

Addis Ababa University
Graduate School of Social Work

**Exploring Recidivism among Male Children in Conflict with the Law: the
Case of Addis Ababa Women's Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation
Center for Children in Conflict with the Law**

By

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This is to certify that the thesis prepared by Fiseha Abadi, entitled: Exploring Recidivism among Male Children in Conflict with the Law: the Case of Addis Ababa Women's Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law and submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Social Work complies with the regulations of the University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

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Acronyms

ACC- African Charter on the Right of a Child

ETB- Ethiopian Birr

FDRE- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

GST - General Strain Theory

KII - Key Informant interview

UN- United Nations

UNICEF- United Nations Children's Fund

UNCRC - United Nation Conventions on the Right of Child

UNMRAJJ-United Nations Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice

Abstract

Recidivism among male children in conflict with law has become a widespread occurrence in Ethiopia among most adolescents. Research focusing on aspects of recidivism in Ethiopia has emphasized on economic and social factors; being from poor families is pointed out as a major reasons behind recidivism, though this is not enough to conclude unless the causes of recidivism are systematically investigated. Thus, this study with the objective of exploring recidivism among male children in conflict with the law, engage at identifying factors related to recidivism. The study participants of this study are nine recidivist male children in conflict with law and key informants from Addis Ababa Women's, Children and Youth Affairs Bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law. Findings of this study indicate that drug subculture, peer pressure, being orphan, street life, child maltreatment, divorce, poor family economy and negative community attitude and lack of sufficient follow up and assistance up on release made children to recidivate a crime. At the end, the study concludes by recommending all relevant parties working to reduce the incidence of recidivism among children in conflict with the law.

Key Words: *Recidivism, Children in Conflict with the law, Recidivist Children, Rehabilitation*

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

The issue of social norm violation is among the most significant issues of contemporary society. One of the anti-social activities is crime. Much of a society's resources are devoted to dealing with crime, primarily to protect society and reduce recidivism (UNODC, 2018). However, Recidivism is one of the most crucial issues of criminal justice and a pivotal problem facing all countries.(Akporaro, 2019). It refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior, often after the person receives sanctions or undergoes intervention for a previous crime (Namitha & Sulaiman, 2021).Most scholars use terms such as re-offend, rearrested, reconvicted, and re-imprisoned to explain a person's relapse into criminal activities (Collins, 2010; Hakansson & Berglund, 2012).

Particularly, recidivism among juveniles is the most significant challenge worldwide (Mogano & Ramphabana, 2022). It refers to juvenile relapse into criminal behavior after they received sanction for their previous crime (Alex, 2017). Almost all developing and developed societies are facing Children in Conflict with the law and recidivism today. For instance, in 2020, approximately 1.2 million men and women were reported to be in prisons across the United States, making it the country with the highest rate of incarceration across the globe (Graves, 2022). It incarcerates more youth than any other country in the world (Whitney, 2017) and prison reentering across the country is also high which is known as the recidivism rate (Graves, 2022). Moreover, the number of juvenile recidivism in the United States has increased at an alarming rate (Anthony, 2021), particularly among African American male juveniles (Kizzie, 2020).

The situation is the same in Africa. Many of the countries in Africa experiencing recidivism youths are engaging in all kinds of crimes after they were serving rehabilitation (Acheampong and Aklasu, 2022). For instance, Ernest (2016) indicated that Crime and recidivism rate are high in South Africa. Mogano and Ramphabana (2022) revealed that lack of family support, peer influence and substance use, and poor educational competencies are the key factors that lead to recidivism among children in conflict with the law in South Africa.

Similarly, Oluwafemi and Muhammed (2019) argued that poor family background, dysfunctional family system, peer group influence, ineffective juvenile correctional institutions, and weak

religious institutions are the major factors influencing delinquency and juvenile recidivism in Nigeria. Also, a study conducted in Ghana on recidivism indicates that most recidivists are young people who constitute the country's workforce, and the factors for their recidivistic behavior include inadequate rehabilitation facilities, lack of coordination between the prison and communities and belief systems and labeling by the communities (Frank, 2020). Moreover, in Kenya Juvenile crime and the problem of juvenile recidivism are on the increase due to the experience of negative behaviour by juvenile recidivists while in correctional facilities and other socio-economic factors (Alex, 2017; Sebastian, 2019).

In the Ethiopian context, studies on Children in Conflict with the law and recidivism show that the issue is becoming a great problem in Ethiopia. Studies on Children in Conflict with the law indicate that failures of parental care, exposure to street life, substance abuse, peer pressure, economic problems, and family disintegration are major driving factors for children committing delinquency in Ethiopia (Bethlehem, 2014; Selamawit, 2014; Tesfamariam, 2017; Birhanu, et al., 2021).

Concerning recidivism, Goche and Hayelom (2018) found that many released prisoners reoffended and returned to prison at a rehabilitation center in Northeast Ethiopia. Similarly, Tomas (2021) disclosed that recidivism has become a fundamental problem in prisons in Southern Ethiopia, especially Hawassa correctional center. Additionally, research by Eskalehu (2019) shows that recidivism has become a major problem in all prisons in the Amhara region; This problem is especially experienced in prisons in big cities such as Bahir Dar, Gondar, and Dessie. Additionally, Jenberu (2012) stated that the problem of child recidivism is one of the biggest problems in the Ethiopian juvenile justice system.

In Addis Ababa, the issue of children in conflict with the law is a momentous challenge. However, their rehabilitation and correction do not adequately address, resulting in most of them becoming repeat offenders. (Tigabu, 2016; Sisay, 2016; Minbale, 2019). Therefore, this study explored recidivism among male children in conflict with the law with particular emphasis on male redidivist children who remained under strict supervision and treatment in Addis Ababa Women's, Children and Youth affairs bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Every crime carries social and economic burdens for both society and the individual. Specifically, repeat offenses generate fear and insecurity in society, resulting in ongoing loss of belongings and life. Furthermore, this exacerbates the expenses incurred in law enforcement and the criminal justice system. (Frank, 2020; Tomas, 2021). Juvenile recidivism is a social problem that requires the quick attention of policymakers, social work practitioners, and departments of juvenile justice because it has a major impact on a country's economy and communities' life (Carlos, 2015). Therefore, preventing recidivism requires effective interventions based on an understanding of the factors that place offenders at risk and make it difficult for them to successfully reintegrate into society (UNODC, 2018).

Given that, different researchers have examined and analyzed Children in Conflict with the law and recidivism in Ethiopia. A growing number of studies found that the extent of juvenile criminal acts is relatively high in cities such as Addis Ababa, Gonder, Dire Dawa, Adama, and in other major urban areas of all the regions of Ethiopia (Andargatchew, 2004; Nayak, 2013; Bethlehem, 2014; Selamawit, 2014). Bethlehem (2014) asserts that dysfunctional families, societal pressures, and the lack of access to necessities are the primary factors contributing to individuals becoming delinquents within the Addis Ababa Remand Home. Correspondingly, Dejen (2017) found that the primary causes of juvenile sex offending in Addis Ababa Rehabilitation Center and Remand Home are media influence, peer pressure, dysfunctional family backgrounds, and intimate relationships between the perpetrator and the victim.

Other research on juvenile offenders in Ethiopia has highlighted the challenges in handling and addressing the rights of these individuals. Specifically, there are issues pertaining to their rights to accommodation, education, medical care and counseling, food and water, sanitation, leisure, play, and recreation. Moreover, the treatment practices towards juvenile offenders in Ethiopia have been punitive and abusive rather than protective. (Tigabu, 2016, Dejen, 2021, Birhanu, 2021). Furthermore, Minbale (2019) observed the limitations of the institution in rehabilitating children in conflict with the law in Addis Ababa. His findings indicate a lack of service guidelines, constraints in space, and inadequate management of workforce. Furthermore, the institution also falls short in implementing models used to rehabilitate children involved in criminal activities. The above-mentioned studies offered insights into risk factors for Children in

Conflict with the law and the treatments in rehabilitation centers. However, they are lacking in discussing recidivism.

Recidivism is an issue that requires significant investigation (Anthony, 2021; UNODC, 2018), however, the problem of recidivism in Ethiopia widely not studied; specifically, studies on recidivism among children are scant. For instance, a study conducted by Goche and Hayelom (2018) found that the primary factors leading to repeated offenses are economic issues and family, and psychological problems. This was found to be especially true in the Dessie and Woldiya Correctional Centers. However, they failed to explain juvenile recidivism since the focus of the study is on adult prisoners. Similarly, Tomas (2021) explored recidivism among prison inmates at Hawassa correctional center, yet the issue of juvenile recidivism is not observed by him. Another research was carried out at Bahir Dar Correctional Administration by Eskalehu (2019) indicating that the causes of youth recidivism are individual-related issues and household difficulties. However, he neglected to focus on recidivism among juvenile offenders, particularly the lack of exploration into the experiences of reoffending children.

Generally, the rationale for this research include; first, As a court social worker and researcher, I had the opportunity to work with children in conflict with the law. Over the course of my work, I handled numerous cases and noticed a concerning rise in the rate of recidivism, despite the counseling and rehabilitation provided at the center. Furthermore, when children who reside with their families engage in criminal activities, judges display reluctance in sending them to rehabilitation centers due to apprehensions about potential exposure to further criminal behavior. So, studying recidivism can help identify ways to support juvenile offenders and promote their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Secondly, the shortcomings of previous research in understanding recidivism among male children in conflict with the law, particularly the factors that contributes to recidivism among male children, the lived experiences of male recidivist children and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services; Thirdly, understanding juvenile recidivism is essential for active policy development (ECJP, 2011), Policymakers can use this information to allocate resources effectively, develop evidence-based prevention programs, and reform juvenile justice systems and juveniles are the next generation of adults thus it needs effort on their future through addressing their problems (Stephanie, 2017); Further more, studying recidivism among male children in conflict with the law can play a crucial role in public safety as the issues creates

threats to to public safety. So, it is crucial to comprehend the elements that lead to recidivism to create successful measures for prevention and intervention. Finally, previous researchers have recommended conducting further research on recidivism in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the issue on a national level and determine effective measures to address it. (Goche and Hayelom, 2018; Tomas, 2021). Hence, this research filled the gap in the existing literature by conducting a study on recidivism among male children in conflict with the law at Addis Ababa Women's, Children and Youth Affairs Bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

1.3.1. General Objective

The general objective of the study is to explore recidivism among male children in conflict with the law in the context of Addis Ababa Women's, Children and Youth Affairs Bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law.

1.3.2. Specific Objectives

The following are the specific objectives of this study.

- ✓ To identify the factors that contribute to recidivism among male children.
- ✓ To explore the lived experiences of male recidivist children in the rehabilitation center.
- ✓ To investigate the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services.

1.4. Research questions

The following major research questions serve as a guide for the study.

- ✓ What are the contributing factors that lead male male recidivist children to become recidivist after they are discharged from the rehabilitation center?
- ✓ What are the lived experiences of the male recidivist children while they were being held in the rehabilitation facility?
- ✓ What are the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services?

1.5. Significance of the Study

This study will have an immense and pertinent contribution to different stakeholders such as policymakers, and development agents at a different level, the whole community in the research area, the academia, national and international nongovernmental organizations, and local organization:

Policymakers: The result of the proposed study shall produce identifying the factors that lead male children in conflict with the law to become recidivists. So, the current study shall have an invaluable role for policymakers to revisit, modify or to check the implementation of the policies, strategies, or programs in line with the existing situations on the ground across different cultural and social economic systems. And strategize effective policies and programs that can add value to the prevention and response of recidivism among children in conflict with the law.

Researched Community: This research tried to identify the factors that lead male children in conflict with the law to become recidivists, their lived experience, and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in providing services. Moreover, the current study produced possible and feasible recommendations and communicated with the concerned bodies to be part of the solution. Thus, the community gets attention, and their problems may ameliorate their extent and magnitude either in short or long-term plans of action in this way this research will be invaluable to the community.

National and international non-governmental organizations: This research will be used as a springboard by identifying driving factors for children in conflict with the law to be recidivist, their lived experience, and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in providing services. So it is important for appropriate national and international non-governmental organizations' intervention and humanitarian contributions to create healthy and productive social entities.

Academia: The present study will serve as a reference point for other researchers or institutions, particularly regarding topics that are beyond the scope of this study and even within the scope for further validation and verification.

1.6. Delimitation of the Study

This study focused on exploring recidivism among male children in conflict with the law. Specifically, the study is concerned with understanding the factors that contribute to recidivism among male children, their lived experiences in the rehabilitation center, and the challenges of

the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services with particular emphasis on male children who are found in the age range of 12-15 at Addis Ababa Women's Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in conflict with the Law. Therefore, this study was targeted at recidivist male children who conflict with the law two and more than two times in the case of Addis Ababa Women's, Children & Youth affairs bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in conflict with the Law found in Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia.

1.7. Operational Definition of terms

It is important to clarify about the key and controversial terms of the study to make it clearer, easier to understand, and in what sense they are used in the study.

Crime: Any action, whether committed or omitted, that goes against the laws of the public is considered a crime. These actions can result in punishment if proven guilty..

Juveniles: are those children who have not reached adulthood and are found in the age range of 12-15.

Delinquency: actions conducted by minors that may be illegal if done by adults.

Children in conflict with the Law: are persons who are found between the age of twelve and fifteen and committed a crime.

Rehabilitation: The process of educating children in conflict with the law about the need of making changes in their lives and reintegrating them into society so they can live productive and decent lives.

Recidivism: The act of reengaging in criminal behavior after serving at least one previous rehabilitation service and returning to the rehabilitation center with a new sentence or repetition of delinquent behavior after beingrehabilitated.

Recidivist children: Children who engage repeatedly in delinquent behavior after beingrehabilitated. It describes children who commit major, persistent crimes, and they can be responsible for a disproportionate number of crimes. The criteria for children to participate in the study:

- ✓ At the time of the study, each participant was a child in Addis Ababa Women's Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law.
- ✓ Every participant in the study had previously been in conflict with the law (convicted, or incarcerated).

1.8. Organization of the Paper

This thesis consists of five chapters. The initial chapter introduces the introductory part of the inquiry, including its justification such as the background of the study, statement of the research problem, research objectives, scope of the study, and significance of the study. The second chapter presents a review of fundamental concepts and the empirical and theoretical literature on recidivism among children in conflict with the law. The third chapter outlines the research methodology utilized in this thesis and discusses the epistemological approach to the research, research design, research approach, analysis strategies, and the methods employed to conduct the study. The fourth chapter addresses the results and discussion. The concluding chapter provides a summary, conclusion, and recommendations based on the key findings.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Different literature related to recidivism among children in conflict with the law will be presented in this chapter. It also covers crucial concepts that had been studied formerly on recidivism among children who get into conflict with the law. This chapter also presents various theories on children's recidivism.

