nature, where a behavior from one evokes a response from the other. Accordingly, the attachment relationship

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which continues through the first years of a child's life serves as the template for future relationships and interactions in the social world.

In line with this, Washington (2008) also cited in Howe that the basic premise of attachment theory is a child's relationship with a primary caregiver during infancy is critically important to later development and serves as a prototype for the child's relationships throughout the lifespan. According to Howe (1995), there are four types of attachment experience: (1) secure attachments, (2) insecure, ambivalent attachments, (3) insecure, avoidant attachments, and (4) disorganized attachments.

1. Secure Attachments: It is secure parent-child relationships, it is considered as care loves, responsive, predictable and consistent. In this type of attachment, there is sensitivity to children's needs, thoughts and feelings from their caregivers. There is mutual interest and concern in the thoughts and feelings of the other. Children begin to understand and handle both themselves and social relationships. They feel valued and socially competent and other people are seen as trustworthy and available. It is believed that children are usually sociable and well-liked by peers and cope reasonably well with the conflicts, upsets and frustrations of everyday life. As they mature into adulthood, they continue to feel good about themselves. These are 'autonomous' and 'secure' people who have a broadly realistic, accurate and workable view of themselves, other people and the relationships between them.

2. Insecure, Ambivalent Attachments: As Howe stated this type of attachment is occurred when parental care is inconsistent, intrusive and unpredictable; children begin to experience increasing levels of anxiety; because parents often fail to empathize with their children's moods, needs and feelings. The problem is one of neglect and insensitivity rather than hostility and in most case there is misunderstandings and inaccurate communications abound. The child is never quite sure where he or she is within the parent-child relationship and becomes increasingly confused and frustrated which resulted distress and anxiety that lead to a clingy dependence. There is fretful, constant anxiety and they become demanding and attention-seeking, angry and needful. Insensitive and inconsistent care is interpreted by children and adults to mean that they are ineffective in securing love and sustaining comforting relationships.

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3. Insecure, Avoidant Attachments: In this type of attachment, some children develop as a response to hostile, rigid or rejecting behavior from parents. Although these parents may respond reasonably well when their child appears content, they withdraw when faced with distress and the need for comfort and attention. The clinging, complaining behavior of children in ambivalent attachment relationships serves no purpose in these cooler styles of parenting. When separated from their parents, these children show few signs of distress. Upon reunion, the children either ignore or avoid their attachment figure. Feelings are suppressed. To experience such rejection must mean that the self is unlovable or even bad and self-esteem is very poor. Lack of emotional involvement and mutuality mean that both children and adults find it hard to understand and deal with feelings which considered that empathy is poor. The children, they may aggressor and try to get their way through physical force rather than social skill.

4. Disorganized Attachments: Basically this type of attachment will occur when many children who suffer physical abuse and maltreatment seem to show a confused mixture of resistant and avoidant patterns of attachment. The parent may not be wholly hostile or rejecting but there are times when they are either dangerous or very frightening to the child. This results the type of relationships which is disorganized and disturbed attachment patterns in which the parent's violent or scary behavior causes the child to feel extremely anxious. Here, the attachment figure is the cause of the anxiety and so to approach him or her actually raises the level of anxiety. The child is therefore faced with a dilemma. The result is that the child is deeply confused and either physically and/or emotionally 'freezes' which extends to dealings with other people. Distress and undirected, agitated behavior is often the result when children find themselves in close relationship and also they do not know how to seek comfort nor do they seem to know how to respond to other people's warmth and concern. There is a general air of helplessness and disorientation.

According to McGrath (2013), the basic principles of attachment theory are well-established – nurturance and continuity of care to build trust in relationships and healthy engagement in relationships is necessary for long-term health and well-being. For attachment theory to have an impact on the end result in child welfare, it must first be understood and accepted by professionals. Child protection workers, managers, foster parents, legislators,

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lawyers and judges all seek to achieve a result that serves the “best interests of the child” and all attempt to do so in the context of their own competing priorities.

Therefore, from this theory it is possible to understand that not only there should be strong attachment between parents and children but also other child protection practitioners (social workers, police officers, lawyers and judges) all should work in collaborate in order to implement proper child protection to achieve social and emotional development of the children and to realize the “best interests of the child”.

2.4. Legal Frameworks for Child Right Protection in Ethiopia

Prior to the 1995 Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Constitution, other written constitutions have been successively enacted in Ethiopia since 1931. As Getahun (2007) stated the 1931 constitution is the first written constitution of Ethiopia which designed based on the Japanese Meiji Constitution. However, the constitution was not clear/ informative and contained many of the elements that were included in the traditional codes governing the relationship between crowns and subject i.e. it declared Ethiopia a constitutional monarchy, headed by a monarchy that has got his ancestry from King Solomon of Jerusalem (Keller, 2010).

Since there were different young intellectual movements between 1965 and 1974, an effort to blunt growing discontent end this the regime tried to made a desperate attempt to reform national political institution in August 1974 which another national constitution was proposed. This version called for the “abolition of royal absolutism” (p.70) (Keller, 2010). However, the changes took place were too little as well as late, as a result, Haile Selassie regime was disbanded and the constitution almost easily aborted by the Military power (Endalcachew, 2014).

Later, after 13 years of constitutional interruption, the Military regime came up with the third written constitution which is the 1987 constitution that the idea of human rights was rarely considered as entitlement. Moreover, the constitution was demised by the liberationist struggles that continued till 1991 i.e. till the fall of the Derg and the new regime endorsed the Transitional Charter which served as constitution of Ethiopia for the time of the transition. Then after a prolonged transition, a Federal Democratic Constitution was enacted in 1994 and came into force in 1995 (Tsegaye, 2009).

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The 1995 FDRE constitution shows a major transformation in terms of human rights as compared to its former constitutions (Adem, 2011). In addition to the transformation in terms of human rights in general Girmachew and Yonas (2012) contended as the Ethiopian constitution also declares the vulnerable position of children in particular and granted their rights as well as the subsequent protection for these rights.

Accordingly, under Article 36 the constitution recognizes the rights of all children to life, to name and nationality, and to know and be cared by their parents, to be protected from exploitative practices. Beyond recognition the constitution prohibits the infliction of corporal punishment or cruel and inhumane treatment in schools and other institutions entrusted for the care of children as well as the accommodation of children in conflict with the law together with adults. It also gives special protection for orphans. Moreover, Article 36(2) articulates the principle of the best interest of the child as the primary consideration in all matters affecting children (FDRE, 1995).

Thus, based on the above notes it possible to say that as compared to the former constitutions which guaranteed human rights to somehow the FDRE Constitution has guaranteed protection to the rights of children explicitly not for they are only human but also for they are vulnerable or by taking their age into consideration. Though the FDRE constitution points out these rights for children, the most debatable issue here is whether or how the CRC can be directly applied or incorporated in the Ethiopian legal system, especially in the court.

Indeed, as Mgbako and his colleagues (2008) indicated the current debate regarding incorporation of international human rights instruments into Ethiopian law is whether ratification alone suffices for domestication or whether publication in the Federal Negarit Gazeta (the official law gazette of the federal government) is required. The issue of publication in the Federal Negarit Gazeta is one of practicality, not legality. Publication of human rights treaties in the Federal Gazette would improve access to and comprehension of these instruments and empower the courts to invoke them. Thus far, Ethiopia has ratified most of the major international human rights instruments but has published only one, the Convention on the Rights of the Child ("CRC"). However, not a single line of the actual text of the CRC was published or officially translated. Those who argue that publication in the Federal Gazette is a requirement for

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incorporation also point to Proclamation No.3, adopted in 1995, which reads, all federal or regional legislative, executive and judicial organs as well as any natural or juridical person shall take judicial notice of Laws published in the federal Negarit Gazeta. Yet, there is nothing in the proclamation or the articles of the Constitution, which indicates that publication is a requirement for incorporation.

According to the concerning treaty making process, the FDRE Constitution has indicated as the power to sign international agreements is granted to the executive which after proper deliberation has to direct them to the House of Peoples' Representatives (the legislature) for their ratification (Art.55). Thus, once they are adopted, all international agreements, including human rights instruments, are integral parts of the law of the land (Art.9) without any additional measure to be taken by the legislature (FDRE, 1995).

In line with the first level of contention, that the constitution is superior to all adopted conventions. Adem (2011) argued that, due to the exact reading of Article 9(1) of the Ethiopian constitution, which declares the supremacy of the constitution, international instruments which are made an integral part of the laws of the land by virtue of Article 9(4) upon ratification are subordinate to the constitution.

2.5. Institutional Frameworks for Child Rights Protection in Ethiopia

According to General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the role of independent national human rights institutions in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child (Viviers, 2014). Similarly, as General Comment no 5 stated that, self-monitoring and evaluation is an obligation for governments. But the Committee also regards as essential the independent monitoring of progress towards implementation by, for example, parliamentary committees, CSOs, academic institutions, professional associations, youth groups and independent human rights institutions and child rights ombudsmen (ACERWC, 2018).

Accordingly Proclamation No. 916/2015, in Ethiopia, the institution is trusted to follow up the implementation of CRC so as to protect the right of children in Ministry of Women, Children and Youth. The Ministry is entitled to create awareness and movement on the question of women, children and youth. It helps to collect, compile and disseminate all stakeholders' information on the objective realities faced by women, children and youth.

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The Ministry also coordinates all stakeholders to protect the rights and well-being of children, and to follow up in the implementation of treaties relating to women and children and submit reports to the concerned bodies (FDRE Proclamation, 2015).

Likewise, the role of national human rights institutions is to monitor independently the State's compliance and progress towards implementation and to do all it can to ensure full respect for children's rights that provides detailed guidance on the establishment and operation of independent human rights institutions for children. Children's rights should be given due consideration and special attention because of children's vulnerability. Thus, every state party to the CRC needs an independent and effective human rights institution with responsibility for promoting and protecting children's rights (Viviers, 2014).

Correspondingly, Ethiopia has provided constitutional base for the establishment of these National Human Rights Institutions via Article 55(14) and (15) of its constitution, which empowers the House of Peoples Representative (HPR) to establish the Human Rights Commission and the institution of the Ombudsman determining their power and function (FDRE Constitution,1995).

In addition to National Human Rights Institutions, non-political actors play a significant role to child protection in Ethiopia. The African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) is one of them which was established in 1986. ANPPCAN has continued to stand tall as a truly pan-African child rights organization that promotes the rights of children in Africa. Its mission is to enhance the prevention and protection of children from all forms of maltreatment, thus, ensuring that the rights of children are realized. Spreading in 26 countries in Africa, ANPPCAN implements both national and regional interventions on child protection and also conducts regular national, regional and international forums. It mainly has roles in child protection often complementing government efforts in key priority areas. Some of the services granted by these organizations include provision of care and support, access to justice for abused children, educating parents on child rights, providing educational support and offering assistance to the trafficked and abused girls through provision of shelter and family re-union services (ANPPCAN, 2014).

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The other non-state actors which play a significant role in child protection is Association for National Planned Program for Vulnerable Children And in Need (ANPPCAN-Ethiopia) is a non-political, non-religious, not for profit non-governmental local organization established in 1990, and re-registered as an Ethiopian resident charity organization in 2009. ANPPCAN-Ethiopia is one of the pioneers in terms of educating the Ethiopian public about the rights of the child using the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) as a reference. ANPPCAN-Ethiopia strives towards realizing the wellbeing of children by creating enabling environment for their normal growth and development, provision of psychosocial support for vulnerable children, prevention of child migration and trafficking and rehabilitation of victims, work on sexual and reproductive health and take part in community led development programs benefiting children, youth and women (ANPPCAN-Ethiopia, 2016).

Accordingly, NGOs and CSOs in Ethiopia have impact in three areas: advocacy on behalf of children, empowerment of marginalized groups, and providing emergency assistance. According to Haggstrom (2003), a study on child centered non-governmental organizations was found that there are 44 children centered operational NGOs in Ethiopia. Seventeen of these were international NGOs. Although the civil society at large and NGOs have increased in number and financial clout, there have been few systematic evaluations of their effectiveness. NGOs have had a small impact in Ethiopia. NGOs can supplement the government but never replace it. The decentralization of government authority and the emergence of NGOs are powerful processes for greater participation by people. But they can be effective only if the overall framework of national governance changes - to become genuinely democratic and participatory.

2.6. Social Work and Child Protection Practices in Ethiopia

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) led the field in the development of best practices for social workers in child welfare. The NASW Standards for Social Work Practice in Child Protection (1981) served as an initial effort to formulate standards in important and continually evolving area of practice. Because it is essential that standards reflect and promote sound social work practice across the full array of child welfare services, they were revised and expanded to address changing practices and policies beyond child protection (National Association of Social Workers, 2013).

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Social work's early focus on child safety and protection evolved into child welfare practice, which valued the importance of professional skills in transforming the lives of vulnerable and dependent children. The social work profession formed the professional base of the child welfare workforce and has continued to demonstrate an active commitment to the well-being of children and families. Social workers provide direct services, develop programs and influence social policies aimed at protecting children, preserving families and strengthening social safety nets. In fact, despite the profession's expansion into other areas of social work practice, the image of the social work profession has been permeated by its connection to ensure the well-being of children (Whitaker, 2012).

But in Ethiopia, Social work profession is a recent phenomenon. The various professional roles carried out by social workers are not also widely known, especially in court settings. In the Ethiopian justice system, the movement of making the court system sensitive for the child victim has begun in 2004 by establishing the child protection unit at the 'Woreda' police offices of Addis Ababa city administration. UNICEF and the Federal Supreme Court in Ethiopia initiated a court advisory body and established a child friendly court by involving advisory body consisting of more than 24 social workers to assist benches handling cases of children (UNICEF, 2010).

According to Ethiopian Ministry of Women, Children and Youth, this specialized courtroom has reportedly social workers' practice in court with contributed towards improved treatment of children coming in contact with the justice system for victims of sexual abuse. Nonetheless the social workers employed in the court, the process were not professional social workers. Because the presence of the profession is a recent phenomenon in Ethiopia. Instead, they are Ssychology graduates and Sociology graduates trained for the past of social worker (Marshet, 2013).

Chapter Three: Research Method

3.1. Research Design

In general qualitative method particularly case study design was used. The case study design is used as a specific study design to meet overall objective of the research by focusing on exploring challenges and prospects of child protection in the study areas. The case study design is a very popular form of qualitative approach and involves a careful and complete observation of a social unit, a person, a family, an institution, a cultural group or even the entire community and in depth (Kothari, 2004).

Moreover, the case study design can achieve a ‘rich description’ of a phenomenon in order to represent it from the participants’ perspectives which aspire to from the participants’ point of view. Case study thus is descriptive, inductive and adaptability to different types of research question and to different research settings (Somekh & Lewin, 2005). It also offers the benefit of studying phenomenon in depth and within its real-life context, especially when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident (Yin, 2009). With regarding to the study’s time framework, a cross-sectional study design was applied to collect data at a point of time. Because of these advantages, qualitative research design particularly case study design was used for this study.

3.2. Description of the Study Area

This study was conducted both in Lideta and Arada Sub- cities. The three police stations (woreda four, nine and ten police stations) and the abused children’s parents were taken from Arada sub-city as participants. Judges and social workers were taken from Lideta Federal First Instance Court. This because cases related to child abuses in Addis Ababa sub-cities included Arada sub-city were taken and seen in a special case by Lideta Federal First Instance Court and Social Work Unit.

Arada is one of the 10 sub -cities of Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. It is located at 4 Kilo in front of Menilik II Preparatory School and it has 10 Woredas. It is known as the center of the old and the new generation artistic, social and urban life style. Its main sites include St. George's Cathedral, the great Menelik II Square, the Hager Fikir Theatre, the Taitu Hotel, Charles de Gaulle Square and many other historical areas and structures. The sub-city has area

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of 9.9 sq.km with population density per sq. m of 22, 805.1. Moreover, it has 105,963 males and 120,036 females with total population of 225,999 (Arada Sub-city Administration, 2019). According to the data found from Arada Sub-City Health Bureau (2019), of these 66881 are children. Moreover, as Arada Women, Children and Youth office stated (2017), there are 122 abused children below 18 years old.

This implied that the Arada sub-city is highly populated particularly with children and there is also high level of child abuses, exploitations and maltreatments in general. Moreover, the center of the city that attracted a variety of trade investment especially hotel and bars resulted that the children to face scores of problems.

The other area of this study was Lideta Sub-City. Lideta Sub-City Administration is found in the Western district of Addis Ababa and around 5th Police Station. It borders with the districts of Addis Ketema, Arada, Kirkos, Nifas Silk-Lafto and Kolfe Keranio (Sisay, 2016). According to Lideta Sub-City Administration (2019), Lideta is also one of the 10 sub cities of Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia which has 10 Woredas. The area of the sub-city is 9.18 sq.km and it has 102,513 males and 112,283 females with the total population of 214,769.

3.3. Study Participates

The participants of this study included those Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations' police men and children's patents and Lideta Federal First Instance Court judges and social workers.

3.3.1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The participants of this study comprised diversified categories of persons in close contact with children such as children's parents, police men, judges and social workers. These legal bodies, social workers and parents that have direct involvement in addressing the rights of children were participants of this study. The specific criteria for selection included working in child protection related activities, knowledge about child rights/protection and the attachment bounds with the children.

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Those participants who have cognitive problem (like mental health problems and mental nervous/involuntariness) that possibly provide distorted information were excluded. Therefore, much emphasis was given for those parents who live and have strong attachment with the children. Similarly, individuals from different walks of life such as police men, judges and social workers who directly and indirectly involve in service provisions in child protection areas were also given emphasis.

3.4. Sources of Data

In this study, data were gathered from both the primary and secondary sources. By primary source we mean a source that stems from the time about which it discloses information and as such has a direct connection with the historical reality (in a chronological sense, not necessarily as far as reliability is concerned). A secondary source stems from a later period than the one for which it is a source and builds on earlier, primary sources. For stances, diaries, letters, films, interviews, questionnaires, etc. are primary sources of data; whereas reviews, laboratory journals, published scientific articles, textbooks, handbooks, legal documents, newspapers and Libraries are secondary sources of data (Kragh, 1987).

Thus, in this study, primary data were obtained by conducting in-depth-interviews (parents), key informant interviews (police men, judges and social workers) and systematic observations (how social workers communicated with the abused children and how they treat them, the rooms structure and the equipment that can facilitate the service provision). It was also gathered by critically observed while the judges gave the justice system and ways justice process to abused children. The secondary data were generated from documented materials including court proceedings, charges and closed files and reports of judges, social workers and police men.

3.5. Sampling Technique

In this study, a purposive sampling technique was employed to select both institutions and study participants. As Palinkas and his colleagues (2013) stated, purposeful sampling is a technique widely used in qualitative research for the identification and selection of information-rich cases for the most effective use of limited resources.

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Similarly, in this sampling technique, the researcher decided what needs to be known and sets out to find people who can and are willing to provide the information by virtue of knowledge or experiences. It is typically used in qualitative research to identify and select the information-rich cases for the most proper utilization of available resources. This involves identification and selection of individuals or groups of individuals that are proficient and well-informed with a phenomenon of interest. In addition, it has the importance of availability and willingness to participate and the ability to communicate experiences and opinions in an articulate, expressive and reflective manner (Etikan et al., 2015).

Due to these advantages, Arada sub- city woreda four, nine and ten polices and parents and Lideta Federal Frist Instance Court judges and social workers were purposively selected considering that the requirements necessary to the study including presence of attachment bounds, child friendly justice, family bench and victim bench services. These legal bodies are highly engaged in the child protection legal services. Moreover, social workers working in the court treating process of sexually abused children, children in conflict with the law and custodial cases were selected. Generally, all study participants were selected purposefully as the nature of their work which is related with the issues of child protection practices.

3.6. Sampling Size

The size of the sample for this study was determined by data saturation since it is hardly possible to determine the exact sample size of the study population in qualitative approach. Therefore, in order to achieve the objective of the study, two participants from children's parents; two key informants from social workers and five key informants from legal bodies including two judges, three police officers participated.

3.7. Methods of Data Collection

In this study, semi-structured in-depth interviews, key informants interviews, systematic observation and document reviews were employed. Semi-structured in-depth interview is a more flexible version of the structured interview that allows depth to be achieved by providing the opportunity on the part of the interviewer to probe and expand the interviewee's responses (Alshenqeti, 2014). This type of interview is suited to work in case studies with small samples and is useful for studying specific situations which can be used to explore crime and safety

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problems perceived by key informants particularly by focusing crime and victimization, disorderly conduct and incivility the perception of safety (Laforest, 2009).

Similarly, Algozzine (2006, pp.39) stated that, “semi-structured in-depth- interviews are well-suited for case study research design which invites interviewees to express them openly and freely and to define the world from their own perspectives, not solely from the perspective of the researcher. Using this data collection tool, the researcher asked predetermined but flexibly worded questions. Thus, based on the above explanations, semi-structured in-depth interviews were highly perpetuated with the case study and were employed in this study for children’s parents.

The other method of data collection for this study was key informant interviews. Key informant interviews were mostly suitable in qualitative research and apply when the participants have special knowledge about the issues. Supporting this, key informants have gained their knowledge by virtue of their position and experience in the community, their established networks of relationships, their ability to express themselves orally and their broad understanding of their community. Individuals should be selected because they are knowledgeable about specific issue (National Alliance of State and Territorial Aids Directors, 2011).

In the same manner, in this study, key informant interviews were conducted in Lideta Federal First Instance Court judges and social workers and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police men. The main reason for selecting these participants was because of the consideration that they have special knowledge about the child protection practices due to their position and experience in child protection practices in particular and their established networks of relationships, their ability to express and their broad understanding about child protection practices in general.

Systematic observation particularly non-participants observation was also employed in this study. Non-participant observation referred to as naturalistic or direct observation involves the researcher carefully watching participants or phenomena without actively participating in the activity being observed. It is quiet used in qualitative research design for gathering primary data about some aspects of the social world without interacting directly with its participants. In non-

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participant observation, the researcher detaches himself from the event and then he is watching/observing from a distance (Johnson et al., 2017).

Therefore, the researcher attempted to record everything relevant: the settings, events, social workers' reactions to events, patterns of contact to abused children, room structure, infrastructure with in the room, the intervention and the justice process etc.

The other method of data collection used in this study was documents. Documents are used in order to examine or analysis of a variety of existing sources. Document reviews is the process of exploring the "writing" evidence, or the actual content of the documents. It is an important research tool in its own right and is an invaluable part of most schemes of triangulation, the combination of methodologies in the study of the same phenomenon. The document review is an efficient and effective way of gathering data because documents are manageable and practical resources (Leary, 2014). Therefore, in this study, the social workers' reports, child abuses' records and different charges in the police stations, the recorded cases in the court and reports of police, social worker and judges were reviewed.

3.8. Instruments of Data Collection

To conduct this study, interviews, systematic observation and document reviews were implemented using data collection instruments (interview guides and observation checklists). Interview guides can be helpful to researchers who are conducting semi-structured in-depth qualitative interviews. It contained interviews in order to collect in-depth information about topic with limited number of questions in order to enable the participant to have time to talk about the topic at length without feeling rushed (Knight, 2013).