2.1. Basic Concepts

2.1.1. Children in Conflict with the Law

The phrase 'children in conflict with the law' implies to those children who are under 18 years of age and who come into contact with the justice system as a result of being suspected or accused of committing an offense. These children usually may have violated the law either intentionally or unintentionally (UNCF, 2006). This term is used interchangeably with Children in Conflict with the law. Mostly, the Children in Conflict with the law is caused by: poor socialization, inadequate parental control, poverty, dysfunctional family setting, break in social bond to the family, child abuse in the family, neglect of children by the parents, excessive punishment of children, peer group influence,, media violence, urbanization, and so on are the pressures the young people are dealing with nowadays (Oluwafemi and Abass, 2019).

2.1.2. Recidivism

The term "recidivism" is originated from the Latin words "re", signifying "back" and "caedere" to mean "to fall" or "to fall back" in its literal sense. Hence, recidivism is a "tendency to relapse into a previous condition or mode of behavior; especially relapse into criminal behavior" (Barnett and Hagel 1977). Thomas (2014) stated recidivism as someone who commits a certain act repeatedly for which he or she had been arrested and punished for even though that individual has get the chance to get some rehabilitation program. Most of the time, recidivism is resulted either as an individual or programatic failure. This means either the punishment exerted failed or the individual by himself/herself is not willing to change. But recidivism could be also seen as a sign of social failures . This implies the individual who commits those acts of crime doesn't get integrated back in to the society in a right way. (Baumer et al., 2002).

In the current study recidivism is stated as act of reengaging in outlaw behavior following serving at least one previous rehabilitation service and returning to the rehabilitation center with a new sentence or repetition of delinquent behavior after being rehabilitated. Moreover, Children recidivist refers to young people who engage repeatedly in delinquent behavior after being rehabilitated. The case of recidivism amongst young offenders is something that should be a major concern for the society in which the live. It is also a challenge for those professionals who help young offenders in the area of rehabilitation. One would questions the effectiveness of interventions for young recidivists after seeing the rise in the rate of recidivism (Thulane, 2006).

2.1.3. Rehabilitation

There is no agreement about or understanding of what rehabilitation is. An array of terms have been implemented to describe the practice of rehabilitation. While there are other terms, A variety of terms have been used and theoretical justifications given for rehabilitation practices. The social and psychological processes implemented to help individuals come out of outlaw activities and quest fruitful and socially responsible lives are described by terms like rehabilitation, desistance, reintegration, and re-entry. Psychologists prefer to use the term rehabilitation whereas integration or desistance are used preferentially by criminologists. The reason why criminologists tend to use the two terms- integration or desistance is because the former term has due to the connotation of individuals being returned to a previously acceptable functional state (Laws & Ward, 2011; Ward & Laws, 2010). In current study rehabilitation is defined as the operation of ingraining know-how, skills, and attitude in children in conflict with the law to result in change and incorporate them back to the society so that they could lead a fruitful and acceptable lives.

The primary goal in mind when interfering with offenders is lowering of recidivism (Andrews et al., 1990). That means effective rectifying rehabilitation procedures or actions prevent recidivism (Schoeman, 2010). Therefore, rehabilitative environments play crucial roles for the effective are necessary for the successful rehabilitation and consolidation of judged delinquents (UNAFEI, 2021). Effective rehabilitation comprises of a variety of programs and therapies which could equip incarcerated people with useful skills so that they have a good prospect to lead a normal life when they get released. Those programs given to the delinquents should be of any use so that they could lead a fruitful live when they get released (Ward, 2011). The most commonly applied

rehabilitative programs encompasses education, cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health treatment, and drug and alcohol treatment (Benson, 2003).

2.2. Empirical Review on Recidivism among Male Children

2.2.1. Contributing Factors for Recidivism among Children Who Get in Conflict with the Law

One of the most important issues in relation with juvenile crimes is the case of recidivism of juvenile offenders. Recidivism has become a major concern for both developed and developing countries (Smriti & Sachin, 2022). Research from many countries tends to suggest that the existence of a number of different factors which lead to the recidivism of children who get in conflict with the law. This implies that we don't have a single factor to blame for and be put as a reason to explicate the problem.

We can take South Africa from developing countries who is confronting a high level of crime. High rate of recidivism/ reoffending also has been noted in the country. This increment in the rate of crime adds to the congestion of the rehabilitation centers. Besides this, due to the ineffectiveness of the programs the behavior of the offenders remain unchanged in South Africa. The programs ineffectiveness in turn results in increment of recidivism (Ernest, 2016).

Upon a qualitative research conducted on children and youth found in Limpopo, four factors had been identified as a factor for their reoffending behaviors after a reintegration work to their communities and families was done. The first one is lack of family support; children coming from disputed and broken family structures continue in their negative behaviors that lead them to reoffending. Low level of literacy is the second factor which heightens the likelihood for the children to engage in criminal activities again since they fail to understand the aim of the program because of their poor literacy level. The third factor, peer influence; when children associate with other children who are frequent law offenders, their chance of being influenced by their peers and get in to an outlaw behavior will be increased and they tend to re-engaged in criminal activities. Finally, substance use causes children and youth to continue displaying reoffending behavior. This is due to the inherent nature of drug abuse which destroys their social skills as well as increase delinquency and risk behavior. (Mogano et al, 2022).

The result of a research conducted in Nigeria showed that male children are more tendency to delinquency and juvenile recidivism than female children. The study pointed out that the main determinant reasons for delinquency and juvenile recidivism in Nigeria are: poor family background, dysfunctional family system, peer group influence, ineffective juvenile correctional institutions and weak religious institutions. In addition, it was noted that juveniles in the correctional institutions in Nigeria encountered a number of challenges like health/medical facilities, poor rehabilitation facilities and ineffective rehabilitation programmes. Besides this, the juvenile correctional institution in Nigeria were not providing a number of a rehabilitative and vocational skill programmes. (Oluwafemi and Abass, 2019).

Furthermore, a study conducted by Frank (2020) in Ghana shows that recidivism is the main challenge that inmates, prisons, their communities, and the state at large are facing. If we take the cost incarceration in Ghana, bringing back those inmates as a result of recidivism is something that should be avoided at any cost. As Frank indicated, the primary headache is that the majority of these recidivists are young people who are the kernel of the country's workforce.

In Ghana, the factor for children and youth recidivism is due to systemic failures in the prisons and structural injustice and inequality in their communities. Poor rehabilitation facilities such as workshops, training equipment, and personnel which can provide skills training and treatment programs for those children is also one of the factors. Other factors like poor coordination between the prison and communities and traditional belief systems; strengthens the negative attitude and outlook of the community towards resulting in socialization of labeling, stigmatization, and discrimination towards previously incarcerated people in Ghana (Frank, 2020). Accordingly, Frank (2020) suggested that, to end the cycle of recidivism: (a) the condition of prisons should get enhanced to secure the well-being of inmates; (b) the rehabilitation facilities should be upgraded by incorporating and skilled practitioners such as psychologists, social workers, and counselors which could conduct bio-psychosocial assessments and prepare individualized interventions for each inmates; (c) the inmates have to be treated and empowered before they are freed from prison and back to the community; (d) strong and effective relationship should be created between the prison and community during and after inmates are released; (e) to enable inmates successfully re-integrated to the community, follow-up and support programs should be implemented; and (f) Ghana Prisons Service, the Ministry of

Interior, non-governmental and faith-based organizations should undertake education and sensitization programs to shift mindset and encourage healthy social bonds between families, neighbours and people who have previously served terms in prison.

A study conducted by Alex (2017) in Kenya on factors contributing to juvenile recidivism found that the prisons in Kenya show high number of male recidivist juveniles even though a lot of rehabilitation works were given with the intention of lowering the reoccurrence of criminal behavior in juvenile offenders. Alex (2017) identified several contributing elements for the juvenile offenders to engage in criminal activities again in Kenya. Some of the factors are: lack of completion of the basic education, weak tie with religious institution, family, peer pressure, environment, community and even legal and judicial factors. The study also showed that high rate of recidivism in Kenya threaten safety and security of the public. It also increases the expense for law enforcement and criminal justice system in the country. The impact of high rates of recidivism and increment in prison population on individuals, social and economic costs is tremendous.

A growing body of research demonstrates different factors for children recidivism outside of Africa. For instance, a qualitative study conducted in India by Namitha (2021) showed that stigma and injustice leads to criminal recidivism among young. This study clearly indicated that 61.11% of the study participants were experiencing stigma while 66.67% reported discrimination from the society. Stigmatizing can cause stress and social isolation which in turn may lead offenders to get into a criminal activity again. (Namitha, 2021).

Suncica, et al. (2017) carried out a study in Republic of Macedonia on risk factors for recidivism amongst children who get in conflict with the law. Their finding shows that poor or insufficient social response – an unlawful criminal penalization, insufficient treatment and failed operation of re-socialization, missed lack of parental care and assistance and mutual understanding are all interrelated to the issue of delinquency of juveniles and recidivism. Palmer (2018) conducted a descriptive, qualitative study on predictors of juvenile recidivism in Northern California. This qualitative study identified various predictors of juvenile recidivism, these include, substance abuse, family dynamics, level of education, mental health, gender and ethnicity. Shaheer, et al. (2015) studied indicators of recidivism among juvenile delinquents in Pakistan. Their finding

shows that in Pakistan the primary indicator or reason for juvenile delinquents redivistic behavior was poverty.

In general, there are different risk factors for recidivistic behavior amongst children who get in conflict with the law. These factors include: social environment in which the offender lives, family status or situation, peer group or influence, poor literacy and skill levels. Moreover, marginalization, physical or emotional abuse, drug abuse, physical and mental disabilities or health problems or poor cognitive or emotional functioning and ineffective interventions are the factors for children recidivism among others.

2.2.2. Livid Experience of Recidivist Children

If thorough and sound rehabilitation is offered, the probability of children who get in conflict with the law becoming recidivists will highly diminish and the chance of them coming back to the juvenile justice system greatly lowered (Lipsey, et al., 2000). However, studies in different countries on rehabilitation show that the rehabilitation systems are ineffective in changing the criminal behavior of children/juveniles. Accordingly, children in conflict with the law experience different challenges in rehabilitation centers.

A study conducted by Birhanu (2023) identified different challenges that children experienced in Ethiopia. According to the findings of this study, the first challenge that children experienced was inadequate living conditions. The participant children explained that they are living in extremely difficult and painful conditions, their room is cold during the night because of the open space between the wall and the roof, and they do not have an adequate number of beds with mattresses, bed sheets, and blankets, toilet, water, and their room is overcrowded. The second challenge indicated by the participants of this study was the limited (a lack of) treatment and services in the facility. They described that the institution offers them inadequate accommodation, inadequate food, and poor medication. The third challenge in the custody center was limited (a lack of) access to education and vocational training opportunities for children. According to the findings of the study, many of them are not attending education and vocational workshops inside the custody. Lastly, participants described the lack of participation in institutional matters. Participants explained that their voices are silenced in the decision-making

process of the institution due to the perception that children are immature and irrational to speak for themselves.

Another study which was done in Ghana by Acheampong et al. (2022) shows those juveniles were not getting adequate food. To complement the food offered by their centers children were permitted to prepare food. Unlike that of adult prison facilities, there was adequate space for the juveniles to operate and sleep. The reason for this could be attributed to the low number of juveniles in comparison with the size of the centers. These centers provide different types of training and treatment syllabuses like literacy training, vocational skills training, and medical treatment. They also provide counseling and psychological services to keep the juvenile's well-being. Even though all these services are offered by the centers, the study finding displays that juveniles were not learned. A study by Oluwafemi and Abass (2019) identified different problems juveniles encountered in Nigeria's correctional facilities. These challenges include poor levels of health/medical services or facilities, pitiful rehabilitation facilities as well as the ineffectiveness of the rehabilitation operations.

2.2.3. Challenges in the Rehabilitation Centers

If a thorough and sound rehabilitation is offered, the probability of children who get in conflict with the law becoming recidivist will highly diminish and the chance of them coming back to the juvenile justice system greatly lowered. (Lipsey, et al., 2000). However, studies in different countries on rehabilitation show that the rehabilitation systems are ineffective in changing the criminal behavior of the children/juveniles. We can see the case of a study which was done in Ghana, Acheampong et al. (2022). Their finding shows that the juveniles were not getting adequate food even though it was being served three times a day. In order to complement the food offered by their centers children were permitted to prepare food. Unlike that of adult prison facilities there was adequate space for the juveniles to operate and sleep. The reason for this could be attributed to the low number of juveniles in comparison with the size of the centers. These centers provide different types of training and treatment syllabuses like literacy training, vocational skills training, and medical treatment. They also provide counseling and psychological services to keep the juveniles wellbeing. Even though all these services are offered by the centers, even though these services are available in the center the study finding exhibits that anything new had not been learned by the juveniles.

A study by Oluwafemi and Abass (2019) identified different problems juveniles encountered in Nigeria's correctional facilities. These challenges include: poor level of health/medical services or facilities, pitiful rehabilitation facilities as well as the ineffectiveness of the rehabilitation operations. Specifically, educational, skill based trainings, entrepreneurship, medical and health services, industrial training, recreational activities and facilities, agricultural production training skills, reintegration, and the juvenile correctional centers in Nigeria don't have adequate work group programmes. Apart from this, correctional centers for juveniles in Nigeria face a number of problems. These problems include, the juvenile correctional institutions are faced with lack of staff, inadequate funding and monitoring, poor staff welfare, inadequate modern rehabilitation and infrastructural facilities, diversion and embezzlement of funds and materials, corruption and bribery, ineffective rehabilitative programmes, ineffective vocational training programmes, lack of logistics and technological difficulties, lack of power supply, inadequate professional technocrats (personnel), inhumane and horrible condition of the correctional home, poor health and medical facilities and others. These are the factors that stand as stumbling blocks to the efficient and effective performance of the juvenile correctional institutions. Hence, the ability to control Children in Conflict with the law and recidivism is in vain.