Thus, interview guides in this study involve the topics and issues to be covered with open-ended interview questions which elicit the longest answers from the participants, each of which focused on aspect of the topic. The interview was taken the time interval with the minimum of 47 minutes and the maximum of 1:11 hours. The observation check-lists also used in order to assess intervention system of social workers and justice process provide by the court. Therefore, in this study, the setting, events, social workers' reactions to events, patterns of contact to abused children, room structure, and infrastructure with in the room were conducted using observation checklists.

3.9. Data Analysis Plan

As data were qualitative in its nature, the thematic and interpretive data analysis techniques were applied. Thematic analysis technique was used to analyze data by developing emerging themes and categorizing them. The data were explained from particular/ specific to the general perspectives using the themes analysis. Thematic analysis is a method for identifying, analyzing, organizing, describing and reporting themes found within a data set. Thematic analysis provides a highly flexible approach that can be modified for the needs of many studies, providing a rich and detailed. Thematic analysis forces the researcher to take a well-structured approach to handling data, helping to produce a clear and organized final report (Nowell et al., 2017).

Similarly, Creswell (2014) stated that, thematic analysis goes from the bottom up by organizing the data into increasingly more abstract units of information. This inductive process illustrates working back and forth between the themes and the database until the researchers have established a comprehensive set of themes. Therefore, by using this thematic inductive analysis, the researcher used the following Creswell's steps to analysis the data for this study:

Step: 1. Organize and prepare the data for analysis. In this step, information found from the interviews, systematic observation and document reviews were transcribed, categorizing all of the visual material by sorting and arranging the data into different types depending on the sources of information.

Step: 2. Read or look at all the data. In this step, a general sense of the information and an opportunity to reflect on its overall meaning were provided. Therefore, in this study, ideas that were found from the polices, parents, judges and social workers said, the tone of the ideas, the impression of the overall depth, credibility and use of the information and related ideas took shape.

Step: 3. Start coding all of the data. Since coding is the process of organizing the data by bracketing chunks (or text or image segments) and writing a word representing a category in the margins, in this step, taking text data gathered during data collection, segmenting sentences (or paragraphs) and labeling those categories with a term that analyzed.

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Step: 4. Use the coding process to generate a description of the setting or people as well as categories or themes for analysis. In this step, it involved a detailed rendering of information about abused children, places or events in a setting. Since it is useful in designing detailed descriptions for case studies, the researchers generated codes for this description. By using the coding, a small number of themes or categories were generated. These themes appeared as major findings in this study and used as headings in the findings sections. Themes were analyzed for each individual case (case studies) in this study.

Step: 5. Advance how the description and themes represented in the qualitative narrative to convey the findings of the analysis. In this step, the detailed discussion of several themes with interconnecting was discussed. It presented to convey descriptive information about each participant in this step.

Step: 6. Finally, the findings or results were interpreted. The researcher used a theoretical lens which can form interpretations that call for action agendas for reform and change. The findings described how the narrative outcome compared with theories and the general literature on the topic. Implications, recommendations and conclusions were also forwarded in this step.

3.10. Data Trustworthiness

In this study, credibility, dependability, transferability and conformability were used to assess the trustworthiness of findings. Therefore, these criteria ensured mainly through triangulation by implementing different sources of data or research instruments, (such as in-depth interviews, key informant interview, systematic observation and document reviews).

3.11. Ethical Issues/Considerations

Permission was asked from officials of Addis Ababa Police Commission and Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court through a support letter written from School of Social Work, Addis Ababa University. The study covered sensitive issues like child abuses and neglect, violence against children etc. to ensure that all questions asked in a supportive and non-judgmental manner. In addition, all potential participants' made aware at the outset that their participation is voluntary and do not affect their rights in any way. Participants informed the purpose and nature of the study and its expected benefits.

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As part of the consent procedure, participants informed about the confidentiality of information they provided. They were informed about their full right to terminate the interview at any point and to skip any questions that he/she do not wish to response it and inform about their full right whether to participate or not and thereby participants' consent was secured. Furthermore, they informed to participants that the information they provided should not discuss to anyone else and used only for research purpose. Therefore, trust and respectfulness were established through the informed consent about each participant to assure the confidentiality.

Chapter Four: Finding and Discussion

4.1. Introduction

This chapter focused on data interpretation, data analysis and discussion of the study. Based on the research questions and the objectives the study, the interview results were interpreted, analyzed and discussed. In the first section, background of the study participants, services provided by Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations and Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Social Work Unit, challenges of child protection practices, good practices and future prospects of child protection practices and brief discussion of major findings were presented. In section two, implications, conclusions and the possible recommendations were forwarded.

4.2. Socio- Demographic Characteristics of Study Participants

4.2.1 Personal Profiles

The personal profiles of this study indicated that from the nine participants, one of them was from the age group of 26-30, two of them were from 41-50 and four of them were from 41-50 and finally two participants were also form 51-60. Sex compositions also indicated that, from the total participants, four of them were females and the rest are males. Concerning to educational level, two of them were 9-12 completed and seven of them are degree holders. The marital status also indicates that, from the total participants three of them are single and the other three are married, one of them is separated and two of them are divorced.

A. Parents

For this study, two parents (one father and one mother) were taken as participants. The mother was taken as participant who brought her 12 years old child case to Arada sub-city woreda four police station. The second participant was father who was taken from Arada sub – city woreda ten police station who followed up his 14 years old child case.

B. Key Informants

Key informants were the other group of participants in the study. In this category, a total of seven key informants were employed and identified to participate. Three police

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men were taken from Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations and two judges and two social workers were taken from Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court.

With regarding to work experiences of these key informants, Judge I has five years child friendly related and five years other experiences and Judge II also has four years child friendly and four years other experiences. Similarly, social worker I has five years child related and one year other experiences and social worker II also has two years child related and four years experiences. Moreover, Police I has four years child related and four other experiences; Police II has two years child related experiences and five years other experiences and Police III also has three years child related experiences and eight years other experiences.

C. Child Abuse Status in Arada Sub-City Three Selected Woreda Police Stations

According to the information found from document reviews in Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations (2019), in Woreda four there were 10 rapes, 7 physical attacks and 6 child labors with total of 23 cases; in Woreda nine there were 6 rapes, 2 physical/psychological attacks and 2 child labors with total 10 cases and similarly in Woreda ten there were 5 rapes, 4 physical attacks and 2 child labors with total of 11 child cases. In these three Woredas, 44 children were exposed for different maltreatments; of them raped cases took the higher proportion.

4.3. Services of Child Protection in the Legal and Social Professions

There are services as part of child protection practices provided by Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Social Work Unit and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations for abused children. According to the information gathered from the interview, Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court has provided child- friendly justice system for abused children. Because currently there is special family-child bench court at Lideta Federal First Instance Court for those maltreated children (males, females and youth offenders or juvenile delinquents) who come from Addis Ababa sub-cities include Arada sub-city that treated the abused children in child- friendly manner.

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Due to the presences of social work professionals, children got justice without swears at court. In social work unit, there are also comfortable separated rooms for treating abused children alone, child-family bench counseling and the use of Close Circuit Television (CCT) at the time of giving witness. Arada sub- city woreda four, nine and ten police stations also followed offenders and presented cases related with children who are under 18 years involved in the court procedures. Thus, to identify the key services provided by these legal institutions, an in-depth interview was conducted with study participants.

Rediat Abebe (Pseudonym) was 12 years old child who was raped by her neighbor called Ato Dawit Alemayehu (Pseudonym). Rediat was highly depressed and felt fear and anxiety to give clear information. Due to this, Rediat was silent for about a week and she was seriously ill. But after simple examination by her mother, Rediat told a few information to her mother and her mother took the case to health center and the health professionals diagnosed the child and told that she was raped. Rediat's mother also took the case to Arada sub-city woreda four police station. Finally, after examination of the case by Arada sub-city woreda four police officer, the case was taken to Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court. The situation, witnessed and the overall legal procedures was presented and clearly stated by Parent I (her mother) to Ledeta Federal First Instance Court and Social Workers as follow:

At the beginning, my daughter has strong relationships with me; but since she has weak attachment with my home worker (care giver), in most case she feels depression and anxiety when I leave home to work. Around our environment, there are a few restaurants and Bar houses. One day, my daughter was playing at a village; in our village there is a man called Ato Dawit Alemayehu (Pseudonym) who is 35 years old. Commonly in the village, he is known by the behavior of drinking and chewing. Thus, one day his drunk alcohol and intoxicating. He cheated my daughter through saying if you go with me, I will buy Biscuit for you. Then, she went with him and he took her to his mother's home and then he took her to the bed room through pulling her hand. After that, he made sexual intercourse with her. Since then, she became ill for a few days and I took her to health center and the health professions told me that she was raped. Due to this, I took the case to Arada sub-city woreda four police station. After assessing of the case, the police

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officer brought to Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court; the judge referred my child to the social worker for further assessment. The social worker accepted my child in a child -friendly manner that enabled her to express her feelings. The social worker also gave to her a counseling service that helped her somehow to be emotionally stable and so she told them how the crime was committed on her.

(**Source:** Case taken from the parent of abused child from Arada sub-city woreda four police station, 2019).

The above Parent I description is also highly supported by the idea of ecological system theory stated by Krishnan (2010) a child's development is shaped by the varied systems of the child's environment and also by the interrelationships among the systems. Similarly, it also correlated by the attachment theory that a child's tie to the mother and care givers and its disruption through separation, deprivation, and bereavement (Bretherton, 1992).

In the child friendly bench treatments, the abused children were helped by the joint cooperation of families, police officers, judges and social workers. Therefore, from the above intervention services, it is possible to say that social workers establish a child friendly rapport and give psychosocial supports. Courts and Police stations also play important roles to lessen the problems of child abuses. They are seriously dealing with the issues of abused children by protecting the children and facilitating the reintegration process by working together with parents and other stakeholders.

Children are believed to be vulnerable and in need of special protection from various risk factors in every society. Thus, courts at various levels accommodate and deal with issues related with abused children. In this respect, judges play a leading role in accomplishing every matter in keeping justice. To clarify the legal services given to abused children, one of the key informant (judge I) described as follow:

Currently, I am working in Ledeta Federal First Instance Court in the position of judge as a special child friendly justice system dealing with abused children. In Ledeta Federal First Instance Court, special child friendly court has been functional since recent times. In collaboration with social workers, polices and prosecutors, we judges give psycho-social support to abused children during

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testimony those who go through court proceedings and give appropriate justice to those child offenders. However, abused children need rehabilitative counseling because they were traumatized during the offence. Child protection is not only one single individual responsibility. But in order to realize the child protection practices, there should be a collaborative effort of legal bodies, social professionals, stakeholders and the community as a whole.

(Source: Case taken from the Ledeta Federal First Instance Court judge I, 2019).

From this, it is possible to say that child abuse is a community problem. That is, as U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (2001) stated, no single agency has the training, manpower, resources, or legal mandate to intervene effectively in child abuse cases. No one agency has the sole responsibility for dealing with abused children. The most effective approach to cases involving child maltreatment is interagency coordination and planning. Social workers, physicians, therapists, prosecutors, judges and police officers have important roles to play. All must work together with a common concern to the welfare of the child and with a common goal to communicate with mutual respect.

Social workers have four major duties in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court concerning children. These are custody, treating abused children, handling cases of juvenile delinquents and adoption. Social work professionals have been working to achieve the principle of the ‘‘ best interest of the child’’ particularly in the custody issue with collaboration of the court and other concerned bodies.

According to the information found from social workers, the involvement of social workers in the justice system makes the service delivery to be less difficult and harmful to abused children coming in to contact with court proceedings. This is for the reason that social workers can help child protection and justice procedures operates with an understanding of children’s developmental capabilities. Moreover, the involvement of social workers facilitates the enforcement of the principle of child first as indicated in United Nation Convention on the rights of children and the best interest of the child.