Different researchers tried to study the effectiveness of the rehabilitation in Ethiopian context.. For example, Birhanu et al. (2021) studied the practices and challenges of treatment of juvenile delinquents in the correctional center of Jimma Zone in Oromia regional state. Their study shows that the Jimma Zone correctional center lacks rehabilitation facilities and services. It lacks services such as recreational, educational, psychosocial, dormitories, and other rehabilitation programs. Other challenges of the center are deficit of trained professionals, material resource and finance shortage to facilitate the rehabilitation of delinquents. Moreover, the way children's get treated at the center can be described as punitive rather than rehabilitative and abusive rather than protective. As part of their treatment, children are restricted from seeing their families and relatives. They do also get corporal punishment. The best description that fits the treatment center is one with pathetic facilities and service inadequacy. The operation of reintegrating the children when they get out of prison is barely there.

The challenges found out by Dejen (2021) in Addis Ababa correctional centers are quite different. This challenges include inadequate food, faulty sanitation facilities, excessive

congestion, poor system of health care, lack of separate treatment based on age and health, absence of full-fledged recreational materials. There were also other limitations Minbale (2019) observed in the rehabilitation institution in Addis Ababa in rehabilitating children who get in conflict with the law. His finding indicates absence of service guideline; limitation of space and failure to manage its manpower properly. There is no model implemented by the institution for correcting children who get in conflict with the law. Conversely, Lipsey & Cothorn, (2000) argued that in order to decrease the chance of the children who get in conflict with the law becoming recidivist and come back to the juvenile justice system again, provision of proper rehabilitation is very crucial. (Lipsey et al., 2000). In addition, effectual rehabilitation programs have also the potential to eliminate the vicious cycle of recidivism and hence can contribute to minimize Juvenile criminal activity (Greenwood, 2008).

2.3. The Issue of Children in Conflict with the Law in Context of International, Regional and Local Policy Instruments

2.3.1. International Laws and Standards

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989), particularly Articles 37, 39 and 40, are the principal and most applicable international human rights treaties that make certain of children's rights to be protected in terms of juvenile justice.

The CRC adopted in 1990, specifically in article 37 and 40 discuss that children's rights need special protection. Specifically, It also specifically deals about management of juvenile justice. The convention demands a separate system of justice for children under 18, which includes the establishment specifically applicable laws, policies, procedures, authorities to children.

Article 37 of CRC states that every child who is deprived his/her liberty has the right to be dealt with humanity and respect for the inherent dignity of the human person, and in a manner by taking the needs of persons of his or her age in to consideration. No child shall be subjugated to any form of torture or any inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment (Art. 37 of CRC). If a child is detained, his/her right to contact with his/her family should be maintained and he/she has the right to get legal and other assistance.

Regarding detained children in an institution the CRC in article 3 affirms that institutions, services and facilities shall adapt the standards established by competent authorities in specific areas of health safety, number and suitability of staff and supervision as well. Due to this reason, it is recommendable for every state to implement a system which is child- oriented. The systems actions should be guided by giving the children basic rights and freedom its primary (Article 3, CRC).

These conventions are included in Ethiopia all domestic laws concerning children in conflict with the law and it is also indicated in the national child policy of the country which states ensuring due attention to children in contact with the law (those children who are victims of violence, brought to court as witnesses, juvenile delinquency, children whose parents are undergoing divorce, children of imprisoned parents, and children who are involved in civil cases).

The UN standard Rules for the protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (UN PJDL)

The UN General Assembly passed the law for the Protection of UN PJDLs in 1990 for the purpose of tackling problems associated with the manner in which children alleged to have committed an offense could be made a subject of the criminal justice system as well as their treatment while they are under custody. The phrase deprivation of liberty for the purpose of application of the rules is defined as “any form of detention or imprisonment or the placement of a person in a public or private custodial setting, from which this person is not permitted to leave at will, by order of any judicial, administrative or other public authority (Article 11, b).”

UN PJDL fundamentally requires children to be held separately from adults. The purpose in mind behind is to protect children from the exploitation and abuse as well as the negative influence of adult offenders.

UN PJDLs covers mainly three issues. These issues are; material and other conditions of detention, the special situation of girls in detention, and disciplinary measures.

There are a number of punishments, penalizing measures and sanction which the UN PJDLs prohibits from being applied on children deprived of their liberty in respect of juvenile detainees and these includes:

- ✓ Corporal punishment
- ✓ Placement in a dark cell
- ✓ Closed or solitary confinement
- ✓ Reduction of diet
- ✓ Restriction or denial of contact with family members
- ✓ A requirement to work

The UN PJDL provides a minimum standards on how children deprived of their liberty should be treated at all stages of the trial and the administration of juvenile detention facilities in a detailed way.

In relation to juveniles who are under arrest or awaiting trial the UN PJDL mentions:

“Juveniles who are detained under arrest or waiting trial ("untried") are presumed innocent and shall be treated as such. Detention before trial shall be avoided to the extent possible and limited to exceptional circumstances. Therefore, all efforts shall be made to apply alternative measures. When preventive detention is nevertheless used, juvenile courts and investigative bodies shall give the highest priority to the most expeditious processing of such cases to ensure the shortest possible duration of detention. Untried detainees should be separated from convicted juveniles (UN PJDL, Rule 17).”

When a juvenile is admitted in to detention facility full relevant information of the child must be recorded as soon as the child arrives at the facility. This includes the information of the family, a known mental or physical health problem. Upon their arrival at the detention centers all juveniles must get the written regulations which govern the internal organization of the facility in a language they understand and they should be helped to understand it (rules 21-25, UN PJDL, 1990).

In terms of classification the placement of children within the facility should be made taking into consideration the type of care best suitable for the needs of a particular group of children and protection of their physical, mental and moral integrity as well as their wellbeing (The African Child Policy Forum, 2007).

When considering the physical environment and accommodations; children deprived of their liberty have the right to facilities and services that meet all the requirements of health and human

dignity. The physical setting of the detention center should be in a way that will promote the children to exercise other recreational activities. The sleeping arrangement shouldn't be crowded and they should be allowed to have their own personal materials. Sanitary installation should be located in a sufficient standard (rules 31-35, UN PJDL, 1990).

The United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty regarding education, vocational training and work states that;

“Juveniles above compulsory school age who wish to continue their education should be permitted and encouraged to do so, and every effort should be made to provide them with access to appropriate educational programs.”(Rule 39)

“Every juvenile should have the right to receive vocational training in occupations likely to prepare him or her for future employment.” (Rule 42)

These rules also mentions that the right of children deprived of their liberty to have an adequate amount of time in a day to exercise. They should also be provided with ample space and workout equipments. (Rule, 47). They also should be allowed to follow their own choice or religion and to satisfy their need for spiritual life (Rule, 48). Every juvenile in a detention center shall get sufficient medical care, which are both preventive and remedial services; there should be appropriate health facilities and services (Rule 49).

However, most detention centers come short of meeting these international standards. They lack information concerning the rules and regulations rights and obligations of the detainees. In addition, shortage of clothing, living and sleeping areas, poor quality and lack of nutritious food, poor sanitary facilities with no privacy, lack of medical treatment, staff and medical materials in time of need could be mentioned as some of the problems.

The 1990 African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990), defined child as “every human being below the age of 18 years (article 2), occupies a unique and privileged position in the African society”. However, the article also mentions about its concerns regarding the critical situation of most African children. The charter therefore calls for children’s legal protection, as well as “particular care with regard to health, physical, mental, moral and social development”.

The protection measures shall include “effective procedures for the establishment of special monitoring units to provide necessary support for the child, as well as other forms of prevention and for identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child abuse and neglect” (article 16).

2.3.2. Domestic Laws and Standard

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia of 1994 is a vital device that can be used in regard to the rights of children in the country. It provides, among other rights, that all persons in custody, including sentenced prisoners, have the right to conditions which respect human dignity. The Constitution in article 16 states; “*everyone has the right to protection against bodily harm.*” And that no person shall be subject to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 18(1)) this also includes children.

Article 36 of the constitution gives a special attention to the rights of children. It conveys that every administrative authority, court of law, legislative bodies or welfare institution who undertakes a child should work in the best interest of the child. Their primary consideration should be the child’s wellbeing (Art. 36, b). Because its guiding principle is to protect the best interest of the child, it follows that the rights accorded to juveniles are more favorable than those rights that are accorded to adults. More specific to the treatment of children deprived of their liberty, the provision directs corrective or rehabilitative institutions to keep children in conflict with the law separate from adults (Article 36, 3). Corporal punishment and cruel and inhuman treatment in institutions responsible for the care of children are also prohibited (The African Child Policy Forum, ACPF, 2007).

The Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code

The Criminal Code’s treatment of children assumes that children may not have the mental capability to be as responsible for their actions as adults are. Hence, the measures to be applied on children who have committed crimes should be directed at education rather than retribution.

The Code states that a child starting from the age nine can be held accountable for criminal action or violation of the code and penalties and measures taken by the court (Art. 53(1)). It also

states that “*Young persons shall not be subject to the ordinary penalties applicable to adults nor shall they be kept in custody with adult criminals.*” Children between the ages of 9 and 15 (young person) benefit from protection as juvenile offenders. But children above the age of 15 are generally treated as adults if they are accused of violating the Code (ACPF, 2007).

Arts. 161-173 provided special set of measures and penalties applicable to children above nine years. Admissions to a curative institution, supervised education, reprimand, school or home arrest are the alternatives to ordinary measures to be applied by a court for young offenders (Article 157-168).

It is clear that children are only partially responsible for their actions and should not be subjected to punishments that are normally applicable to adults. The primary goal of institutions should be educational and not punishment and such facilities should have education vocational training and rehabilitative services, counseling and an environment that fosters healthy behavioral development.

2.4. Theoretical Frame work

To understand the overall situation of recidivistic behavior among children who get in conflict with the law, this study employs social learning theory (differential association theory), labeling theory, strain theory and the social bond theory. These theories were selected by taking the purpose of the study into consideration and thorough reading of the extant literature. These theories are as discussed below.

2.4.1. Social learning theory (Differential Association Theory)

The human behavior is defined by Bandura (1979) as a continuous and reciprocal interaction between cognitive, behavioral, and environmental determinants, known as social learning theory (Bandura, 1979). Social learning emphasizes the role played by vicarious, symbolic, and self-regulatory processes in psychological functioning. Rather than simply reacting to stimuli induced external influences; individuals select, organize, and transform the stimuli. According to Bandura individuals are not born with an inherent knowledge of behavior, and that behaviors must be learned. Similarly, Edwin H. Sutherland, an American sociologist and criminologist, advanced the theory of differential association to explain criminal behavior in the 1920s and

1930s (Edewor, 2010). To Edwin H. Sutherland, criminal behavior is something that is acquired when people interact with each other in an intimate and personal groups. What they learn from one another includes techniques of committing criminal acts, motives, drives, rationalization, and attitudes favorable to committing a crime (See, 2004; Nirmala, 2009).

In his theory, Sutherland put nine basic principles. These principles are 1. Criminal behavior is learned. 2. Learning is a by-product of interaction. 3. Learning occurs within intimate groups. 4. Criminal techniques are learned. 5. Recognitions of legitimate code impact thought processes and drives. 6. Differential affiliations (associations) may change in recurrence, term, need, and escalation. 7. The method of learning criminal behavior by affiliation with criminal and anti-criminal designs includes all of the components included in numerous other learning processes. 8. Criminal behavior is an expression of general needs and values, but it is not excused by those general needs and values because non-criminal behavior is also an impression of those same needs and values. 9. A person becomes a criminal because of an excess of definitions favorable to the violence of law over definitions unfavorable to violation of the law (Oyakhromen 2010). Notably, he states that criminal behavior is influenced by exposure to pro-criminal and anti-criminal individuals (See 2004; Piquero 2016).

The researcher employed the differential association theory of Edwin Sutherland for this particular study because this theory suggests that children learn behaviors from those around them, particularly from those they view as authoritative or influential. For recidivist children, they may have grown up in environments where delinquency is common, leading to a continuing cycle of criminal behavior. This theory gives a useful lens to see what are the contributing factors for children to develop recidivistic behavior especially related to social interaction and learning criminal behavior. According to this theory, children's recidivistic behavior is something that they learned through their interaction with others (family, friends, and other groups), especially with criminal individuals. It claims that children associated with criminal persons are more likely to learn and adopt criminal values and behaviors.

2.4.2. Labeling Theory

Labeling theory firstly was proposed by Becker (1993). This theory suggests that basic cause of recidivism is societal judgment. The focus of this theory is on what kind of outcome would there be as a result of the society's response for deviant behaviors. The deviant get labeled and stigmatized by the society. In the eyes of others this would result in a lowering of the

individual's worth. As a result of this, the mental image about himself will become negative since that is what he is getting from others. (Bernburg, 2009). Once those individuals internalize the label which society has applied to them, which is a label of a criminal, they feel excluded from society and they will begin to view themselves as deviant. It means that, once offenders are judged by society as criminals, it is very hard to get back to what they once had, and often they experience it as their identity (Burke 2009; Breen 2011).

There are two concepts which labeling theorists mention. These are: the concept of primary deviance and secondary deviance. Primary deviance represents the first deviant act committed by an individual. They do not concern themselves much with the primary deviance, and they do not explain why an individual would choose to commit the original deviant act. But the secondary deviance is of the principal importance to the labeling theorists. Secondary deviance denotes deviance that occurs once an individual has been labeled. This type of deviance is said to happen because the individual has believed the label as a central part of their identity, and is acting in a manner congruent with this identity (Burke 2009; Breen 2011).

In addition, labeling theory states that an official efforts to control crime is not usually effective rather it has a high chance of increasing the occurrence of recidivism. People who are captured, indicted, and rebuffed are labeled as criminals accordingly, criminal justice systems like prisons see and treat these individuals as wrongdoers, and then this increases the probability of ensuing unlawful activity (See 2004; Edewor 2010).

This theory is used by the researcher because it suggests that once a person is labeled as a criminal or delinquent, society treats them as such, and their interactions with others are shaped by this label. For children who repeatedly engage in delinquent behavior, this labeling can quickly become internalized, leading to a self-fulfilling prophecy of criminal behavior. According to this theory recidivism in children is the result of the society's response to children. The theory argues that a criminal identity will be formed in a juveniles mind if he is labeled as a criminal after one sentence of a crime. Additionally, individuals once are labeled and rejected by society; it is very difficult for them to live in harmony with the legitimate means. In other words, the rejection by law-abiding persons opens the door for acceptance by the wrongdoers. Consequently, the offender becomes increasingly socialized into criminal behavior and more

estranged from law-abiding behavior. Therefore, this theory assisted the current study in exploring the first objective of the study.