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The other key informants were police men who implemented child protection practices. As the information found from Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations, services like protecting of children from beating, physical attack, sexual abuse and psychological attacks are provided. Regarding to these maltreatments, the stations purified the attacks and presented to court to get verdict. Based on the information found from the documents analysis in Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations, 44 child abused cases (child labors, rape/sexual abuses and physical/ psychological attacks) were presented to Lideta Federal First Instance special child friendly justice/court and of them 26 (59.09%) were given decisions in the year 2019.

4.4. Challenges of Child Protection Practices

In Ethiopia, there are no significant effects/results on child protection practices apart from putting of the paper. Despite Ethiopia accepted and implemented different international and national laws regarding child protection, there are still gaps in protecting and giving professional services to abused children. For instances, in most parts of the country children are treating with similar to elders. The police men and prosecutors are interviewing the abused children with similar to aged persons which can be exposed the children to frustration and anxiety in particular and the second victimization in general through remembering the situation that happened on them.

Based on the findings, there are different challenges to work with abused children. The working environment, the second abuse of children by police officers and prosecutors in time of intervening and by their families particularly after custody, psychological problems while the abused children are staying with the offenders at court, many postponements which lead to forget the cases, lack of proper and continuous trainings to social workers, the damage of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) and sound cutting up while giving whiteness by the child are some of the challenges.

The other main challenges are with regarding lack of awareness creation to the abused children about the court postponements by their parents. Their parents do not create awareness about the postponement; so that abuse children were not ready about the issue while they were coming to the court based on their postponements time. This was because their parents want to

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forget their children about shocking situations. The abused children also cannot speak and do not want to remember the situations while they were presenting in the court. Due to this, in most cases, the judge got the information from the second hands informants (their parents and social workers). This creates some obstacles to get proper information as they want about the issue and to pass appropriate punishments on the offenders.

There are also some shocking situations while social workers were working with different cases. For example social worker I stated that “one mother abused her nine years male child through touching of his reproductive organ by put off his and her clothes.” The other shocking situation that social worker II stated was that “one fourteen year’s old girl was affected by sexually transmitted disease and her home teacher was falsely accused by her parents by labeling that he raped their daughter. Because her father told his daughter to no tell that he raped her to the rest family members. That is her father warned her if she told the issue to the family members that her father raped here, the family would disrupted. Thus, her father told to her rather she has to tell the issue that she was raped by her home teacher and she did so and her home teacher was imprisoned. But after the assessment which was done by social workers, the child gave the true evidence to the social workers and judge that she was raped by her father.”

The work of social work in child justice system is driven with many challenges. The challenges include “social workers’ limited understanding of the act; lack of valid evidences; stakeholder confusion over social work roles; turf conflicts; resource constraints; process ambiguities; limited alternative care options; absence of standards of care and quality control mechanisms and conservative attitudes towards children’s rights”(Lucas& Jongman, 2017.pp.6).

According to Lideta Federal First Instance Court, the other difficulties come from prosecutors, police offices and social workers. In most cases, prosecutors, police offices and social workers did not have clear awareness about the issue for abused children and have limited skills to give professional decisions to cases. Fore stances, police officers and social work professionals did not use secret language while they were interviewing the abused children due to lack of proper work experiences, skills, knowledge and trainings.

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As the judges noted, the other difficulty was when the abused children's parents asked to come to the police stations and make charge on the offenders, they were absent and did not give information; even forgot the issue due to lack of the proper awareness creation of the prosecutors and the police offices.

Similarly, Arad sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police officers confirmed that, in most cases, street children were exposed for different maltreatments. Of these, rape was the most common one. But the disappearance of the offenders' addresses particularly those criminals who have lived on the streets were challenged situation to procure evidences since they did not have permanent places and addresses for them and their parents.

This was supported by the argument that child development is influenced by the different types of environmental systems. A child's development is shaped by the varied systems of the child's environment and also by the interrelationships among the systems (Krishnan, 2010). Similarly, the welfare and development of the children is much more relay on the interplay of the influences between children and their social environment. It looks at a child's development within the context of the system of relationships that form his or her environment. The complex "layers" of environment have effects on a child's development (Ryan, 2001).

Even if there are somehow good initiation in these three Arada Sub-city police stations, there are limitations like; supporting of the police officers from higher officials, lack of trainings to the police officers and the largest community, limited budgets to implement the planned activities, lack of skilled and knowledgeable human powers, low awareness about child protection within the community, considering child protection practices are responsibilities of a few individuals.

Arada sub-city Woreda four police also stated that, "when the abuses were happened on children, there are challenges to provide appropriate information timely. Even from the police officers, there are limitations to understand and implement to child protection practices and the staff was always new for the issues to implement in to practices. In addition to this, when the cases were coming to the station, the concerned bodies did not give immediate responses because most of them had not enough skills and knowledge in how to handle the cases and even they did not ask others to gather information. This resulted that the offenders to not be asked and caught on time and creates opportunities to escape from getting of appropriate punishments."

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The police stations are supposed not only to entertain the incidents of abused but they also should establish waiting rooms with appropriate facilities. As the information found from systematic observations, woreda nine police station does not have waiting room where abused children and offenders interviewed. Even if the rest stations do have their own waiting room, they lack appropriate facilities. This obviously has its imposition on the legal process because abused child do not feel secured and relaxed during testimony.

Thus, as parts of the legal system, police officers have to play key roles in defending and maintaining the rights of children. But Policemen have faced different challenges while they try to protect physically and sexually abused children. In this respect, police I who participated in this study validated the following:

One of the big challenges that we policemen face in relation to child abuse is the loosely execution of child protection laws and lack of continuous follow up of the case specifically from parents. Despite many rape cases performed, only a few of them were reported to our police station at late. This denied the justice system because they were delayed to be reported and missed concrete evidences. For instance, children who are sexually abused do not go to the health institution on time. Thus, it is difficult to know the harm inflicted upon them. As a result, provision of medical evidence becomes problematic too. Moreover, in most cases, abused children didn't give valid evidences. This has brought serious problems both to the court and the victims themselves.

(Source: Case taken from Arada sub-city woreda four police station, 2019).

An interview was also conducted with other police (Police III) and she provided the following information:

The police stated that, particularly, there are many street children who are exposed for different maltreatments. Of these, forceful sex (rape) of the children is the most common problem. She confirmed that children starting from the age of nine are abused of sexual violence. This was one of the biggest challenges to implement proper child protection practice. In the streets, children do not have guardians and thus they are exposed for different maltreatments. Because the lack of permanent settlement and addresses of the offenders, we have challenged to catch and present

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them to court timely and even in most cases they escaped. The other challenges are there are some limitations in supporting of the police officers from higher officials, such as lack of continuous trainings to the police officers and the largest community, enough budgets to implement the planned activities, lack of skilled and experiences human powers, lack of awareness about child protection within the community which was considered as the responsibilities of a few individuals until the situations are not happened on their children.

(Source: Case taken from Arada sub-city woreda ten police station, 2019).

These challenges are reflected from multiple sources which needed urgent responses for the cooperation of multiple bodies including abused children. Most importantly, police men, social workers and their families should work closely with the legal bodies. On the other hand, a police II validated the following challenges:

Similar to police III, Arada sub-city woreda nine police also stated that, child abuse cases mostly common on children who live at the street and around bar houses. It is very much difficult to manage child abuse cases that occurred at the street children and around bar houses. Because both street children and offenders do not have permanent settlement and addresses. Thus, it is difficult to get appropriate information and to catch the offenders timely. This in turn lead failing of getting fair justice systems. The other challenges were that our office does not have ample and appropriate physical setup to comfortably accommodate abused children. We have only one room for every sort of work. Abused children and offenders usually feel nervous and ashamed when confessing their matters in front of many people who wait for our service. We do not have enough budgets.

(Source: Case taken from Arada sub-city woreda nine police station, 2019).

As the analysis results from the above three police stations indicated that, the child protection welfare and developments have strong bonds with the child's environment and the interrelationships among the systems. This was highly supported by the idea that a child's development is shaped by the varied systems of the child's environment and also by the interrelationships among the systems (Krishnan, 2010). Similarly, the welfare and development

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of the children is much more rely on the interplay of the influences between children and their social environment. It looks at a child's development within the context of the system of relationships that form his or her environment (Ryan, 2001).

With regarding to challenges of child protection practices, Parent II confirmed court proceedings as follow:

I spent more than nine months coming and going back. Still my child cannot get legal decision concerning her mental maintenance which resulted depression and feeling of anxiety to my child. The Judge has been given frequent postponements; this is due to the overload court rolls/ schedules, inadequate prosecutor preparation.

(**Source:** Case taken from Arada sub-city woreda ten parent II, 2019).

In most cases, abused children do not feel comfortable to come to court and did not provide the proper information. Thus, it is difficult to give testimony for the case that occurred a specifically on a little and partial hear impaired children. Thus, the judge gave decisions based on the information given social workers and their parents. In Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, especially at child friendly court, there are judges and social workers who undergo the court process. Both of them have their separate functions but all face problems in the process. A social worker I described the situation in following ways:

In most cases, abused children who come to the court cannot explain themselves and even they do not understand what actions were performed on them. For instance, before a month ago 12 years old girl was raped by 35 years old man. The girl could not understand what happed to her and she could not tell us clearly. Consequently, we were in trouble to bring the case to the court for final decisions. Since we have a separated room, I tried to relax her through playing different games and sing a song with her. This helped somehow to be free and relaxed her. Finally, with collaborative efforts of me and her mother, she revealed what a man committed on her using two toys having different sexes to show the process and how the situations were happen. As we experienced different cases, it is difficult to

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get valid and ample information not only from little and those who have partial hear impairment problems children, but children at the age of 14 or 18 years become anxious in the face of the court and they cannot explain their ideas.

(Source: Case taken from Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court social worker I, 2019).

The social worker II from the same court also provided the following points as challenge of the court process:

In a child friendly justice, every responsible body is supposed to work for the best interest of the child. Despite the fact that this good practice, there are many challenges in our unit. There is no available resources and supports from the court. Even some times Ledeta Federal First Instance Court doesn't consider as professionals. For instances, sometimes, a few children's cases were given decisions by judges without letting the social workers deal with children themselves and their families. These decisions have resulted in overlooking the benefits and privileges of the abused children and it also deny our profession. Moreover, children who stood before the court were denied of their right of getting psycho-social supports by experts.

(Source: Case taken from Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court social worker II, 2019).

The role of social workers in the court is very much important to help abused children and offenders to be stable in their feelings and emotions before the court to make free from anxiety and stress. Supporting to this, the roles of social workers as articulated in the new children's act include; educating communities about children issues; working as friends of the children's court; investigating cases involving children; reporting cases involving children to the police; writing social enquiry reports; application and implementation of child protection orders; working with protected children; arranging alternative care for children; facilitating foster care; working with children in conflict with the law; visitation and inspection of premises placing children; safeguarding children's rights as contained in the bill of rights; facilitating care

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arrangements and social workers are critical stakeholder in the implementation of the law on children which facilitated to exist stability in the feelings and emotions the abuse children(Lucas and Jongman, 2017).

Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court social workers also stated that child welfare and developments have strong bonds with the child's environment and the interrelationships among the systems. That is, in most cases child abuses are common on children who live at the street and around bar houses environments. The expansion of street life creates high opportunities for the repeated occurrences child maltreatment. This resulted an obstacle to bring the issue to the court and the majority of child issues remain hidden. Moreover, there is knowledge and skill gap on the part of the involved social works as most of them do not have appropriate work experiences, lack of trainings and workshops in continuous manners.

Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court stated that, even though the Ethiopian government has tried to adopt the international legal instruments related with the protection of child rights, there are controversies between the delimitation of ages between the international and the national legal documents. This has created gaps in the process of implementation. In connection with this, a key informant (Judge I) stated the following challenges:

Both UN conventions on the right of children and the African charter stated that all persons under the age of 18 years old are recognized as children. But in difference, our national criminal law asserts that all persons above the age of 15 years are not children rather they are adults. Moreover, children whose ages are from 9-15 years those who involved in criminal activities are considered as juvenile delinquents. This leads to the confinement of abused children and offenders with adults at the same place which initiated the acquisition of new criminal behavior on the part of these children.

(Source: Case taken from Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court judge I, 2019).

4.5. Good Practices and Future Prospects of Child Protection Practices

Despite the fact that many challenge, there has been a significant progress in terms of ratifying and developing legal instruments in most African countries including Ethiopia concerned with child protection practices. Many countries have matched their national laws with international and regional standards. Thus, there have been encouraging good practices and trends in child protection practices in many parts of the world. Basically, the practice of child protection in developing countries like Ethiopia was given little attention in the past. But recently the issue has been given serious consideration by the government and stakeholders. For instance, currently, several police stations in major towns and cities in the country have child protection units who handle cases of abused children. After investigation has been carried out by the police, the prosecution office is responsible for bringing the case before the court.

Ethiopia accepted and implemented different international convention and national laws. The decision made concerning child protection in line with these international conventions and national laws such as UNCRC, ACRWC and FDRE constitution to assure the principle of the “best interest of the child ” and the principle of “child first” as indicated in United Nation Convention on the rights of children. Based on the information found from interview, the success or effectiveness of child protection in the study areas can be evaluated based the use of special child- friend bench, the establishment of social work profession, the existence of practical and tangible means of child protection systems. As the judge stated, there are measure that are taken in order to assure child rights and implemented protection practices. The prosecutors and Social workers took trainings in order to develop their skills and narrow their knowledge gaps and to develop collaborated effort among different bodies.

At present, attempts are being made to improve the court system. In line with this, in the Ethiopian justice system, the movement of making the court system sensitive for the abused child has begun in 2004 by establishing the child protection unit at the ‘Woreda’ police offices of Addis Ababa city administration (Save the children, 2005). In 2009, UNICEF and the federal Supreme Court in Ethiopia initiated a court advisory body and established a child friendly justice system by involving advisory body consisting of more than 24 social workers to assist child – friendly benches handling cases of children (UNICEF, 2010). Similarly, in Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, there is a child -friendly court practice which severs as the legal

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protection center. The center gives psycho-social and legal aid in order to support abused children and offenders that pass through the justice system.

As prospects, there are some good trends. Since currently there are social professionals, use of CCTV technology to give witness, the emergency of child –friend bench services and the presences of some awareness in the community collaborate with the legal bodies, there will be good future possibilities. For stance, when child abuse cases happened on their neighbors and other bodies, the community informs to the concerned bodies and brings the case to police stations and social work professionals in order to get appropriate justice and psycho-social support to the abused children.

A key informant judge II stated the following good trends of child protection practice:

In the past, case related with child sexual abuse, child labor and physical abuse were treated and dealt with in regular courts like every case appeared in the courts and abused children and offenders were treated in one room sitting face to face. These created problems that abused children feel anxiety and depression which results to second victimizations. However, recently, in Ledeta Federal First Instance Court, child friendly unit has started exclusive psycho social and legal services to abused children and offenders who appear before the court in separated rooms. Most importantly, the assignment of social workers is a great work. Because this has avoided problems through giving psycho-social supports and I believe that these kinds of courts should be expanded to other parts of the country and in the future there will be created better practices of child protection.

(Source: Case taken from Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court judge II, 2019).

Moreover, police III from woreda ten also described the good trends as follow:

Despite there are many limitations in Ledeta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, there are good beginnings for child protection practices. The police officers, the prosecutors, the judges, social workers and other governmental and non-governmental organizations are working in a coordinated manner that facilitated

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decision making process on cases of both abused children and offenders. The police follow the cases and present to the court through prosecutors and finally the court give fair justice based on the information. These are really a good child protection practice that should be scaled up to other parts of the country in the future to treat children in friendly manner.

(Source: Case taken from Arada sub-city woreda ten police III, 2019).

From the above statements, it is possible to say that handling the broad and crosscutting issue of different violence against children was not entrusted by one body or single organization. It is a shared responsibility between different governmental institutions like the police, social workers, the prosecutors, judges, the community and the NGOs in general. Therefore, the effectiveness of child protection practice and development of child welfare depends of with collaboration effort of different concerned bodies.

As the social workers noted, there are also good practices of child protection in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court such as the presence of social professionals, the presence of separated rooms for treating abuse children in social work office, training practice for about six months for social professionals about treating method of abused children before starting their activities and the use of CCTV to give witness, the emergency of child –friend bench services etc.

The social workers also described about the importance of child protection in Ledeta Federal First Instance Court and Arada Woreda police stations for development of child welfare. The presence child-friendly justice system, psycho-social support by social workers and appropriate punishments to those individuals who offend the children can bring the development of child welfare. The social workers also gave some suggestions to improve child protection practices in the area. The service should be given without interruptions; the turnover of employees should be minimized through giving different advantages for staff.

In strengthening the above findings, two social workers who are working in the child friendly unit of Ledeta Federal First Instance Court added the following points:

After the establishment of child friendly court in Lideta Federal First Instance Court, abused children are being given psychosocial supports by social workers assigned in the court. We social workers give services like abused children whiteness using

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CCTV and different symbols like two toys having different sexes to show the process and how sexual abuses were happen on them, custody, treating abused children, juvenile delinquents and concerning with adoption in order to assure the principle of the “best interest of the child” and the principle of “child first.” Consequently, children who pass through justice systems are actively involving in the court process. Moreover, in most cases, we social workers in collaboration with parents and guardians do detail assessments on the overall conditions of abused children and we recommend propositions that first keep the best interest of the child. We believed that this is a good beginning that should be shared to other similar settings.

(**Source:** Case taken from Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court social workers, 2019).

The above practical witnesses can be taken as good future prospects of child protection practices in the study areas. Moreover, study participant who is Judge I in Ledeta Federal First Instance Court also explained the future prospects of child protection practices at national level by forwarding the following points:

Currently, there are many acts of violence against children that are clearly stated in recently revised penal law. These are sexual violence, abduction, maltreatment, negligent treatment and sexual exploitation of children, as well as trafficking. In order to minimize these child maltreatments, the revised penal law has made many positive changes .Thus, a child friendly justice system that deals with these cases of abused children and offenders has become operational in Addis Ababa since September 2004.The system of a similar bench in four regional states of Ethiopia (Amhara, Tigray, Oromia and Southern Nation, Nationality and people) has recently become operational. Moreover, for cases of juvenile offenders (a group that constitutes offenders of ages 9 to 15) in Addis Ababa are assigned to deal with them. Although we judges have no special training related to violence against children, we have been exposed to the issues through workshops and seminars. In our court system, there is a separate courtroom that is connected to a special room through a “Close Circuit Television” (CCTV) system. The CCTV system is

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instrumental in that it gives the abused child the freedom of being alone with intermediary social workers whilst the judges and the entire audience can follow the proceedings in a separate court room through a TV in the room. The picture aside partly shows the room where the child sits – adjacent to the courtroom where the judges and others sit. This will bring positive trends for the child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court in particular and to Ethiopia in general. Therefore, I believe that the practice of child protection has good future prospects in the country.

(Source: Case taken from Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court judge I, 2019)

Similar to the above Judge I explanations, in 1999, the Federal Supreme Court of the FDRE, in collaboration with various NGOs, established an office called “Juvenile Justice Project Office (JJPO). The purpose of the project office was to support reforming the juvenile justice system of the country. It was supposed to rectify problems in the justice system and ensure that children are provided with fair and child-friendly legal treatment. The office had been working closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), UNICEF, Save the Children Sweden, Italian Cooperation and two indigenous NGOs: FSCE and ANNPCAN-Ethiopia. As one major outcome of this and other related initiatives, a child friendly bench (CFB) was established in 2004 for the first time, in Addis Ababa city, within the Federal First Instance Court (FFIC). Afterwards, the practice has been replicated to the regional states. Separate CFBs are being instituted in the capitals of four larger regional states – Oromya, Amhara, Southern Nations and Nationalities and Tigray – in addition to two benches in Addis Ababa and in Dire dawa city. The CFBs constitute one major aspect of a child friendly court system where a child need not personally appear before the formal setting of a courtroom. They are meant to address child victims, mainly those who are sexually abused. A CFB is, in this context, a separate courtroom that is connected to a special room through a Close Circuit Television system. The system shields and ensures that children do not have to be put through the ordeal of a normal court case, and eventually it avoids secondary traumatization on victims of abuse while they give their testimony to the court. The child victim sitting in the special room is assisted by an intermediary to answer all the questions forwarded from the courtroom (Tsegaye, 2011).

4.6. Observation Result

Based on systematic observation, I understood that how social workers communicated with the abused children and how they treat them. Social workers gathered information from abused children. For instances, social workers played different games and sing a song with abused children that can help the children to be relaxed and this in turn facilitated to social workers to gather appropriate information about the issue without frustration and anxiety of the children.

In Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, Social Work Unit has four rooms. The first room is the main office which all staff is seat; the second room is the room in which the clients (child and his/her parents) have been waiting until they go and give their witness in the third room separately. The fourth room is the room which has different recreation materials for the children like toys are presented and thus social workers and the abused children are played to recreate relaxation to depressed children in order to get appropriate information and witness process was conducted using a special instrument called Close Circuit Television system.

I also observed that social workers practiced their duties in order to ensure the principle of “best interest of the child” specifically in the custody cases. That is when the spouses are in conflicts and wants to separate; the social workers make assessment on the concern of the child’s interest and then presented the assessment results to the court in order to get decisions based on the assessment. My personal observation also confirmed that each social worker assigned in child friendly of Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court which was instrumental in facilitating cases of adoption, custody and agreements dealt by children, mothers, fathers and guardians to provide propositions to the court prioritize children’s need and interests. Finally, social workers complied and documented their work and reported with abused children in conflicts with the law and custody to Family Bench Court.

As I observed the justice system in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, the judge provided justice for abused children in the a separate courtroom that is connected to a special room through a “Close Circuit Television” (CCTV) system. The CCTV system helps to give freedom to the abused children alone with the presence of intermediary social workers whilst the judges and the entire audience can follow the proceedings in a separate court room. Therefore,

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the trustworthiness of findings in this study was ensured mainly through triangulation by implementing different sources of data or research instruments (such as in-depth interviews, key informant interview, systematic observation and document reviews).

4.7. Discussion

This section focused on the brief discussion of major findings of the current study in light of the previous literature on the issue.

The first discussions were made on the key child protection services given to abused child by the legal system in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and three selected Arada woreda four, nine and ten police stations. The second discussions were on the challenges observed in the practice of child protection. Finally, the good practices and future prospects of child protection practice in the study were presented. To make the discussion sound, the research questions are taken in to considerations.

4.7.1. Key Child Protection Services Provided in the Study Areas

Parents of abused children were asked about the services they were given during their stay in police stations and the child friendly court. Findings indicated that the police gathered tangible information from parents and other persons and follow and arrested the criminals and presented to court through prosecutors. Ledeta Federal First Instance Court judges have given justice based on the information and also social workers provide psycho-social supports and counseling services.

The other key informants social workers and judges stated that they were providing services in the study areas to abused children like child friendly bench services, facilitating reintegration of child to their families, providing free psycho-social and legal aids services, operating child friendly court, child maintenance, adoption and custody. All states should develop a multi-faceted and systemic frame work in response to violence against children. Thus, there has to be a system based child protection approach to child protection requires a considerable conceptual shift from the issue based approach focus on particular groups of children in need of protection to the achievement of a system based approach which is more sustainable, comprehensive and long-term responses to child protection issues.

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Supporting this, World Vision International (2011) described that, a systems approach to child protection is required. A systems approach addresses child protection more holistically, brings greater focus on prevention, and strengthens the critical roles and assets of the key actors responsible for child protection. These key actors include government, legal bodies, civil society, parents, caregivers, families and other community structures – which together provide formal, and informal child protection mechanisms and services. This cooperation, coordination and collaboration mechanisms ensuring that all elements of the systems, formal and informal, across different sectors and levels (global, national and local) work in a holistic and coordinated manner to ensure protection of children.

In Ethiopia contexts, there are the child friendly benches (CFBs); they constitute one major aspect of a child friendly court system where a child need not personally appear before the formal setting of a courtroom. They are meant to address child victims, mainly those who are sexually abused. A CFB is in this context, a separate courtroom that is connected to a special room through a „Close Circuit Television“ (CCTV) system. The child victim sitting in this special room is assisted by an intermediary (social workers) to answer all the questions forwarded from the courtroom. He/she will be able to testify freely, without coming face-to-face with the perpetrator, and without being further traumatized (Tsegaye, 2011).

The movement of making the court system sensitive for the child victim has begun in 2004 by establishing the child protection unit at ‘Woreda’ police offices in Addis Ababa city administration (Save the children, 2005). According to UNICEF and federal Supreme Court, Ethiopia initiated a court advisory body and established a child friendly court by involving advisory body consisting of more than 24 social workers to assist benches handling cases of children (UNICEF, 2010).

Moreover, the FDRE constitution also declares the vulnerable position of children in particular and granted those rights as well as the subsequent protection for these rights. Specifically, under Article 36 the constitution recognizes the rights of all children to life, to name and nationality and to know and be cared by their parents, to be protected from exploitative practices. Furthermore, the constitution prohibits the infliction of corporal punishment or cruel and inhumane treatment in schools and other institutions entrusted for the care of children as

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well as the accommodation of children in conflict with the law together with adults. It also gives special protection for orphans. Article 36(2) also articulates the principle of the best interest of the child as the primary consideration in all matters affecting children (Girmachew and Yonas, 2012).

Despite these services provisions in the study areas are beginnings, child protection practices particularly in the study areas and in Ethiopia in general are left with many assignments to the international standards. This needs the joint cooperation of government bodies working in the legal system, social work professionals, stakeholders such as international and local NGOs and the community in general. More importantly, contextualizing and scaling up the experiences to others areas would have paramount importance in bringing good results in short period of time.

Moreover, based on the information found from Ledeta Federal First Instance Court, children lack knowledge of trials and courtroom procedures is a major source of anxiety for many child witnesses. Child witnesses with no experience of litigation were found to have significantly more misunderstandings about terms and concepts in the legal system than adults. This resulted that the children perceived court as a stressful place.

Corresponding to this, child victims must cope not only with the emotional consequences of criminal acts but also with the potentially traumatizing effects of legal involvement. Dramatic increases in the reporting of child sexual abuse are bringing greater numbers of children into contact with the criminal justice system, raising fears that child victims of sex crimes will be further harmed by the courts (Goodman et al., 1992).

4.7.2. The Major challenges of child Protection Practices

Even though there have been good beginnings and trend of child protection in Ethiopian in general and in the study areas in particular, the process is with many challenges. The legal bodies, social workers and community faced different difficulties while they implement child protection practices. The findings of the current study indicated that in the study areas, lack of special rest rooms at some police stations, loosely execution of child protection laws, delay in reporting child abuse cases, absence of valid evidences of child abuse cases, children ' illegal bargaining with perpetrators, lack of good awareness by community to bring case to the police

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stations and children's inability to understand and explain the nature of the abuses, the disappearances of street offenders addresses are some of the major challenges of child protection practices.

Similarly, as Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (2005) stated, the ratification of the CRC in 1991 Ethiopia has carried out several activities in terms of strengthening the legal and institutional framework in order to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of children. However, this does mean that child protection practices are without challenges; the justice procedure faced with many challenges for both abused children and the practitioners.

In supporting to this, inadequate human and financial resources, detrimental and non-stringent laws and policies, inadequate co-ordination and limited data to monitor the quality of services to children as indicated by Save the Children (2012) are the challenges of child protection practices in Eastern Africa such as Ethiopia.

4.7.3. The Future Prospects of Child Protection Practices

Currently, there are some good practices and future prospects of child protection practices in the study areas. The presence of a child-friendly bench, appropriate punishments to offenders, separated rooms for treating abused children, protector attorney for juvenile delinquents, the involvement of international NGOs, consideration of child abuse acts by the revised penal law, the increased involvement of social works in the justice system, family bench counseling services, the use of CCTV system while the victimized children giving witness are some good practices. Therefore, the above good practices show that there will be bright future for better child protection practices in the study areas.

Nowadays, Some NGOs are also largely engaged in teaching children and the general public about children's rights and where and how to report when abused occurred by their parents and other bodies. Specifically, NGOs were working when court and police stations required help from them. Due to this creditable effort and as a result reporting to the police has increased in recent times and this increase (as indicated by the police) was attributed to more awareness creation rather than increase of child abuse.

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Based on the information found in the study areas, for instances, some students have been going to the police stations and reporting maltreatment by their parents as well as teachers and other bodies. The police feel that children have now developed some confidence in the activities of the police stations in terms of safeguarding their rights. The prospect of this cooperation encourage abused children, parents, guardians, and the general public to report child abuse cases to the police and bring the perpetrators to the justice system. Therefore, teaching the parents, guardians and the community at large to report the cases of child abuses to justice remains not only the responsibility of certain NGOs or the police but also of all citizens.

Accordingly, children can be protected by the collaborative efforts of state, family and justice system .The Parents, other family members and guardians shall ensure that children grow up in an atmosphere of happiness, love and protect children from all acts and situations that put the child at risk of neglect, abuse, maltreatment and `exploitation which helps to development and respect the child's dignity, honor and personality and understanding which promotes the development of the child's full potential. In justice system, the information shall be provided in a child-friendly manner respecting the child's age, maturity and capacity. In any proceedings affecting a child's rights or interests, the child has a right to get free legal assistance and counseling and experts able to assess the maturity, capacity, and wishes of the child to determine the child's best interests (Hopkins, 2013).

Chapter Five: Implications, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1. Implications

The findings of this study indicated that legal bodies, social workers and parents are engaged in child protection practices. Social workers' contributions are vital for abused children in the justice system like providing the psycho-social supports and child-family bench counseling to enhance the best interest of the child. In Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, judges also provided services for abused children. Social work professionals who treat abused children in friendly manner and justice without swear of abused children using Close Circuit Television (CCTV) with the intermediary of social workers. Moreover, Arada sub- city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations follow and present criminal cases related with children who are under 18 years involved in the court procedures. Therefore, in this study, implications are the connotations of social work, practice, research, policy and educations.

5.1.1. Implication for Social Work

As (Marshet 2013) cited in Swain & Rice (2009), the profession of social work extensively emerge in the court system till the 1970's, where social workers' role appear very clear and they began to be actively involved in justice system as: interviewers and evaluators involves in crisis intervention and negotiation and referral . Social work evolved as an essential component of the justice system. Social workers in United States performed the various activities in justice systems like in criminal justice process and correctional justice (Wilson, 2010).

This newly emerging practice of social workers in the court setting has begun to provide relevant information about the legal frameworks expecting the premise that social workers can work in different context and one of this is the legal system such as court, police stations and correction centers. Particularly, social workers' involvement in the justice system makes the service delivery to be less distressing and harmful to abused children coming in to contact with court proceedings. This is for the reason that social workers can help child protection and justice procedures operates with an understanding of children's developmental.

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Despite social work professionals provide vast contributions for the child protection practices, they do not get much emphasis, acknowledgment and attention. As the social workers in Ledeta Federal First Instance Court explained that, when there are child abused cases, the judges hesitated to give the responsibility to social workers. This is because mainly lack of knowledge about role and contribution of the social work. This in turn created obstacle to practice intends intervention of social work education. Social work practice at court level helps to understand the existing child protection practices in order to identify both the strength and gaps.

In Arada sub-city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations, there are no social work professionals. Most of the police men treated abused children through wearing their professionals' clothes similar to elder persons. This created fears and depressions on abused child and due to this; they do not feel secured and relaxed during testimony. Thus, there should be social work involvements to give professional services.

As school of social work is one the child protection practitioner, it should work on promoting the role and contribution of social work unit for all stake holders so as to bring appropriate acceptance and acknowledgment about the service they provide. Empowering both the social work and legal professionals through constant professional trainings is mandatory to improve skills. This is because empowering both the social workers and legal bodies (both the judges and police) helps to promote the value and contribution social work professionals for practical and sustainable child protection practices.

5.1.2. Implication for Practice

The finding indicated that lack of special rest rooms at some police stations, loosely execution of child protection laws, the confusions of legal bodies about the roles and responsibilities social workers, delay in reporting child abuse cases, absence of valid evidences of child abuse, lack of awareness by community to bring case to the police stations and victims' inability to understand and explain the nature of the abuses, the disappearances of street offenders addresses are some of the major challenges of child protection practices. Thus, for batter implementations of child protection practices, fulfilling the necessarily resources

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and professional awareness creation is mandatory to those child protection practitioners (parents, families, legal bodies, social workers and the community).

5.1.3. Implication for Research

This study explored the current challenges and prospects of child protection practice. To the best of my knowledge, I have not seen any study particularly in the study areas focused on challenges and prospects of child protection practices.

This study will serve as a stepping stone for further research on the study area to improve child protection practices and to eliminate or minimize the challenges they faced while the social workers, the judges and the polices implement child protection practices. Moreover, the study helped to scale up the good child protection practices implemented so far. Therefore, I believe that there need to be rigorous research and detailed studies on areas using both qualitative and quantitative research approaches to validate this study.

5.1.4. Implication for Policy

Child protection practices need an international policy and strategies. Due to this, child protections are included in several provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights instruments. But, the non-existence of exclusive of child protection policy in Ethiopia could lead for an adverse impact on child protection practice in court, police stations, social work unit and other practitioners. Even though the FDRE constitution has recognized the ‘best interest of the child’ and the principle of ‘child first’, its implementation will need detailed rules and regulations under different ministers.

Therefore, concerned bodies should be incorporated in specific protection policy and implemented in practice. The policy makers should visualize the challenges that are existed on the court proceeding, social work unit and police stations to enact on child protection services and practices. Moreover, the policy makers should conceive the gaps that exist in the court process, police stations and social workers involvement in proper child protection practices with relation to the international child protection rights and national policy frameworks.

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5.1.5. Implication for Education

It clearly illustrated that the child protection practices among the legal bodies, social workers, parents and the community has a number of challenges. Basically, there exist limitations of smoothly treating of the abused children from judges, police officers, and prosecutors and even from social workers. Such type of gaps occurred due to absence of social work education in Ethiopia educational curriculum. The School of Law should include social work practice in its course which at least gives basic highlights about social workers' role and contribution in courts.

The School of Social Work should also spend efforts that the course of social work to be an inclusive in the education curriculum not only to teach law students, but also in other disciplines to give some relevant information about the roles and responsibilities of social workers in different context. If such things involved in the education curriculum, social workers can implant their profession independently and freely and thus, the 'best interest of the child' and the principle of 'child first', will be realized in practice.