2.4.3. Strain Theory

Strain theory explains crime or deviance as a symptom of the social structure. According to Merton when people fail to fulfill their aims through legal means, the door for delinquency opens. Two concepts raised by this theory to explain delinquency or crime: 1) goals defined by culture 2) when an institutionalized or approved means has to be used achieving those goals (John & Steven, 2006). When this is the case, people may tend to engage in illegal means of achieving their goals or lash out in rage at the source of their dissatisfaction (Ireland, 2012).

The general strain theory was developed by Robert Agnew in 1992. Since then it has become the leading version of strain theory and one of the major theories of crime. The focus of general strain theory is on a broad range of strains, including the inability to achieve various goals, the loss of valued possessions, and adverse treatment by others (Agnew, 1985). Whereas prior strain theories emphasized the importance of goal blockage (such as the inability of groups or individuals to achieve economic success), GST identifies several additional types of “strain.” In addition, Agnew argues that these strains tend to generate negative emotions, such as anger, frustration, depression, and despair. These negative emotions, in turn, are said to create pressures for “corrective action,” with crime or delinquency being one possible response (Timothy, 2010).

Therefore, the researcher found strain theories as important to this study because this theory suggests that when individuals do not have access to legitimate means of achieving their goals (such as education, employment, or social status), they may turn to illegitimate means, including criminal behavior. Children who experience poverty, inadequate education, and unstable living situations may be more likely to engage in criminal behavior as a result of the strain they experience (Agnew, 1985). Therefore, this theory guided this study in exploring the factors for children recidivism.

2.4.4. Social Control Theory

Social Control theory states that “delinquent acts result when an individual’s bond to society is weak or broken”. According to Hirschi, bond is developed through socialization during early

childhood and consists of four elements: attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief (John & Steven, 2006). The failure of an individual to care about what others think about his or her behavior and views(attachment), to work toward acceptable goals (commitment), to use one's energies and time in socially acceptable behaviors(involvement), and /or to accept the common value system in society(belief) opens the door for deviant and delinquent behavior. Weak or broken bond could be viewed as necessary for deviance (John & Steven, 2006).

Hirschi argues that delinquent acts are due to weakened or broken individual bonds to society. Social bonding is measured through four major elements: attachment to significant others, such as parents, teachers, family, friends; commitment to act and achieve one's personal goals in a way that conforms to the social normative system; involvement in conforming social activities; and beliefs in the general social and moral norms and values of society. The general argument is that these four elements are significantly related to delinquency. The stronger they are, the lower the probability of delinquency. Hirschi claims that young people who have strong bonds with their parents would interiorize their parents' values and norms. As a consequence they would behave in a norm-conforming way, and since they would not want to disappoint their parents, they would try to do well in school and so there would be no incentive to play truant. Moreover, in meeting the demands from family, school, and the larger society, such juveniles would be rewarded by praise and privileges and a promising future. In this way they would develop a stake in conformity as well as strong inhibitions against delinquency involvement that might endanger such rewards (Michael, 1981).

Therefore, here are some explanations of how social control theory can be applied to the current study. Social control theory suggests that the reason why some children engage in criminal behavior is because they lack a strong social bond to conventional society. In other words, they may not have close relationships with family, friends, or teachers, and they may not have a sense of belonging in their community. This lack of a social bond can lead to delinquent behavior, as the child may feel less inhibited from breaking the law because they do not feel a sense of responsibility to others. On the other hand, if a child has a strong social bond, they are more likely to conform to societal norms and values, and less likely to engage in recidivism. Additionally, social control theory suggests that the presence of social control mechanisms such as parental monitoring, involvement in school, and involvement in extracurricular activities can

further strengthen a child's bond to conventional society and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Hence, this theory was found very important for this study to understand the factors for children recidivism.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODS

This chapter discusses the methodological procedures applied in this study. In brief, it gives details about the location of the study area, research design, research approach, study population and sampling, method of data collection and instruments used for data collection, procedures for data collection, trustworthiness, data analysis, and ethical concern alongside the rationalities.

3.1 Study Design

In this research, a descriptive research design specifically the phenomenological study employed to explore the factors that contribute to recidivism among male children, their lived experiences, and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services. Descriptive research is chosen since it provides details, meanings, and context of social life, typically from the perspective of the people living it (Patricia, 2017). Accordingly, in this study, the researcher used it to document how recidivist children experience recidivism.

The phenomenological research design is particularly common in interview studies in the constructivist paradigm because researchers ask participants to share what is important to them and reflect on their experiences with a phenomenon. So, both participant of the study and the researcher take an understanding of the experience (Lisa, 2008; Creswell and David, 2018). Therefore, it is found appropriate for this study to develop an understanding of the lived experiences of the participants (i.e. children recidivists and the service providers) (Creswell, 2009; Uwe, 2018).

3.2. Description of the Study Area

The study was carried out at the Addis Ababa Women's, Children and Youth affairs bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This center established during the Italian occupation in 1949. The rehabilitation Center is the only custodial center for children in conflict with the law in Ethiopia with the main purpose of rehabilitating children in conflict with the law to become responsible citizens of the country. Children from different regions come to the institution to get corrected. The institution serves as a detention center for children aged 9 to 15. Addis Ababa Women and Children Bureau manage

the institution. It is in the Lideta sub-city, Woreda10 residing on 42,000 square meters of land. Currently, there are 230 children in conflict with the law in the rehabilitation center. There are educational, counseling, food, shelter, and reunification services for children in conflict with the law in the center. It was chosen since it is the only institution in the country that serves as a detention center for juvenile offenders.

3.3. Research Approach

Qualitative research method was adopted in this study. A qualitative phenomenological study is chosen to investigate the factors that contribute to recidivism among children, their lived experiences, and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services. The qualitative research approach is suitable for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups attribute to a social or human problem (Creswell, 2009). In the present study, this research approach was applied for the reason that this study wants to see through the eyes of the recidivists, placing oneself in the recidivists children, and exploring their views and feelings about why they commit crimes more than once and their lived experience. Moreover, it enables the researcher to interact with the target group face-to-face, conduct the data in their own words, and develop an understanding of the research question at hand based on the practical experience of the recidivist and service providers.

3.4. Instrument of Data Collection

A research method employed for a certain study depends on the nature of the research problem and the research questions (Kothari, 2004), accordingly, this study used in-depth interviewing, key informant interviews, and observation to collect the information. These instruments are briefly explained as follows.

In-Depth Interviewing

In-depth interviews are ideal in collection of data on individuals' personal histories, perspectives, feelings, and experiences, particularly when sensitive topics are being explored (Natasha et al, 2005). Moreover, This method is crucial for understanding people's perspectives on life and reporting their experiences of specific events or phenomena. (Yvonne & Dorothy, 2002). Therefore, the researcher of the present study considered in-depth interviews appropriate for this

study since the objectives of the study are to explore lived experiences of the recidivist children and the factors that contribute to recidivate.

According to Patricia (2017) successful interview research is dependent on building rapport with the participants through active listening. Accordingly, the researcher developed a good rapport with the recidivist children by clarifying the aim of the study and approaching them with good eye contact. The researcher contacted the participants (recidivist children) by communicating the rehabilitation center registrar officer. The interview was carried out in the venue which was facilitated by the rehabilitation center. The interviews were administered orally and the researcher was engaged in taking notes and recording the interview. All the interviews were conducted in the Amharic language and were translated word by word into English. additional information and explanation were made to the participant of the study in order to smooth the interview session. Accordingly, the shortest interview was 40 minutes, while the longest was 60 minutes.

Key Informant Interview

Key informants are some knowledgeable (information rich on the research question) individuals who can best explain the issues (Uwe, 2018). In Particular, the researcher applied this interview tool to answer basic question of the research. Key informant interview guidelines were prepared with inquiring questions and aligned with the objective of the study..The interviews were conducted face to face in Amharic. Tape recording and hand written notes were used then transcription and translation to English made. The interview lasted an average of 30 minutes. Specifically, social workers and rehabilitation officials were the key informants of this study.

Observation

The study employed direct field observation as a data collection instrument. Field observation is a method of conducting a field visit to a study site to observe if the phenomenon of interest is present (Yin, 2003). This method was selected to explore what was happening in the rehabilitation center. Field observations offer firsthand experience of the setting or people studied, providing valuable insights during the formal interpretation stage of analysis. (Bryman, 2008).The observation was conducted by preparing observation checklist concerning on the interaction of male children in conflict with the law among other children and staff, physical environment, availability of facilities and coping mechanisms.

3.5. Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary sources of information were used in this study. The primary data sources were newly collected data that the researcher had never obtained before using various qualitative data collection techniques (In-Depth Interviewing, Key Informant Interviews, and Observation). The researcher also used secondary sources to supplement and validate the data from primary sources. Data that has already been gathered by another party or written materials are considered secondary sources. The researcher examined rehabilitation center records, published articles on juvenile offenders and recidivism, and thesis reports on juvenile offenders in order to gather secondary data. Triangulation with the above source was made to fully understand.

3.6. Population and Sampling Technique

Target Population and Study Participants

In this study, the target population of the study was children in conflict with the law repeatedly; therefore, the unit of analysis of the study were individual children who have been in the institution twice or more, with the number of children varying based on entry and exit. During the data collection period, 230 (40 females) children were available in the center. The study involved nine recidivist child and four key informant interviews with staff members, including a rehabilitation officer and three counselors.

Sampling Technique

Techniques to Select In-Depth Interview Participants

From the total number of children in conflict with the law in the rehabilitation center, 9 recidivist male children were available which was the target of the study. All 9 male children recidivists participated in the study, therefore, this study employed a comprehensive sampling technique since the size is found manageable. Moreover, according to Pandey and Meenu (2015), an investigation of the entire target population provides more accurate and exact information as no unit is left out. The researcher utilized data from the rehabilitation center record to distinguish recidivists from non-recidivist children.

Techniques to Select Key Informants (KII)

In this study, a purposive (judgmental) sampling technique was used to select the key informants. Purposive sampling technique is applied to select informants who are best positioned to help the researcher to address the research purpose and questions. (Patricia, 2017).

3.7. Trustworthiness

Data validity is ensured by research procedures; over time, authors have employed terms such as authenticity and trustworthiness to describe qualitative validity. Qualitative validity is the evaluation of the accuracy, credibility, transferability, reliability, and confirmability of information gathered through qualitative data collection. (Creswell and Plano, 2018).

In the present study, to assure the validity of the study, rapport building, research objectives clarification, friendly approach to respondents, trust building, and respecting cultural values were implemented. Moreover, to mitigate the possibilities of errors in data collection, all the key informant interview, in-depth interview and observation checklist were guided and approved by my advisor. In order to verify the validity of methods and interview guides prior to fieldwork, as well as the consistency of the research question and conclusion based on available data sets, the researcher consulted advisors and friends. Member-checking was also done, The researcher reassesses the findings with participants, to ensure they accurately reflect their experiences.

Furthermore, By triangulating data from several sources, the data is verified. The primary data sources (In-Depth Interviewing, Key Informant Interviews, and Observation) were triangulated with secondary data that includes documents from Addis Ababa Women's, Children & Youth affairs bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law, other similar studies from the internet were part of the evidence used in the study. lastly, the final data was verified by colleagues who are familiar with the research subject and qualitative research

3.8. Data Collection Procedure

To conduct and accomplish the research, the following steps were followed in the study:

1. Support letter from Addis Ababa university was submitted to Officials of Addis Ababa Women's, Children & Youth affairs bureau Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law.

2. After receiving permission to collect the data, the researcher contacted the concerned bodies to seek for their willingness by briefing the objectives of the study to the targeted population.
3. The researcher contacted the targeted population and introduced them briefed them about the study's purpose and the pros of the research.
4. The researcher selected the participant (recidivist children in conflict with the law and key informants) by using comprehensive and purposive sampling techniques.
5. The researcher also informed them about the confidentiality and concealment of any information to the entire participants who partake in the study and earlier than the administration of the data collection instrument, the researcher also put across their thankfulness to them for their passion to partake in the study.
6. The participants were asked and encouraged in answering the questions honestly and asking for re-clarification on items that may confuse them. The researcher expressed gratitude to the participant for their time and cooperation at the conclusion of the interview..
7. Finally, the information which was generated both through the key informant interview and in-depth interview was analyzed.

3.9. Method of Data Analysis

Systematic research in any field of inquiry involves two basic operations. The first is to observe, measure, and record information – in other words, data collection. The second is to arrange and organize these data so that we may discover their significance, generalize about them, or tell what they mean. This exercise is called data analysis (Paul et al, 2007). Accordingly, in the present study, following the process of data collection, the researcher analyzed the data by using qualitative data analysis methods based on the sequences of the study objectives by using thematic analysis. First, the researcher has familiarized himself with the Amharic version of text notes and audio recordings by listening again and again and reading step by step to understand all information. Then the researcher translated and rewrites the field notes and audio recordings

from Amharic to English in a factual way by utilizing the 2010 version of Microsoft Word. After that, the investigator re-read the translated interview data line-by-line to attain a good understanding of what participants/informants said about the phenomenon. Then the researcher has identified the relevant words, phrases, sentences, and concepts that relate to the research objectives. Then the researcher organized and prepared the data and broke up the text into sections and compared the similarity of the information. Finally, the researcher has interpreted the overall results in detail.

3.10. Ethical Considerations

The accomplishment of any study counts up on unconditional and wholehearted cooperation from the participants. Research ethics focus on how we are treating participants if the study and our handling mechanism of collected data (Scottw & Johnston, 2009), therefore, respecting the core value of scientific research are required to be respected by the researcher (Singh, 2006).The researcher obtained trust from Addis Ababa University and selected participants based on their willingness to participate in a study. They communicated the research's purpose, obtained formal consent, and allowed withdrawal if necessary. Confidentiality and anonymity were maintained by using code numbers instead of identifiable information, and secondary data was acknowledged to avoid plagiarism.

CHAPTER FOUR

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter outlines the findings generated from children recidivists and staff members. It provides data on the demographic information of participants, contributing factors for children recidivism, the lived experiences of children recidivists in the rehabilitation center and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services. The results will be also discussed in this chapter.

4.1. Demographic Information of Participants

To figure out the factors that contribute to recidivism among children, the lived experiences of children recidivists in the rehabilitation center and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services, 13 participants were involved including 9 children recidivists and 4 key informants of the center.