5.2. Conclusion

This study tried to explore the challenges and prospects of child protection practices in Lideta sub- city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub- city woreda four, nine and ten police stations to address the of objectives the study. In the national setting, the issue of violence against children is addressed by various laws, policies and programs. The supreme law of the land, which is the Federal Constitution, provides a sound framework for the protection and promotion of the rights of children. However, the practice of child protection through the child-friendly justice system and the involvement of social works professionals in the justice system in specially designed child friendly manner is recent phenomenon in Ethiopia.

Currently, the type of child centered legal proceedings has been operational in Addis Ababa city administration, Amhara, Tigray and Southern Nation, Nationality and people regional states. In an interdisciplinary way, various professionals like judges, prosecutors, policemen and social workers work together to address the psychosocial and legal problems of child maltreatments and offenders who pass through the justice systems. However, this kind of multi-stakeholders approach to child protection was not without challenges.

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It could be concluded that, the key services provided by Lideta sub- city Federal First Instance Court social work unit has special rest rooms for abused children and work in coordination with NGOs like UNICEF, FSCE and OPRIFS provide materials, facilitating the reintegration of abused children and taking cases of child maltreatments to the child friendly justice system.

Similarly, at the child friendly court, the court has designed special child friendly unit that serves to abused children through the assignments of social workers to help abused children to be psychologically stable during court proceedings, giving psychosocial supports such counseling and rehabilitative services at "Kebebe Teshaye" (both female and male abused children) rehabilitation centers, "Kolifea"(only male abused children) and "Kechene" (missing children) diversion center. Moreover, social workers make detail assessments about cases of abused children in coordination with parents and guardians and they recommend judges proposition that serve the best interest of the child.

Possibly, it can be summarized the major challenges of child protection practices in the study areas , there is lack of special rest rooms that serve for abused children at some police stations, the disappearance of the offenders' addresses particularly those abuses committed on the streets, the second abuse of children by their families particularly after custody, psychological depressions, the silence of abused children due to their psychological damage, many postponements of the court process, limitations of proper and continuous trainings to social workers, police and prosecutors, the sound cutting up of CCTV, limitations of budgeting in police stations to implement the planned activities, lack of skilled and knowledgeable human powers, low awareness about child protection within the societies and the parents, the occurrence of loosely execution of child protection laws, delay in reporting child abuse cases and absence of valid evidences.

Finally, the establishment child friendly unit that helps providing psycho-social and legal aid to abused children, the involvement of international NGOs like United Nations Children's Fund(UNICEF),and Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE), considerations to acts of violence against children by the revised criminal law, the implementations of a child-friend bench and appropriate punishments to offenders, the presences of separated rooms for treating abused children, the increased involvement of social works in the justice system, family bench counseling services, the use of CCTV Camera while the abused children giving witness are some

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good practices. Therefore, these good practices show that there will be bright feature prospects for child protection practices.

5.3. Recommendations

Based on the conclusion remarks, this research forwarded the following recommendations:

- ✓ Though there are services given to abused children in the legal system, still a lot is remained to realize full service provisions. Specially, there is serious shortage of facilities for abused children at some police stations. Judges, police men, social workers and other stakeholders should work jointly to create practical child friendly unit in the police stations until they see the court. The police stations are also recommended to assign trained social workers at police stations who deal with abused children. Moreover it would be better if the police men wear ordinary cloths while they interview abused children.
- ✓ Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court in collaboration with government bodies and NGOs are recommended to create awareness to polices officers, judges and social workers concerning about the nature of child abuses (physical and psychological) through trainings and workshops.
- ✓ Since there are social workers who have different educational back grounds like sociology and psychology in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court, it is strongly recommended to employ social workers who have social work background to give standardize professional services. Social workers in the court also should be empowered through actively involving as independent professionals in the justice system. Therefore, the structures of courts include social work units and their service has been integrated and the court has to have knowledge about roles and contributions of social workers in justice proceeding.
- ✓ To effective child protection practices and for the development of child welfare in the study areas, there should be a collaboration efforts of the legal bodies, social workers and the society in regarding to child protection practices, continuous trainings and workshops, enough budgets and fulfilling of facilities, hiring of experienced and skilled professionals, continuous rehabilitation and adaptation practices to abused children with

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their social environment and the police men should have continuous follow up of the issue and they should collaborate with the prosecutors to identify the criminals in order to give proper punishments, crating of awareness for the community, implementing child protection practices at the grass root level to know their proper roles.

- ✓ Finally, large scale investigations, specifically, studies focusing on the future prospects and challenges using different data collection methods are highly recommended.

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Appendix A: - Interview Guideline

SECTION 1: - Informed Consents for Participants of the Interview.

My name is Getachew Kebebew; I am Master Social Worker student in Addis Ababa University. I have a plan to conduct thesis work for the partial fulfillment of Master of Social Work entitled “Exploring Challenges and Prospects of Child Protection Practices in Arada and Lideta Sub-Cities in Addis Ababa”. I want to interview to Judges and Social Workers from Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance and Police Officers and parents from Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations. The general purpose of this study is to explore challenges and prospects of child protection practice in these areas. This research also aims to explore child protection practices in the study areas in line with international, continental and national child rights conventions and other legal frameworks.

I want to acknowledge that you have the right to withdraw your participation at any time for any reason. The information you disclose to me is strictly confidential. Your name shall not appear in any documentation upon which this interview is based. Based on your willingness, I would like to use tape recorder and will also take notes during the interview. This will ensure the quality of the data and make transcription process easier.

Sincerely

I have read the above informed consent letter and agree to participate in the study.

Researcher’s Name: ----- Participants’ Name: -----

Signature: ----- Signature: -----

Date: ----- Date: -----

Appendix B: Data Collection Instruments

SECTION 1: Background Information or Demographic Data

1. Age -----
2. Sex-----
3. Educational Level-----
4. Marital Status-----
5. Work Experiences-----

SECTION 2: -Interview Guide with Children's Parents

The following questions are designed to collect information from children's parents concerning challenges and prospects of child protection practice in Arada sub-city Woreda four, nine and ten police stations.

1. How do you give protections to your children collaboration with judges and polices?
2. Have you come to court or police station with your child while he/she has postponement?
3. How do you see the current practice of child protection in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?
4. What are the services provided as part of the child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?
5. What are the challenges and prospects for effective child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada woreda four, nine and ten police stations?
6. How do you evaluate the successes or effectiveness of Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations in terms of child protection practices?
7. What are the measures that are taken in order to improve the protection of child rights in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?

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8. What do you think that the effectiveness of child protection practice in court and police stations for the development of child welfare?
9. What can you recommend/ suggest improving child protection practices in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?

SECTION 3: - Interview Guide for Polices

1. Please tell me your qualification/status in the police, work experience with children and your current position in the station.
2. How do you see the current practice of child protection in Arada sub-city police stations?
3. What are the services provide for child protection practice in Arada sub-city police stations?
4. What are the challenges and prospects for effective child protection practice in Arada sub-city police stations?
5. How do you evaluate the successes or effectiveness of Arada sub-city police stations in terms of child protection practices?
6. What are the measures that are being taken in order to improve the protection of child rights in Arada sub-city stations?
7. What are the legal and institutional protections in your office relating to access to justice for children?
8. What are the good practices in the police station concerning child protection?
9. What do you think the effectiveness of child protection practice in police stations for the development of child welfare in Arada sub-city?
10. What are the challenges relating to procuring evidence relating to charge of child abuse to address these charges relating to admissibility of evidence?
11. What can you recommend/ suggest enhancing / improving child protection in Arada sub-city Woreda police stations?

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SECTION 4: - Interview Guide for Judges

The following questions are designed to collect information from judges concerning challenges and prospects of child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court.

1. How many years have you been working in the family, Child friendly and Victim Benches?
2. How do you see the current practice of child protection in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court?
3. What are the services provided as part of the child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court?
4. What are the challenges and prospects for effective child protection practice in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court?
5. How do you evaluate the successes or effectiveness of Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court in terms of child protection practices?
6. What are the measures that are taken in order to improve the protection of child rights in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court?
7. What are the good practices in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court concerning child protection?
8. How can you evaluate the decision made concerning child protection in line with international convention, regional instruments and national laws such as UNCRC, ACRWC, and FDRE constitution to assure best interest of children?
9. What do you think that the effectiveness of child protection practices for the development of child welfare in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?
10. What can you recommend/ suggest enhance/improve child protection practices in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court and Arada sub-city woreda four, nine and ten police stations?

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SECTION 5: - Interview Guide for Social workers

1. Please tell me first your qualification, work experience and current position/responsibility.
2. How do you explain the services provided for children concerning child protection in different cases for ensuring best interest of children in your specific professional duties?
3. What are the challenges children are facing in child protection system?
4. What are the good practices in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court Social work office concerning child protection?
5. Have you experienced any shocking situation while you were communicating with children? If yes can you describe your experiences?
6. What are the measures that are taken in order to improve the protection of child rights in Lideta sub-city Federal First Instance Court?
7. What do you think that the importance of child protection practice in court for the development of child welfare in Lideta and Arada sub-cities?
8. As social worker, what can you suggest to improving child protection practices?

SECTION 6: Observation Checklist

1. How do/ in what way social workers communicate with children who are participating in court?
2. How the office looks like welcoming and friendly for children?
3. How do social workers practices with children ensure best interest of children and how they compile and document their work report with victim children, children in conflict with law and custody cases?
4. How the judges give justice to the abused children in Lideta Federal First Instance Court? What are special approaches the judges used to treat abuse children?

ተቀፅላ ለ፡-በተሳታፊዎች የሚሞላ የጋራ ስምምነት ሰነድ

ክፍል 1፡- አጠቃላይ የተሳታፊዎች የመጠይቅ ሂደት በተመለከተ የተዘጋጀ መመሪያ

እኔ ጌታቸው ከበበው የአዲ አበባ ዩኒቨርሲቲ የሶሻል ወርክ ትምህርት ክፍል ሁለተኛ ዲግሪ ተማሪ ስሆን ለዲግሪ ማሟያ የሚሆን በልደታ ክ/ተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍ/ቤት እና በአራዳ ክ/ተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች ላይ የሚያጋጣሙ የህፃናት ድህንነት እንቅፋቶች እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ላይ ጥናት ለማካሄድ ዕቅድ የያዘኩ ሲሆን፤ ለዚህም በልደታ ክ/ተማ ፍርድ ቤት የፍተህ ሰጭ ዳኞችን እና የሶሻልዎርክ ሰራተኞችን እና በአራዳ ክ/ተማ በህፃናት ላይ ጥቃት ሲደርስ ወንጀለኛውን ተከታትሎ ለፍርድ የሚያቀርቡ ፖሊሶች እና የህፃናቱን ዎላጆች ቃለመጠይቅ ማድረግ እፍልጋለሁ። የዚህ ጥናት ዓላማ በልደታ ክ/ተማ ፍ/ቤት እና በአራዳ ክ/ተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሕፃናት ድህንነት እንቅስቃሴዎችን ከሀገራዊ፣ አህጉራዊ እና ዓለም አቀፍ የሕፃናት መብት ድንጋጌዎች እና ሌሎች የህግ ማዕቀፎች አንፃር ምን እንደሚመስሉ ለመመርመር እና ጥናት ለማካሄድ ነው።

ጥናቱ ግቡን ይመታ ዘንድ የጥናቱ ተሳታፊዎች በፊርማ ያረጋግጣሉ። ይህ ጥናት በአዲስ አበባ ዩኒቨርሲቲ የሶሻል ዎርክ ትምህርት ክፍል ማረጋገጫ ሰጥቶታል፤ የጥናቱ ተሳታፊዎች የሚሰጧቸው ማንኛውም መረጃዎች ሚስወጡራዊነታቸው የተጠበቀ ነው። በማንኛውም የጥናቱ ክፍል ውስጥ የተሳታፊዎች ስም አይጠቀስም። ፈቃደኝነትዎን እያመሰገንኩ፣ ቃለ መጠይቅ በማድረግበት ወቅት መቅረፅ ድምፅ እንደምጠቀም በመረዳት፣ እብክዎትን የሚከተለውን የስምምነት ሰነድ ላይ ስመዎን እና ፊርማዎትን መባኖር ፈቀድዎትን ይገለፁልን።