Table 4.1: Background Information of Study Participants (Recidivists Children)

Code No	Age	Sex	Place of birth	Educational level	Number of Recidivate	Types of crime (Pervious to Current)
01	14	M	Addis Ababa	Grade 6	3 times	Quarrelling, disturbance and Theft
02	14	M	Shashemene	Grade 4	3 times	Stealing a phone, stealing door mirror of a car and again stealing door mirror of a car
03	14	M	Jimma	Grade 7	Two times	Theft of phone and stealing a metallic wheel from a defense patrol car
04	15	M	Dire Dawa	Grade 6	Two times	Stealing a phone and Quarrelling
05	14	M	Gurage	Grade 5	Two times	Rape attempt on a girl and Stealing a phone

06	15	M	Harar	Grade 2	Two times	Both times car door mirror theft
07	15	M	Weliso	Grade 3	Two times	Both times rape
08	14	M	Yabelo	Grade 3	Two times	Stealing money from shop and murder
09	13	M	Siltie(worabe)	Grade 3	Two times	Breaking a car window and Stealing door mirror of a car

Source: Own research data, 2023

As indicated in the above Table, five of the children were 14 years old, 3 of them were 15 years old and 1 child was 13 years old. Regarding their educational level, the lowest is grade 2 and the highest is grade 7. With regard to sex distribution, all of the children recidivists who participated in the study were male. Moreover, most of the participants were born in regional areas (Siltie, Yabelo, Harar, Gurage, Dire Dawa, Jimma, and Shashemene) but only one participant was born in Addis Ababa. Regarding the number of detention in the rehabilitation center, the majority of recidivist children had been in the center twice except two of them who were in the center for the third time. When we see the offense type that the recidivist children committed, the data indicates that most child recidivists committed property crimes such as stealing a phone, stealing the door mirror of a car, stealing a metallic wheel from a defense patrol car, stealing money from a shop and breaking a car window. While a few of them committed crime against a person like quarrelling, disturbance and rape attempt. In terms of their current offenses, 6 of the children recidivists were charged for Theft. This shows children were faced with economic problems after they were discharged previously. In terms of prior offenses, as shown in table 4.1, four of the child recidivists had been charged for stealing a phone and door mirror of a car.

Table 4.2: Background Information of Study Participants (Key informants)

No	Sex	Age	Marital	position	Qualification	Experince
1	Male	29	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Four years
2	Male	27	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Two years
3	Male	35	Married	Head	1 st Degree in Social work	Three years
4	Male	29	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Three years

The above table indicated regarding the profile of the staff members (key informants), all of them were male, in terms of age, the smallest age is 27 and the highest is 35, specifically, (27, 29, 29 and 35). Regarding marital status, only the head of the institution was married, the rest 3 of them were single. In terms of profession/ position, 3 of the key participants were counselors and the one was the head of the institution. When we see their educational status all of the key informants completed 1st Degree in Social work. Regarding the working experience in the institution, the head of the institution has three years of experience and the 3 counselors have two, three and four years of working experience in the institution.

4.2. The Factors that Contribute to Recidivism among Children

Drug Subculture and Peer Pressure

Based on the findings of this study, four of the participants were addicted to different types of drugs and they explained that it had an influence on their criminal behavior. In addition to that, they used the substances in a group particularly when they decided to commit a crime since it gives them energy to accomplish their task. For instance, Case one noted that,

I was addicted to Diesel and Cigarettes when I was on the street. I have been using Cigarettes when I was ready to do something, kkkkk, I think you know it. Yes, to steal. It gives me energy. I have been using diesel at night since it helps me to get warmth.

Another case two also mentioned similar point,

To make myself stimulated I used different addictive substances like, diesel, cigarette, and chat. Most of the time, I use these drugs with my friends on the street. We use them when we get cold since we don't have clothes at night and to become audacious in any crime. I used a cigarette when I committed the current crime.

These two cases clearly suggest that addiction to different substances is one of the contributing factors for children recidivism. As noted by the children, they were using the drugs to stimulate themselves and to get energy and audacity to commit a crime. Moreover, as cited by Alex (2017), Palmer (2018), and Suncica (2027) peer pressure is one of the factors that put children at risk of reoffending, similarly, six participants of the current study were influenced by their friends/ peers directly or indirectly. As noted by the children recidivists they were influenced by their peers when they committed their current crime. Case four stated as following,

I was inclined by my friends. After I got released from my previous detention, I was directly returned back to my family. But, there was my friend who was also detained with me in this rehabilitation center. When I get back there, he called me and brought an idea for us to get into a military compound and steal items like car wheels. He and his colleagues were showing their money and trying to make me envious of that. I then steal and get caught. Unfortunately, I am here and my friend is also here with me and the other one escaped by jumping through the fence.

The above case indicates that the child was influenced by his friend even though he was returned to his family on his previous release, thus peer members have contributions in shaping the recidivistic criminal behavior of the children. Another child also mentioned that,

After I was released from my first detainment, my friends influenced me to commit the second crime. The one who taught me stealing is called X. I didn't know how to steal before. I didn't know how to pluck the door mirror of a car. However, my friend showed me how to do it and insisted on doing it even though I was fearful but I got caught immediately after I committed the crime. So his influence had pushed me to get into this crime.

Another third child said that, “when I see the money that my friends brought by stealing, I felt a sense of inferiority and thought I should start stealing, so I started to steal. What I started then leads me to where I am today”. Similarly, the data from key informants shows that, there is no separate room for recidivists and non- recidivists. Recidivists live together mixed with the rest of

the children due to lack of rooms. The institution is putting the recidivist and the children who are in conflict with law for the first time together. But one of the key informants mentioned that,

Most recidivists change their names from the time they were charged in the past when they appear in court again. From my experience and exposure here; the trend of getting into repetitious criminal activity is increasing. They look at their sentences as a minimal matter. For example, if they get detained for a month for the first time, they would be back into a crime again since they consider the punishment as a trifling one. They will end up here again committing a crime. They even give orientation to the newer ones when they come here again. They do tell them not to be worried. Even they teach them criminal activities. I think that this ill advice from peers is one of the pushing factors for other children to get into a crime again. There are some who come here with repeated theft profiles because of the ill advice of their peers.

From the above quotation we can understand that repetitive criminal behavior is triggered by socialization in the institution. The advice and teaching of former children in conflict with the law to the new children in conflict with the law in the rehabilitation center contributes to reoffending after discharge.

Being Orphan and Street life

Being Orphaned and street life is one of the pushing factors figure out from the participant for their being in repetitive conflict with the law. Children talked about their family death and the impact on them. They mentioned that life without family is difficult for them and it contributed them to criminal activities again. Case three talked about his life as follows.

My father was alive before I came here for my first custody. Sadly, my mother came to me here in the summer and told me that my father was dead. After I was discharged, I started living with my grandfather. But, my life with my grandfather was not good. I was plowing there ...in general there was a workload on me. So, I chose to come back here [Addis Ababa] and start street life. Being without a father is tricky; if my father was alive I would not participate in illegal activities. Since I came here I haven't contacted my mother. She doesn't even know that I am detained here.

social worker three also point out,

...being orphan pushes them back to get into crimes. Many of the children here did not commit the crimes by their choice; rather they were forced by basic necessities. Because

it is hard to survive for anyone if someone doesn't get basic necessities like food, drink, cloth, and the like. And many of them live on the street. When they live there, they have to be fed and get drinks, but when they may not get that they search for the alternative way of getting into criminal activities for the sake of survival. So, this is the fate of orphan children on the street. Therefore for me, one of the contributing factors for delinquency and reoffending is being without family or being orphaned. There are many children with this case in this institution.

social worker two also mentioned that,

Court sends orders the child to be released from this institution if he/she has finished the sentence. If we fail to do so, we might be held responsible for not complying. Human rights commission might also question us. So, we immediately discharged them from this facility. These children don't have families and end up on the streets or homeless. Consequently, they will have a high probability to be returned by committing some kind of crime.

From the above quotations we can understand that being orphan contributes to recidivism among in conflicts with the law. As the social worker mentioned, the children couldn't participate in criminal activities unless they are forced by basic necessities as a result of being orphaned. The fate of orphan children being on the street thus led them to repetitive criminal behavior since they use illegal ways to cope with their situations. One child shared his street life and its impact on his repetitive criminal behavior as follows.

Life on the street is so challenging. Let me tell you about my life. We do beg from people at traffic stops until lunchtime. During lunch time we beg for leftover food from restaurants. Some people give us money and some of them buy food for us. After having lunch we get back to traffic stops and continue begging for money from people. At night if we have enough money to rent a bed, we go there. If not, we will spend the night on the streets. One day, a man tried to kidnap me with a car even though I was resisting going with him. Fortunately, I got out of the car when it stopped at a traffic light. He was masked and he drove towards Sar Bet. But there was a traffic jam and a traffic light stopped him. I get out of the car at that juncture. The dangerous life on the streets is people want to take your kidneys, to do so they might kidnap you. You have to sleep in

groups or in pensions to be protected from such kinds of incidents. Residents of Addis Ababa or children who sleep in their homes are not worried about such problems. Only those who are on the streets face such problems. At one time we were sleeping on Underpass Bridge around Lideta. We saw a woman get kidnaped and taken by a car even though we were shouting for help. No one came to rescue her. There are such kinds of harm on the streets and it exposes us to depression and anxiety. You know, we do everything, whatever illegal or legal, to survive. So, street life is a contributing factor for my repetitive criminal behavior.

The above case shows that street life can have an influence on the development of repetitive criminal behavior among children. One of the most significant issues on the street is lack of basic needs, thus children support themselves by criminal behavior, and viewing it as a means of survival. Street life can also contribute to a cycle of trauma and victimization, which can further reinforce patterns of criminal behavior.

Child Maltreatment

Another contributing factor identified by this study is child maltreatment. The result showed that child abuse increases the risk of offending. Some of this study participants faced physical and emotional abuse from their family after their former discharge and it had an impact on their re-offense. The following quotation clearly shows this issue.

When I was in my hometown I made coffee for my mother and cleaned the room. There was no one for her except me and my younger brother. One day I picked and spent money unknowingly it was hers. Starting from that day she did not like me and even beat me without my mistake. Then I always get angry. Thus, to cope up with my situation, I learned to pickpocket and continue stealing. Then, I started to drop out of school frequently. My mother was always getting angry at me...consequently, I am here for the second time.

Similarly, case seven also mentioned that,

After I got released I resided with my mother, my mother struggled with substance abuse and mental health issues. I experienced neglect, physical abuse, and exposure to domestic violence by my mother. Due to that, I started engaging in delinquent behavior, associating with peers involved in petty theft and drug use.

The above cases show that the absence of emotional attention and physical abuse leads to anger and finally, it provokes criminal behavior. It can be noted that family has a critical role in the reintegration of the children since problematic parenting behaviors like failing to control one's emotions towards their children, and paying insufficient affection and family support for the children will enhance the probability of recidivism among children in conflict with the law. Furthermore, Maltreatment can lead to a range of psychological and behavioral problems, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, aggression, and substance abuse. These issues can impair a juvenile's ability to make sound decisions, regulate their emotions, and engage in anti-social behaviors, increasing the risk of re-offending.

Divorce

Another family issue identified by this study is family separation or divorce as one of the contributing factors for recidivism among children in conflict with the law. Case six talked that:

My families were separated. My father lives in Jigjiga and my mother lives in Wollega. My step-mother hates me. Consequently, I joined the street life. To feed myself I have to do something, that would be stealing or begging. If my family were not separated, I would be there and my life would be good. Look at me I am a child, how can I handle a life without family; they don't care about me and the rest (his brother and sister). Brother that is the issue which motivated me to commit a crime repeatedly.

In corroboration the social worker participant stated that:

Most children who come here repeatedly and who are on the street are those having family problems such as divorce. At this time, the children possibly will go out to the street; it can increase the risk of developing repetitive criminal behavior. When the parents continue leading their life separately, children will suffer in the middle. This is because the child can't get treatment, so, I think it could have an impact on their reintegration.

From the above findings, it can be noted that divorce itself does not directly cause criminal behavior in children; however, the process and aftermath of divorce can introduce a range of challenges that may contribute to an increased risk of children's criminal recidivism. The above two cases display that, divorce results in a significant disruption of the family structure, and children may experience a sense of loss, instability, and confusion as their family undergoes a major transition. Therefore, it is noted that divorce can contribute to children's repetitive

criminal behavior through introducing a range of challenges like lack of parental support and supervision. Moreover, ill-treatment from their stepmother or step-father can increase the likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors such as joint street life and other criminal activities.

Poor Family Economy

The finding of this study also shows that a poor family economy can have an influence on children's repetitive criminal behavior. Children who grow up in families with low income or financial instability are at a risk of experiencing a range of negative outcomes, such as, emotional disturbances, and behavioral problems, which can increase the likelihood of engaging in criminal behavior.

My family life is not good; my father earns only 1,200 bills per month. So, his income is meager. He is an old man. Even though he is old he is trying to support all of us. My father's income source is a pension payment. He was in the military and discharged in honor when his leg got injured. But he is still supporting his family. My father's leg gives him pain most of the time. He has a lot of sicknesses. Including my father and my stepmother we are 10 in the house. We are living in a rental house in Shashemene. So, to help my father I did whatever I found, even illegal ones. So that is why I am here again.

Similarly case five mentioned that:

The living standard of my parents is poor. We only have a small plot of land and I left home since I don't find the situation to be likable. They don't have many earnings and they are leading a low-income life. They receive food assistance from the government. Other than that they don't have a permanent or sustainable source of income. Life is so problematic for my family. I wasn't even considering myself as a human being when I considered our life with others' lives. I was sleeping on the mud and I was stressed. I do beg if I see a passer-by holding a meal. We also beg for leftovers at restaurants. Some will give us and others do chase us. If your family would not feed and support you, what can you do? This is the reason for my repetitive criminal behavior.

social worker one explained as:

Theft is the most common or frequent crime they commit. They steal different parts of a car like speakers or rear mirrors, money and cell phones from people's pockets. So, I think poverty is the main factor for children recidivistic behavior. Mainly, children who

came from the countryside committed property crimes. Let me tell you a story of a child recidivist who came from rural area. During his first release, an NGO that works on reunification with their families gave 3 thousand birr to his family as a means of supporting the child. The family agreed to take care of the child. But, after the money was finished the parents were sent their child back to Addis Ababa with giving little money, and that child committed a crime again and now he is here. This trend is now becoming a norm to many parents and such cycle would continue. Once the children come to Addis Ababa, they will get in to stealing something when they are not able to get money. Therefore, the first crucial factor could be poverty. If a child doesn't have anything to eat, he will steal. If his families are economically weak, he may get in to a criminal activity repeatedly.

The above quotation displays that property crime is a common type of crime committed by children in the rehabilitation center. Families of the children were also sending their children to urban centers since they have a poor economy to help them even if they took the money from their children. This trend is becoming common among many parents. Therefore, poverty or the weak economy of the family contributes to children's recidivistic behavior.

Negative Community Attitude

When the children asked to describe the reaction of the community towards them during their previous release, some of the children responded that the community had negative reaction towards them and they were mistrusted by the community as criminals. Case eight explained that:

When I returned back to Shashemene, the attitude of the community towards me was not good. Consequently, I was fighting and quarreling with my neighbors. I did fight, kick and break their legs. My father was tired of me and always crying when I got beaten by others. I get angry when I get beaten. The community discriminated against me because I was convicted of theft and I got angry and I fought with them.

Case nine also stated that:

The attitude of the community toward me is negative; they consider me as a thief always. They didn't like me as a child. One day I decided to steal even though I was aware of the risk. I know stealing is a sin. But, if the community considers

you always as a thief what would you do? The people see me as a thief. They get cautious not to be stolen by me simply if I was on my road. The community discriminated against me and consequently I continued with such criminal behavior.

Lack of Sufficient Follow up and Assistance up on Release

The study figured out that up on their previous discharge most of the children lacked support/guidance from the rehabilitation center, faith-based organization and charity organizations. They mentioned that if they will get help from any institutions they will desist themselves from criminal behavior. Case one talked that:

I didn't get any support from correctional institutions, religious organizations or other institutions after I was released. I want to be out of here and live with my parents again and continue my education. I am now corrected. I don't want to get into anything bad and addictions. Please, I need help.

Case five also said that:

No one supported me after I got released from the rehabilitation center previously. If I do get support from any person or organization, I am sure that I will desist from criminal behavior. I want to change my life by starting a shoe shine or any other business if someone could support me. It is not a problem for me if I sleep on the streets until I get enough money to change my life. That is what I want.

In addition to that the head of the institution cited that:

Still, there is no favorable environment for them once they are out of here. There is a lack of coordination between courts or judges and us, the professionals here. There were no platforms between these two parties to discuss how to make these children not return to a life of crime again. If it would be so, I think it would be good.

This finding shows that there is no satisfactory aftercare service and reintegration with their families or caregivers. As a result, they might consequently experience a lack of basic needs like shelter food, and financial problems and this will lead them to be a recidivist.

4.3. The Lived Experiences of Children Recidivists in the Rehabilitation Center

Many of the children recidivists talked about their lived experiences in the rehabilitation center and described the impact of their experiences on the course of their lives and which sometimes resulted in reoffending.

Lack of Contact with Family

Most of the participants noted that they have no contact with their family. Literature shows that family visitation is incredibly beneficial in reducing recidivism. However, as noted by the recidivist children, they lacked family visitation and support. Case eight explained that:

After I came here nobody is looking for me now. I don't have any contact with my family even through the phone. My family doesn't even know I am detained here. I have been here for 2 months and 18 days, so, most of the time I am worried about my family. I always cry when kids talk about the topic of family.

Case four and three also mentioned that:

I haven't had contact with my family since I came here. I do give a call but it is not working. They didn't visit me. My home town is not from here. It is very far. They know I am imprisoned here but they didn't try to visit me.

Since I came here, my family hasn't come here. They were visiting me when I was at Jimma police station and they were bringing food at breakfast and lunch times. Since it is distant from my hometown, it is hard for them to come here. So, being apart from my family is a difficult and challenging issue for me.

This finding clearly suggests that children lacked family visitation. This is because of families' unwillingness to contact their children and some of the families were living in faraway places. So the distance from the rehabilitation center is the issue that reduces family visitation. As a result the children were challenged.

Poor Infrastructure

From the children's lived experience this study also identified that the children were faced with infrastructural problems. As cited by the children, there is poor infrastructure in the institution and it impacts their rehabilitation. Particularly, the children noted that the institution is not

providing skill based training and also there is a water and food problem. For instance, case four experience as follows:

They don't provide additional skill training in addition to the education. There is only formal education provided here. There are also water and food problems. We only ask for water and food problems to be resolved. If table tennis, football games and TVs are set, we will be able to spend our time happily. It will not even look like you are a convict. It will be easy.

Case six also mentioned similar issue:

Formerly, they were giving us many items. They were giving us shirts, trousers, pants, socks, shoes, and sandals. The food was special before. Now the food has changed. We even sometimes get worms when we eat rice or macaroni. The food has to be changed and we are not getting clothing as we used to get. I get sick many times. It is only these few days I get better from being sick for the whole month. We don't get medical attention immediately. Even though there are medical professionals and physicians who do come but they are doing nothing for us. The food is of poor quality. Out of the 90+ children here, at least 20 of us will get sick on a weekly basis. We want this bad or poor quality of food to be improved. We mostly eat lentils. They don't add salt to the food. I do have anemia and when I go to see a doctor, they advise me to take fluids. But I don't get here what they advised me to take. If I were with my family, they would take care of me and I might recover. But it is hard as long as I am here. In addition, it will be helpful if leisure time games are brought. If they were available, children would spend their time playing without worrying about their families. But now some children get sick because they worry too much about their families. These games will help to distract the children. The children you see here playing are the newcomers. If you see those who have been here for a while, they are sitting in some corner depressed and worrying. Their minds are being harmed a lot.

The above case displays that the institution provides shirts, trousers, pants, socks, shoes, and sandals before but currently there is a shortage of such goods. Moreover, the food in the institution was special before but currently the food is poor. There is also a problem related to medical treatment. As the child explained they were not receiving medical attention

immediately. In addition, there is a shortage of leisure and recreational facilities in the institution.

Ineffective Treatment

Most of the children mentioned that they experienced maltreatment in the institution. The finding shows that they were punished beyond the limit, physically and psychologically abused.

Case seven shared his experience as follow:

One day I tried to escape, and then they punished me in a way that is beyond the limit. Not only had on me, mostof the children faced such abuse. They beat us. We might get sick because of that beating. It is very stressful. Three children escaped within the last 3 days. They escaped due to the problem in this facility. The guards are very serious and the children feel confined. The guards also beat them. That is why the children want to escape.

Case nine mentioned that he was psychologically abused by the counselor.

I was here in the past. The counselor got mad at me when I returned back and I do understand why she gets mad at me. She indeed advised me in the past. She could get angry at me for getting back into crime after she advised me to get back to my home town in my first release. A human being could make a mistake once, twice, or three times and there is a chance to get corrected.

Moreover, the third child said that the treatment is not enough and it is not rehabilitating them. He mentioned that he refused to contact his family even by phone call.

Frankly speaking my counselor does visit and ask me how I am doing after a month. He doesn't let me when I ask to have a call. He doesn't care about my well-being. He is childish and may spit on you when you ask him. I wish him to be replaced. He has only visited me for 3 days in a two month period. That is even because he has to sign for attendance. It is not only for me, but rather for many children. I want this problem with the counselor to be rectified.

Problem with Release

Most of the children mentioned that there is a problem up on the release. As they mentioned, the institution doesn't release the children even after they finish their sentence.

The institution may not let us out even after we finish our sentence. In Kilinto you will get released within 8 hours after you finish your sentence. But here they will ask for family

even though families present themselves. even if I set free by the judge but in the center they are not willing to send me home

Case six also noted that, “*They don’t set us free even after we finish our sentences. There are children who have finished their sentence but they refuse to let them go*”.

4.4. The Challenges of the Rehabilitation Center

Findings showed different challenges of the rehabilitation center such as, problems related to children, language barrier, policy related problem, lack of infrastructure and manpower and lack of coordination between different agencies involved in the juvenile justice system. These challenges are presented as follows.

Problem Related to Children

Finding from the key informants shows that some children refuse to leave the institution and they have no interest to return and live with their family. One key informant mentioned that when they encounter such a problem they solve it by bringing a professional in the area to reconnect the children with their family.

Sometimes when children have difficulty living with their families, they refuse to leave the institution even though they are told they are free and can go. They say they wouldn’t want to see their mothers and fathers. When we face such cases, we bring a professional in that area and have an extended discussion, reconnecting children and families. We do take 2 or 3 weeks before we discharge the children in such a case.

Language Problem

One of the key informants mentioned that they are facing language problems “*The children come from many different parts of the country from a variety of languages and cultures. So, it is challenging to help them. We try to communicate even by using an interpreter*”. He indicated that the children come from different areas and they speak the language of the society they grow up in. Similarly, another key informant mentioned that:

Sometimes we might encounter language problems, so I suggest that it is better if there are institutions like this in every region. Children are coming from distant places. There are children who came from the Kenya border. The chance of getting in touch with their

families will be narrow for those children. It will be very good if a child is placed in an area in his locality where he could get regular visitation from his family. They will feel a lot of things when they come to a place like this one where it is far away. They may feel disheartened or their families might be worried about what will happen to them. So, it is better if such institutions will be established in every region.

From the above quotation we can see that the institution faces a language problem. This is basically the children in the institution are from different cultures and they come from different regional areas since there is no other such institution in the country.

Policy Related Problem

Another challenge of the institution found by this study is policy related problems. The key informants cited that there is a gap in the implementation of the policy after it was ratified.

There is a gap in implementing or putting into action a policy once it is ratified. After a child comes here, he will get corrected and rehabilitated. But when he joins the community, he will come in contact with families, friends, and the community. His contact will be expanded. He will be exposed to many things. As a result of that there is what we call peer pressure and due to that reason children might get into crime and other kinds of things. If there is a strict law specifically for them and if all stakeholders: the government, families, religious organizations do fulfill their respective obligations, I do believe it is possible to create a better generation.

Another social worker suggested that there is a need for a special policy on children recidivism. He points out that to reduce the children's repetitive criminal behavior; the government should draft a policy and lay a structure to the lowest administrative unit.

May be to keep children from getting in to a criminal activity repeatedly; the government should draft a special policy and lay a structure that would extend to the lowest administrative unit for children coming from countryside to live with their families and get parental love, for parents to have a peaceful relationship with their children, get educated, and be self-reliant.

Lack of Infrastructure

Another challenge for the institution is lack of infrastructure. One key informant mentioned that there is a lack of infrastructure like a shortage of water in the institution and it is an obstacle for

them to clean the sanitation of the children in a better way. “Inadequate supply of water is an obstacle to keeping the sanitation of the children in a good way”. Moreover, another social worker mentioned that there is shortage of working office in the institution.

There will be things that will not be fulfilled. Before we moved to this new facility, we were even sharing a small office for 8 or 9 staff and some will wait outside while others are giving counseling inside. Now the facility is somewhat good.

Lack of Cooperative Organization

Lack of supportive organization is another challenge identified by this study. Participants of the study mentioned that the institution lacked supporting organization particularly, organization which works on discharged children. The head of the institution cited that:

Still now there is no organization that could receive many children after they finished their court proceedings. When children don't have anywhere to go, there has to be an organization that should receive from us. There is no organization that works that much with us in this regard.

Moreover other social worker suggested that:

If a child has a family but they have an economic problem, find a way to address that issue by connecting the family with NGO's or if there is a way the family could get service from the government, by linking them with the government they can get the service. If they get such kind of support, I don't think they will have a chance to get into criminal activities again. But, there is a shortage of such organizations which are interested in working with us.

4.5. Discussion

Every study starts with a research question and a final goal to answer this question and add valuable knowledge to the concerned subject (Kaushik and Christine 2019). In this study, the researcher tried to find out information on the factors that contribute to recidivism among children, the lived experiences of children recidivists in the rehabilitation center and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services. Accordingly, in previous sections, the results of the study were presented. This section is devoted to a discussion of the findings.

The Factors that Contribute to Recidivism among Children

As presented in the earlier section, there are different contributing factors for children's recidivistic behavior such as drug sub-culture, peer pressure, being orphan, street life, child maltreatment, divorce, poor family economy and negative community attitude and lack of sufficient follow up and assistance up on release. These factors are discussed as follows.

The finding of this study shows that addictions to different types of drugs have influence on repetitive criminal behavior among children. The finding indicates that the participants (children) of this study used different addictive substances like, diesel, cigarette, and chat. ICRC (2020) suggests three ways in which drug use may lead to criminal activities. First, drugs can affect the mind and body to create mental or physical states that possibly will contribute to aggression or theft. Second, a drug user who lacks the necessary funds to satisfy his need may be led to predatory crimes, like burglary or theft, among others. Finally, for psychoactive substances that are illegal to grow, manufacture, trade, or use, victims of crime are unlikely to report it to the police, rendering them both more vulnerable to coercion and retaliation. In the current study, the first way is confirmed. In the present study, most children used drugs in a group particularly when they decided to commit a crime since it gives them energy to accomplish their task or to become audacious in committing a crime, particularly theft. This means drug use is one of contributing factors for recidivism among male children in conflict with the law. This finding also confirms different prior studies; those establish the use of drugs/substance increases the likelihood of recidivating for juvenile offenders (McCoy, et al. 2004; Jospeter, 2004; Mogano et al, 2022; Mogano et al., 2022).

Moreover, a study conducted on juvenile recidivism in South Cape Karoo Correctional Service Institution found that use drugs like marijuana (dagga) led to addiction, which in turn led to criminal activities and ultimately, recidivism (Jacqueline, 2006). Therefore, it can be learnt that substance use contributes to children's repetitive criminal behavior.

Several studies established that peer pressure is one of the factors that put children at risk of reoffending. For instance, Mogano et al. (2022) confirm that peers become increasingly a strong influence on children's behaviour and that affiliating with delinquent peers can lead to a greater level of delinquent behaviour. They conducted a qualitative study on recidivism amongst children in conflict with the law in Limpopo. Their study indicated that children upon their

reintegration into the communities, they make wrong friends who introduce them into anti-social behaviours such as substance use and later re-offend due to such influential factors. Similarly, six participants of the current study were influenced by their peers when they committed their current crime, which they were sentenced for now. Likewise, a quantitative study conducted in Kenya shows that 97.7% of the study participants influenced their friends to commit crime (Alex, 2017). Moreover, Sutherland's differential association theory suggests that criminal behavior is learned in close personal groups and connections. This theory explains children's recidivistic behavior as learned in interaction with others (particularly exposure to pro-criminal and anti-criminal individuals (See 2004; Piquero 2016)). It claims that children associated with anti-criminal persons are more likely to learn and adopt criminal values and behaviors. The present study confirms this theory. The data from key informants shows that, there is no separate room for recidivists and non- recidivists that mean recidivists are mixed with the non-recidivist-children due to a lack of rooms. This gives a chance for the children to learn a better criminal behavior, which results in recidivism, this particularly due to the advice and teaching of former children in conflict with the law to the new children in conflict with the law in the rehabilitation center. Thus peer members have contributions in shaping the recidivistic criminal behavior of the children.