ከላይ የቀረበውን የስምምነት ሰነድ ሃሳብ አንብቤ /ተነቦልኝ/፤ የጥናቱ ተሳታፊ እንዲሆን ተስማምቻለሁ።

የአጥኝው ስም:- ----- የተሳታፊው ስም:- -----

ፊርማ:- ----- ፊርማ:- -----

ቀን:- ----- ቀን:- -----

ተቀፅላ 2:- በተሳታፊዎች የሚሞላ የጋራ ስምምነት ሰነድ

ክፍል 1:- ዳራዊ መረጃ

ከዚህ በታች የተዘረዘሩትን ጥያቄዎች በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ አጠቃላይ መረጃ እና አካባቢያዊ ሁኔታ ማረጋገጥ የቀረቡ ናቸው።

1. ዕድሜ -----
2. የታ -----
3. የትምህርት ደረጃ -----
4. የጋብቻ ሁኔታ -----
5. የስራ ልምድ-----

ክፍል 2:- ከህጻናቱ ጋር የጥናቱ ይዘት በተመለከተ ለህጻናቱ ወላጆች የቀረበ ቃለ መጠይቅ።

1. ከሕጻናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ አንጻር ከፍትሕ ሰጭ አካላት (ፍርድቤት እና ፖሊስ) ጋር በመተባበር ህጻናት ልጆችን እንዴት ነው ጥበቃ እምታደርጉላቸው?
2. ልጆች ፍርድ ቤት ወይም ፖሊስ ጣቢያ ቀጠሮ ሲኖራቸው አብራችሁ ተገኝታችሁ ታውቃላችሁ?
3. በአሁኑ ወቅት በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት እና በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያ ያለውን የህጻናት ደህንነት ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴ እንደት ይገልፁታል?
4. ከሕጻናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ አንጻር በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ቤት የሚሰጡ አገልግሎቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?
5. ውጤታማ የሕጻናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ በመፈፀም ረገድ በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሚጋጥሙ እንቅፋቶች እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ምንድን ናቸው?
6. የልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍ/ ቤት እና ፖሊስ ጣቢያ የሕጻናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎችን ውጤታማ እና ስኬታማነት እንደት ይገመግሙታል?

7. የሕፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ አያያዝን ለማሻሻል በልዩነት ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት እና ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የተወሰዱ የመፍትሄ ሃሳቦች ምን ምን ናቸው?
8. በፍርድ ቤት እና ፖሊስ ታቢያዎች የሕፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውጤታማ መሆን የሕፃናትን ዕድገት ከማማጣት አንፃር ያለውን አስተዋፅኦ እንደት ይመለከቱታል?
9. በልዩነት ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት እና በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያ የሕፃናት ደህንነትን ለማሻሻል መደረግ አለበት ብለው የሚያስቡት አስተያየት ምንድን ነው ?

ክፍል 3:- በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ላሉ ፖሊስ ኦፊሰሮች የተዘጋጀ ቃለ መጠይቅ መመሪያ

የሚከተሉት ጥያቄዎች የተዘጋጁት በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች ከፍትህ እንቅስቃሴዎች አንፃር በሕፃናት ደህንነት ዙሪያ እንቅፋቶች እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ከቁልፍ አካላት ውስጥ አንዱ ከሆኑት ፖሊስ ኦፊሰሮች መረጃ መሰብሰብ ነው።

1. እባክዎ የትምህርት ደረጃዎን እና በአሁኑ ሰዓት በጣቢያው ያለዎትን ኃላፊነት እንዲሁም ሕፃናትን በተመለከተ ምን ያህል የስራ ልምድ እንዳለዎት ይግለጹልኝ?
2. በአሁኑ ወቅት በፖሊስ ጣቢያው ያለውን የሕፃናት ደህንነት ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴ እንዴት ይገለጹታል?
3. ከሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ ጋር በተያያዘ በራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሚሰጡ አገልግሎቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?
4. ውጤታማ የሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ በመፈፀም ረገድ በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሚያጋጥሙ እንቅፋቶችን እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ምንድን ናቸው?
5. ከሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ አንፃር በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሚታዩ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውጤታማነት እና ስኬታማነት እንዴት ይገመግታል?
6. የራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የህፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ አያያዝን ለማሻሻል መወሰድ አለበት የሚሏቸው እርምጃዎች ምን መሆን አለባቸው ይላሉ?
7. ፍትሕን ለሕፃናት ተደራሽ ከማድረግ አንፃር በእርስዎ ቢሮ ተግባራዊ እየሆነ ያሉት የህግ ማዕቀፎች እና ተቋማዊ አሰራሮች ምንድን ናቸው ?

- 8. የሕፃናት ጥበቃ በተመለከተ በፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች ውስጥ የሚታዩ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች ካሉ?
- 9. በፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የሕፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውጤታማ መሆን የሕፃናት ደህንነት እድገትን ከማምጣት አንፃር ያለውን አስተዋፅኦ እንዴት ይመለከቱታል?
- 10. ጥቃት የደረሰባቸው ወይም የጎጂ ሕፃናትን ጉዳይ ከመከታተል እና መረጃ ከማግኘት አንፃር የሚያጋጥሙ እንቅፋቶች ምንድን ናቸው?
- 11. በአራዳ ክ/ ከተማ ፖሊስ ጣቢያ የሕፃናት ደህንነት ለማሻሻል መደረግ አለበት ብለው የሚያስቡት አስተያየት ምንድን ነው?

ክፍል 4:- በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት ላሉ ዳኞች የተዘጋጀ ቃለመጠይቅ

የሚከተሉት ጥያቄዎች የተዘጋጁት በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የፍትሕ እንቅስቃሴዎች በተመለከተ በህፃናት ደህንነት ዙሪያ ያሉ እንቅፋቶች እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ዙሪያ ቁልፍ አካላት ከሆኑት ከዳኞች መረጃ ለመሰብሰብ ነው።

- 1. በቤተሰብ፣ በወጣት ጥፋተኞች እና ጥቃት የደረሰባቸው ህፃናት ችሎት ለምን ያህል ጊዜ አገለገሉ?
- 2. በአሁኑ ወቅት በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት ያለውን የሕፃናት ደህንነት ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴ እንዴት ይገለፁታል?
- 3. ከሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ አንፃር በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የሚሰጡ አገልግሎቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?
- 4. ውጤታማ የሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ በመፈፀም ረገድ በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የሚያጋጥሙ እንቅፋቶች እና ተስፋ ሰጭ ሁኔታዎች ምንድን ናቸው?
- 5. የበልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የሕፃናት ደህንነት ጥበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎችን ውጤታማነት እና ስኬታማነት እንዴት ይገመግሙታል?
- 6. የሕፃናትን መብቶች ጥበቃ አያያዝን ለማሻሻል በልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የተወሰዱ የመፍትሄ ሃሳቦች/ እርምጃዎች ምን ምን ናቸው?
- 7. የህፃናት ጥበቃ በተመለከተ በፍርድ ቤቱ ውስጥ የሚታዩ ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች ካሉ?

- 8. ከህፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ አንፃር በፍርድ ቤቱ የሚተላለፉ ውሳኔዎችን እንዴት ይገመግሟቸዋል? ከዓለምአቀፍ፣ አህጉራዊ እና ሀገራዊ የህግ ማዕቀፎች እና ሀገመንግስት “ቅድሚያ የህፃናት ፍላጎት” ከማሟላት አንፃር ስእንዴት ይታያሉ?
- 9. በፍርድ ቤት እና በፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የህፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውጤታማ መሆን የህፃናታ ደህንነት ዕድገት ከማምጣት አንፃር ያለውን አስተዋኦ እንዴት ይመለከቱታል?
- 10. የልዩታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የህፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ አያያዝን ለማሻሻል ተግባራዊ እንዲሆን የሚሰጡት ማሳሰቢያ ካለ?

ክፍል 5:- ለልዩታ ክ/ከተማ ፍርድ ቤት ለማህበራዊ ሰራተኞች የተዘጋጀ የቃለ መጠይቅ

- 1. እባክዎትን የትምህርት ደረጃዎትን፣ የስራ ልምድዎትን እና በአሁኑ ሰዓት የሚሰሩበትን የስራ ኃላፊነት ይግለጹ።
- 2. በቢሮው የሚሰጡ የተለዩ አገልግሎቶች ከስራ ሃላፊነታችሁ አንፃር “ቅድሚያ የህፃናት ፍላጎት” የሚለውን መርሕ ከማስፈን አንፃር እንዴት ይገልጹታል?
- 3. በህፃናት ደህንነት ስርዓት ውስጥ የሚያጋጥሙ እንቅፋቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?
- 4. በህፃናት ደህንነት ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ረገድ በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ማህበራዊ ሳይንስ ቢሮ ያሉት ምርጥ ተሞክሮዎች ምን ምን ናቸው?
- 5. ከህጻናት ጋር በምትነጋገሩበት ወቅት ያጋጠሙአችሁ አስደንጋጭ ጉዳዮች አሉ? ካሉ እባክዎትን ይግለጹ።
- 6. በልዩታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት የህፃናት መብቶች ጥበቃ አያያዝን ለማሻሻል ተግባራዊ እንዲሆን የሚሰጡት ማሳሰቢያ ካለ?
- 7. በፍርድ ቤቶች እና ፖሊስ ጣቢያዎች የህፃናት መብቶች ጠበቃ ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴዎች ውጤታማ መሆን የህፃናት ደህንነት ዕድገት ከማምጣት አንፃር ያለውን አስተዋዕኦ እንዴት ይመለከቱታል?
- 8. እንደማህበራዊ ሳይንስ ባለሙያነትዎ በአራዳ ክ/ከተማ ፍርድ ቤት የህፃናት ደህንነት ለማሻሻል መደረግ አለበት ብለው የሚስቡት አስተያየት ምንድን ነው?

ክፍል 6:- :- የምልከታ ችክ ሊስት

1. በእንዴት ዓይነት መንገድ ነው የማህበራዊ ሳይንስ ባለሙያዎች ፍርድ ቤት ውስጥ ተሳታፊ ከሆኑት ሕፃናት ጋር የሚነጋገሩት?
2. ቢሮዎች ምን ይመስላሉ? ለሕፃናት ምቹና ቸው? የሚያስደስት አቀባበል አላቸው?
3. የማህበራዊ ሰራተኞች እንዴት ነው ተግባራቸውን የሚከውኑት “ቅድሚያ የህፃናት ፍላጎት” የሚለውን መርህ ከማስፈን አንፃር፣የሕፃናት ደህንነት ጉዳዮችን ሪፖርቶችን ከማጠናቀር አንፃር፣የተጠቂ ሕፃናትን እና በፍች ሂደት ላይ የሚያልፉ ሕፃናት መረጃ አያየዝ ምን ይመስላል።
4. የተለያዩ ጥቃቶች ደርሶባቸው ፍትሕ ለማግኘት ወዴ ልዴታ ክ/ከተማ የፌዴራል የመጀመሪያ ፍርድ ቤት ለሚመጡ ሕፃናት የዳኞች የፍትሕ አስጣጥ እንደት ነው? ምን ዓይነት የተለየ ዘዴ ይከተላሉ?

ውድ ተሳታፊዎች ስለትብብረዎ በጣም እናመሰግናለን !!