The other contributing factor to repetitive conflict with the law identified by this study is being orphaned and street life. The participants of this study said that their family death impacted their lives. It was noted that life without family is difficult for children and it contributes to repetitive criminal behavior. The children couldn't participate in criminal activities unless they are forced by basic necessities as a result of being orphaned. The fate of orphan children is being on the street thus it led them to repetitive criminal behavior since they use illegal ways to cope with their situations. Because street life can have an influence on the children, one of the most significant issues on the street is lack of basic needs, thus children support themselves by criminal behavior, and viewing it as a means of survival. Street life can also contribute to a cycle of trauma and victimization, which can further reinforce patterns of criminal behavior. Children who are exposed to violence, abuse, and mental health issues such as depression and anxiety, which can increase their risk of engaging in criminal activities as a coping mechanism.

This finding agreed with the study of Jenberu (2012), who revealed six of his study participants were used to living on the street before their incarcerations and after their first release. And he stated that street life was a contributing factor for their involvement in illegal activities in a repetitive manner. Likewise, Darin (2008) examined the recidivism outcomes of 296 serious and violent juvenile offenders released to the streets after participating in an innovative and somewhat controversial therapeutic treatment program in Texas. His finding shows that, of the 296 released violent offenders, majority are shown to recidivate by committing at least one new offense of any kind, while half recidivated by committing at least one new felony offense. The problem of street children, in Ethiopia, has been of long standing but of late this has grown, not only in the size of the number of children involved, but also in the seriousness of the problems they pose to themselves and the society (Sisay, 2016). The reasons for their being in the street are mostly related to family problems (Jenberu, 2012).

In the present study identified different family related issues that contribute to street life and recidivism, such as child maltreatment, divorce and poor family economy. The result of the study shows that child maltreatment increases the risk of reoffending. Some of the study participants faced physical and emotional abuse from their family after their former discharge and it had an impact on their re-offense because the absence of emotional attention and physical abuse leads to anger and finally it provokes criminal behavior. Therefore, family plays a huge role on the reintegration of the children since problematic parenting behaviors like problems in controlling their anger towards their children, little affection and little family support for the children fuels display of negative behaviours that leads to reoffending. This finding is similar to the finding from Palmer (2018) and Eskalehu, (2019), who found that poor parental supervision, lack of communication between children and parents, physical abuse and neglect of children by parents are among the causes that contribute to crime and recidivism at family level. Further more, maltreated children may suffer from cognitive delay or deficits related to high level of stress hormones (Shonkoff & Philips, 2015). These deficits can affect attention, memory problem solving skills, and reasoning capacity-all key component necessary for successful adjustment with legal system. These also confirmed by Albert Banduras (1979) social learning theory where it states exposure to violence during early years shapes social interaction patterns through out entire lifespan.

Another family issue identified by this study is family separation or divorce as one of the contributing factors for recidivism among children in conflict with the law. The finding of the study shows that divorce can impact children's risk of developing repetitive criminal behavior since it causes lack of parental support and bondage. This is consistent with Hirschi's theory of social bond; he explains that the weaker the bond is to the family the more likely the individual is to commit crime. Therefore it is very important to have a strong relationship with the family. Moreover, the finding of the present study shows that some children were got ill-treatment by their stepmother and it increases the likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors such as join street life and other criminal activities. This finding is supported by Mogano et al. (2022), they discussed that disturbed childhood, disputed families and ruined personal relationships play an important role in children and youth's involvement in criminal behaviour even after they were assisted through diversion programmes. Children who attended rehabilitation programme while they were still children continue to display their reoffending behaviours upon their reintegration into the communities and families because they lack support from their families. Most of these children came from disputed and broken family structures which fuels displays of negative behaviours that lead to reoffending. Lack of family support can hamper successful reintegration of children. However, it disagrees with Anthony (2021) study, which suggests that family structure did not appear to be a contributing factor to delinquent behavior and reoffending since many of his study participants believed their family make up did not influence their delinquent behavior.

The finding of this study also shows that a poor family economy can have an influence on children's repetitive criminal behavior. Children who grow up in families with low income or financial instability are at a risk of experiencing a range of negative outcomes, such as, emotional disturbances, and behavioral problems, which can increase the likelihood of engaging in criminal behavior. According to Sara (2015) having support when released seemed to be important for the children of inmates. However, some did not appear to gain enough support from their parents, thus they are more likely to choose the more beneficial way, hence committing crime. Many participants of the current study committed property crime particularly, stealing is the most common or frequent crime they were committed, this indicates lack of family economy. Many participants mentioned that the living standard of their parents is poor and it is the reason for their repetitive criminal behavior. This is consistent with the view of Strain theory, it states

that children who experience poverty, inadequate education, and unstable living situations may be more likely to engage in criminal behavior as a result of the strain they experience (Agnew, 1985).

Negative community attitude is another factor that contributes to children's recidivistic behavior. In the current study, when the children asked to describe the reaction of the community towards them during their previous release, some of the children indicated that the community had negative attitudes towards them and they were mistrusted by the community as criminals. This finding confirms the assumption of labeling theory; this theory explains children recidivism as a product of society's reaction to the children. It contends that if a juvenile, once sentenced to a crime, is labeled as a criminal and thereby he/she acquires a criminal identity. That means once offenders are judged by society as criminals, it is very hard to get back to what they once had, and often they experience it as their identity (Burke 2009; Breen 2011). This finding is also similar to Lemlem (2016) study; she revealed that former juvenile delinquents are discriminated against all over the society simply because they have been to prison regardless of the gravity of the offense. Her participants of the study faced stigma upon their reentry to the community which made it difficult for their successful reentry. Furthermore, according to Namitha (2021) stigma can cause stress and social isolation, thus it leads the offenders to commit a crime again.

The finding of this study also shows that lack of sufficient follow up and assistance upon release has a contribution for reoffending. In the present study, most of the children lacked support/guidance from the rehabilitation center, faith-based institutions and charity organizations upon their previous discharge. They mentioned that if they will get help from any institutions they will desist themselves from criminal behavior. Likewise, Birhanu et al. (2021) study shows that reintegration plans and practices are nearly missing in Jimma correctional center. According to UNODC (2018) rehabilitation centers isolate offenders from their families, partners and friends. Further, offenders are often transferred to rehabilitation centers according to their security risk, and this may involve moving them far from their homes and family. At the same time, assisting offenders in establishing and maintaining constructive contact with their families, as well as with friends and relevant agencies outside the rehabilitation center, is an important way to facilitate their eventual social reintegration after their release. However, the finding of this study indicates that there is no adequate aftercare service and proper intervention to connect

the children with their family and the society. As a result, children might be exposed to problems like homelessness and financial problems. These problems enhance the children's likelihood of reoffending.

The Lived Experiences of Children Recidivists in the Rehabilitation Center

This study also interested to understand the lived experiences of children recidivists in the rehabilitation center. Accordingly, the children experienced different issues such as lack of contact with family, ineffective treatment, poor infrastructure and problem with release and they described that it impacted their course of life and which sometimes resulted in reoffending.

Literature shows that family visitation is incredibly beneficial in reducing recidivism. According to Hairston (1991) family ties during imprisonment serve three important functions including the maintenance of the family unit, the enhancement of the well-being of individual family members, and the facilitation of the criminal's post-release success. However, the present study revealed that most of the participants had no contact with their family and they lacked family visitation and support. As part of the rehabilitation process families are expected to be included since they are the ones these juveniles will go back to when their period of imprisonment is over. This is because when the family is involved the transition of the juvenile from the correctional center back into the society is made much easier as the children are already comfortable with family even though they have stayed away for a period of time. This is a critical step towards re-integration since the family is the juvenile's first contact with the community (Abigail, 2013). However, the finding of the present study shows that many children in conflicts with law were not receiving any visitors at all due to their family members not leaving close to the correctional center hence finding it difficult to travel all the way to visit their ward and negated to visit their children.

Another issue found by this study is poor infrastructure. From the children's lived experience this study also identified that the children were faced with infrastructural problems. As cited by the children, there is poor infrastructure in the institution and it impacts their rehabilitation. Particularly, the children noted that the institution is not providing skill based training and also there is a water and food problem. This finding confirms the study of Oluwafemi and Abass (2019) they found poor rehabilitation facilities and no vocational skills programmes and facilities

are available in the juvenile correctional institution in Nigeria. Dejen Woldearegay (2021) also recognized that there is no adequate food (nutrition) provided for juvenile boys in the remand home as stated by international and national human rights instruments in Addis Ababa. He mentioned that the way of handling juveniles may expose them to diseases caused by inadequacy of food. Similarly, the finding of this study shows that, there is inadequacy of water, food, recreational and medical facilities thus it may hamper their rehabilitation and reintegration. This is also observed by Birhanu et al. (2021), their study shows that the correctional center of Jimma Zone lacks rehabilitation facilities and services; such as recreational, educational, psychosocial, dormitories, and other rehabilitation programs.

Several studies find that incarceration increases recidivism among children/young with lower risk profiles and less-serious offending histories. This is because in most of the rehabilitation there is ineffective treatment, there is retribution and harsher punishment that does not reduce recidivism (McMasters, 2015). In the current study most of the children mentioned that they experienced maltreatment in the institution. The finding shows that children were punished beyond the limit, physically and psychologically abused and the treatment is not enough and it is not rehabilitating them. This finding agreed with Birhanu et al. (2021) study, their study shows that in correctional centers of Jimma Zone, children's treatment practices are characterized more punitive than rehabilitative and abusive than protective. It also involves corporal punishment and restriction from getting families and relatives. This is opposite to the Art. 37 of CRC, which says no child, shall be subjected to torture or any inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment. Similar to the Constitution of Ethiopia, article 16 states; "*everyone has the right to protection against bodily harm.*" and no person shall be subject to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 18(1)) this also includes children.

According to McMasters (2015) rehabilitation through effective, evidence-based programs and supervision strategies will be the most successful way to reduce recidivism in juvenile offenders. By identifying risk factors and then addressing the needs of the offender, caseworkers will be able to successfully rehabilitate juvenile offenders. Contrary, the finding of the current study shows an ineffective rehabilitation system in the institution. This finding is comparable to Richard's (2011) study, which found the majority of youth in correctional confinement punished unfairly by staff, afraid of being physically attacked and staff are disrespectful and that they

physically restrain children without justification. Moreover, according to Suncica, et al. (2017) one of the risk factors for recidivism among children in conflict with the law were improper criminal sanction and inadequate treatment in Republic of Macedonia on.

In addition this study revealed that there is a problem with the release system in the institution. Most of the children mentioned that there is a problem with the discharge. As they noted, the institution doesn't release the children even after they finish their sentence. This is somewhat opposite to the rights of the children.

The Challenges of the Rehabilitation Center

The findings of this study shows that there are different challenges of the rehabilitation center such as, problem related to children, language barrier, policy related problem, lack of infrastructure and manpower and lack of cooperative organization. Finding from the key informants shows that some children refuse to leave the institution and they have no interest to return and live with their family. To solve such problems they bring a professional in the area to reconnect the children with their family. Indirectly this shows that the institution has a shortage of qualified manpower. Another issue is language barrier. The key informant of the study mentioned that they are facing language problems because the children come from many different parts of the country from a variety of languages and cultures since there is no other such institution in the country. Consequently, it is challenging to help the children. Therefore, it can be suggested that the government of Ethiopia should build additional children rehabilitation centers in different parts of the country.

Another challenge of the institution found by this study is policy related problems. The key informants cited that there is a gap in the implementation of the policy after it was ratified. This suggests that there is a need for special policy on children recidivism to reduce the children's repetitive criminal behavior and the government should draft a policy and lay a structure to the lowest administrative unit.

Another challenge for the institution is lack of infrastructure. The findings from a key informant shows that there is a lack of infrastructure like a shortage of water in the institution and it is an obstacle for them to clean the sanitation of the children in a better way. Also there is a shortage of working offices in the institution. Similarly, Mugerwa (2010) examined the challenges of

rehabilitating juvenile delinquents and the extent to which Rehabilitation Centers shape juvenile behaviors in Uganda. He revealed that inadequacy of food and water has been a challenge to rehabilitation centers amidst an increasing number of juvenile delinquents per day. This had negative consequences on children's rehabilitation and reintegration. Birhanu et al. (2021) also reported that poor facilities and excessively inadequate services characterize the treatment in Jimma correction center.

Lack of supportive organization is another challenge found by this study. Participants of the study mentioned that the institution lacked cooperative organization particularly, organization which works on discharged children. Similarly, Abigail (2013) discussed that, challenges affecting the proper administration of the juvenile justice system include the inadequacy of financial support from the government and international organizations for logistics, transportation and other costs necessary in the proper handling of juvenile cases.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

The main focus of this research paper was to explore recidivism among Children in Conflict with the Law: the Case of Addis Ababa Women's Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law. Specifically, the study explored the factors that contribute to recidivism among children, their lived experiences in the rehabilitation center, and the challenges of the rehabilitation center in delivering rehabilitation services. The detailed data collected from nine recidivist children and four key informants was analyzed qualitatively. Consequently, the following conclusions are made based on the study's findings.

The study reveals factors contributing to children's recidivistic behavior, including drug subculture, peer pressure, orphanhood, street life, maltreatment, divorce, poor family economy, negative community attitude, and lack of follow-up assistance post-release. Addictions to drugs influence repetitive criminal behavior. Moreover, the study confirms Sutherland's differential association theory, stating that criminal behaviors are learned in close personal groups, with peer members shaping recidivistic behavior. Factors like orphanages and street life also contribute to repetitive conflict with the law, as children view criminal behavior as a means of survival. Exposure to violence, abuse, and mental health issues increases the risk of criminal behavior.

The study also identifies family issues contributing to recidivism, including child maltreatment, divorce, and poor family economy. Child maltreatment increases reoffending risk, while divorce can lead to repetitive criminal behavior due to a lack of parental support and supervision. These factors contribute to a child's criminal behavior. The study reveals that children from poor families with low income or financial instability are at a higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior due to negative outcomes such as emotional disturbances and behavioral problems. Negative community attitudes and lack of follow-up assistance also contribute to recidivistic behavior. Additionally, children lacking support from rehabilitation centers, faith-based institutions, and non-governmental organizations may face financial, shelter, and livelihood problems. Lastly, the study revealed that children in rehabilitation centers face issues like lack of family visitation, ineffective treatment, poor infrastructure, and release problems, which can lead

to reoffending. The main challenges of the rehabilitation center include language barriers, policy issues, infrastructure, and cooperative organization.

5.2. Recommendations

The following suggestions are sent forth in light of the research's findings and conclusions:

Policy Suggestion

In order to guide the rehabilitation centers in addressing the current inadequacies in the treatment of children recidivists, policymakers should check and revise the implementation of policies which concerned children's recidivism and social reintegration of delinquents in the current criminal policy.

Intervention Related Recommendation

The research demonstrates that different factors contribute to recidivism among children including addiction to different types of drugs, peer influence, being an orphan and street life, maltreatment, family separation or divorce, poor family economy, negative community attitude, and lack of sufficient follow-up and assistance upon release. Therefore, The center should play a leading role in coordinating families of children, community groups, NGOs, and volunteers to assist discharged children. The study also recommends that the correction center need to place considerable emphasis on offering skill-based training for the children that will help in their release. The finding of the study also shows that there is ineffective treatment, poor infrastructure, and problems with the release. Therefore, the study recommends that the rehabilitation center should take the leading role in introducing delinquent-oriented treatment programs and develop adequate treatment mechanisms.

Suggestions for Future Research

The present study applied a qualitative approach to explore children's recidivism, but a long-term follow-up study is required to ascertain the rate of children's recidivism and examine the contributing factors for children's recidivistic behavior. Additionally, this study tried to explore the children's lives in the rehabilitation center only, therefore there is a need for research on the life experience of children after discharge.

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Appendices

Appendix I: Instruments

Dear respondent,

My name is Fiseha Abadi. I am a master degree student in a social work program from Addis Ababa University. Currently I am conducting my thesis on “Exploring Recidivism among Children in Conflict with the Law: the Case of Addis Ababa Women’s Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law”. The main objective of this interview is to explore the contributing factors for children in conflict with the law to reoffend their lived experience in the rehabilitation center and the challenges of the institution. Your answers to this interview are important to us and will be kept confidentially to be used only for this study. Your identity will not be revealed in any case. If you agree to take part in this study, you will do it voluntarily and there will not be any payment. Additionally, you are free to decline to answer for any question that you do not feel comfortable in answering it.

For any inquiry regarding this study, my full contact is listed below. My email address is fisehasabawi1991@gmail.com: You can also contact me at (+251) 912-460-300.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

In- depth Interview Guide for Recidivist children

Part I: Background information

Date of interview _____ Starting Time: _____ Finishing Time: _____

1. Code No. _____
2. Sex _____
3. Age _____
4. Place of Birth _____
5. Education level (Grade) _____
6. With whom you used to live before you were arrested?
7. Family Statues
 - a. Single family, divorced, died, etc.
 - b. Education level
 - c. Economy
 - d. What do they do for their life (Livelihood)
 - e. Health
 - f. Family size

Part II: Factors that contributes to recidivism among children

1. How many times have you been confined and how long was your previous sentence?
2. What offences have you been convicted of in the past and current?
3. Do you have a history of alcohol/drug use? If yes, would you explain to me more?
4. Do you think any of your friends influenced you to commit a crime again after your last release? If so, how and why?
5. Did you join your family after your previous release? If so, would you explain your life experiences with your family to me? If not, why?
6. Can you explain to me the attitude of the community towards you upon your last release?
7. Did you receive any types of services/support from the correctional institution or other institutions like religious institutions and NGO after your previous release?
8. If you have something to add?

Part III: Lived Experience of children recidivists in the rehabilitation center

1. Can you tell me more about your normal routine in this correctional facility? I.e. from Monday-Sunday.
2. Can you narrate your relationship with other children in conflict with the law in rehabilitation?
3. Can you narrate your relationship with counselors and other staff in the rehabilitation?
4. Can you describe your relationship with your family members ever since you were brought to this corrections center?
5. How is the institution helping you in the re-socialization process?
6. How can the institution make your life profitable (productive) upon your release?
7. What challenges did you face in your previous rehabilitation time? And now?
8. What seems like your lived experience before you became custodial?
9. If you have something to add?

Thank you once again!

Key Informant’s interview guide

Dear respondent,

My name is Fiseha Abadi. I am a master degree student in a social work program from Addis Ababa University. Currently I am conducting my thesis on “Exploring Recidivism among Children in Conflict with the Law: the Case of Addis Ababa Women’s Children and Youth Affairs Rehabilitation Center for Children in Conflict with the Law”. The main objective of this interview is to explore the contributing factors for children in conflict with the law to reoffend their lived experience in the rehabilitation center and the challenges of the institution. Your answers to this interview are important to us and will be kept confidentially to be used only for this study. Your identity will not be revealed in any case. If you agree to take part in this study, you will do it voluntarily and there will not be any payment. Additionally, you are free to decline to answer for any question that you do not feel comfortable in answering it.

For any inquiry regarding this study, my full contact is listed below. My email address is fisehasabawi1991@gmail.com: You can also contact me at (+251) 912-460-300

No	Background Information	
1	Sex	
2	Position	
3	Qualification	
4	Service Year	
5	Date of interview _____ Starting Time: _____ Finishing Time: _____	

Part One: Interview with Correction Officers (head, registrar, police and management/finance/HR)

1. What do you know about the national, regional and international laws and policies concerning children in conflict with the law?
2. Can you give me some highlights about the general rehabilitation center conditions? Probe: organization structure, facilities, treatment of children with conflict in law, etc.

3. What is the most common type of crimes which are committed by recidivist children in conflict with the law?
4. Is there classification between children with conflict in law? Probe: Hardened and petty delinquents, repeat delinquents.
5. What are some of the rehabilitation programs for offenders in this rehabilitation center?
6. What do you think about the factors that lead children in conflict with the law to be a recidivist?
7. Do you think the number of recidivist children in conflict with the law increased or decreased? In what time interval do they become recidivists?
8. What has been done by the rehabilitation center to successfully reintegrate children with conflict in law into the community and avoid a relapse into crime? Probe: is there follow-up supervision and assistance after release?
9. Now tell me about the recruitment of treatment staff (health workers, social workers, sociologists, psychologists, and others).
10. What are the challenges of the institution in providing services for the children in conflict with the law?
11. If you have something to add?

Part Two: Interview with Treatment Staff (health workers, social workers, sociologists, psychologists, and others)

1. What do you know about the national, regional and international laws and policies concerning children in conflict with the law?
2. How are counseling and training planned/organized in this rehabilitation center? Is there a Needs/Risk assessment?
3. Which model or strategies have your institution implant for ameliorating children from their recidivist status
 - A. Cognitive behavioral therapy
 - B. Blueprints for Violence Prevention Initiative
 - C. Functional Family therapy
 - D. Multisystem Therapy
 - E. Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC)
 - F. Effective Practices in Community Supervision

4. In your opinion, to what extent is the guidance and counseling adequate to transform the character and perception of children with conflict in law life?
5. Do children in conflict with the law who are recidivist have special class to be in under custody in this rehabilitation center?
6. Is there special treatment given for children in conflict with the law who are recidivists?
7. What seems the social interaction of recidivist children in conflict with the law with other children in this rehabilitation center?
8. What seems the social interaction of recidivist children in conflict with the law with staff in this rehabilitation center?
9. In your experience, with regard to the recidivists, can you describe the various factors that seem to be contributing to their reoffending?
10. What do you think about the kind of measures that should be taken to minimize the number of children in conflict with the law who are recidivists?
11. What are the challenges of the institution in providing services for the children in conflict with the law?
12. If you have something to add?

Thank you once again!

Observation Checklist

No	Observed characteristics	Recidivist children in conflict with the law
1.	Interaction among other children in conflict with law in the rehabilitation center	
2.	Interaction with staff members of the rehabilitation	
3.	Availability of service and recreation center in the rehabilitation	
4.	Living condition and physical environment	
5.	Coping mechanisms of recidivist Children in conflict with the law	

Appendix II: Background Information of Key Informants

No	Sex	Age	Marital status	Profession/ position	Qualification	Period of service
1	Male	29	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Four years
2	Male	27	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Two years
3	Male	35	Married	Head	1 st Degree in Social work	Three years
4	Male	29	Single	Counselor	1 st Degree in Social work	Three years

አባሪ I: መሳሪያዎች

ውድመላሽ

ስሜፍስሃአባዲሲሆንበአዲስአበባዩንቨርሲቲሶሻልዎርከፕሮግራምየሁለተኛዲግሪተማሪነኝ።በአሁኑሰዓትየመመረቂያጽሑፌን

“ከህግጋርየሚጋጩህጻናትንደጋጋሚወንጀለኝነትመዳሰስ፡

በአዲስአበባሴቶች፣ህጻናትእናወጣቶችጉዳይከህግጋርየሚጋጩልጆችማረሚያማዕከልሁኔታ” ላይእየሰራሁነው።የዚህቃለ-መጠይቅዋናዓላማከህግጋርየሚጋጩልጆችበማረሚያማዕከሉበሚኖራቸውየቆይታጊዜላይቅሬታየሚፈጥሩምከንደቶችእናየተቋሙንተግዳሮቶችለመዳሰስነው።ለዚህቃለ-

መጠይቅየምትሰጠው/ጨውምላሾችጠቃሚእናሚስጥራዊነታቸውምበጥብቅየሚጠበቅሲሆኑለዚህጥናትአላማብቻየሚውሉይሆናል።ስምህ/ሽበምንምአይነትመልኩአይጠቀስም።በዚህየምርምርስራረመሳተፍከተሰማማህ/ሽበፍቃደኝነትየምታደርገው/ጊው እናምንምአይነትየገንዘብክፍያአይኖረውም።ለመመለስምችትያልተሰማህን/ሽንየትኛውንምጥያቄያለመመለስወይምከምርምሩበሙሉየመውጣትነጻነትአለህ/ሽ።

ስለዚህጥናትማንኛውምጥያቄቢኖርህ/ሽእኔን፣ተቆጣጣሪየንወይንምይህጥናትእንዲካሄድፈቃድየሰጠውንየአዲስአበባዩንቨርሲቲ ሶሻልዎርከትምህርትክፍልለማግኘትነጻነትይሰማህ/ሽ።የኢሜልአድራሻየ fisehasabawi1991@gmail.com ሲሆንበስልክቁጥር(+251) 912-460-300 ልታገኘኝ/ኚኝትችያለሽ።

ስለትብብርህ/ሽአስቀድሜአመሰግናለሁ !

ለደጋጋሚወንጀለኛህጻናትየጥልቅቃለ-መጠየቅመመሪያ

ክፍል I: የኋላመረጃ

የቃለ-መጠየቅቀን ----- የተጀመረበትሰዓት ----- ያለቀበትሰዓት -----

1. የኮድቁጥር -----
2. ጾታ -----
3. እድሜ -----
4. የትውልድቦታ -----
5. የትምህርትደረጃ (ክፍል) -----
6. ከመታሰርህ/ሽበፊትከማንጋርትኖር/ሪነበር?
7. የቤተሰብሁኔታ
 - ሀ. አንድብቻወላጅ፣የተፋቱ፣የሞቱ፣ወዘተ
 - ለ. የትምህርትደረጃ
 - ሐ. ኢኮኖሚ (የገንዘብአቅም)

መ. የሚሰሩት ስራ (የገቢ ምንጭ)

ሠ. የጤንነት ሁኔታ

ረ. የቤተሰብ ብዛት

ክፍል II: ህጻናት ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስርዓት ላይ ሆኑ አስተዋጽኦ የሚያደርጉ ምክንያቶች

1. ለምን ያህል ጊዜ ታስረሃል/ሻል? ያለፈው አስርህ/ሽለምን ያህል ጊዜ ነበር?
2. በባለፈው እና አሁን በምን ጥፋቶች ነበር የተፈረደብህ/ሽ?
3. አልኮል ወይም እጽዮም ጠቀም ታሪክ አለህ/ሽ? አዎ ከሆነትን ሽታብራራልኝ/ሪልኝ?
4. ባለፈው ከተፈታህ/ሽ በኋላ ድጋሚ ወንጀል እንድትፈጽም/ሚጓደኞችህ/ሽ ተጽዕኖ ያደረጉብህ/ሽ ይመስልሃል/ሻል? አዎ ከሆነ እንዴት እናለምን?
5. ባለፈው ከተፈታህ/ሽ በኋላ ከቤተሰብህ/ሽ ጋር ተቀላቅለህ/ሽ ነበር? ከሆነ ከቤተሰብህ/ሽ ጋር የነበረህን/ሽን ቆይታ ልትነግረኝ/ሪኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ? ካልሆነ ስለምን?
6. ባለፈው ከተፈታህ/ሽ በኋላ የአካባቢው ማህበረሰብ ለአንተ/ቼ የነበረውን አመለካከት ልታብራራልኝ/ሪልኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ?
7. ባለፈው ከተፈታህ/ሽ በኋላ ከማረሚያ ተቋሙ ወይም ከሃይማኖት ተቋማት እና መንግስታዊ ካልሆኑ ድርጅቶች ያገኘኸው/ሽ ውጫዎች ምን ዓይነት ድጋፍ ተቀብለህ/ሽ ነበር?
8. የምትጨምረው/ሪው ነገር ካለ?

ክፍል III: ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስርዓት በማረሚያ ተቋሙ ያላቸው የአኗኗር ሁኔታ

1. በማረሚያ ተቋሙ በመደበኛነት በየቀኑ ማለት ምክንያት አሁን ድምጽ ያደርገውን/ሪውን ልትነግረኝ/ሪኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ?
2. ከሌሎች በማረሚያ ተቋሙ ካሉ ከህግ ጋር ጠቅላይ ህጻናት ጋር ያለህን/ሽን ግንኙነት በዝርዝር ልታስረዳኝ/ሪኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ?
3. በማረሚያ ተቋሙ ካሉ የምክር አገልግሎት ከሚሰጡ ባለሙያዎች እና ሌሎች ሰራተኞች ጋር ያለህን/ሽን ግንኙነት በዝርዝር ልታስረዳኝ/ሪኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ?
4. ወደ ዚህ የማረሚያ ተቋም ከገባህ/ሽ በኋላ ከቤተሰብ አባላቶችህ ጋር ያለህን/ሽን ግንኙነት ልትገልጽልኝ/ሪልኝት ትችላለህ/ያለሽ?
5. ተቋሙ ወደ ማህበረሰቡ እንደ ገና በመቀላቀሉ ሂደት እንዴት እየረዳህ/ሽ ነው?
6. በምትፈታበት/ቼ በትጊዜ ተቋሙ ህይወትህን/ሽን እንዴት ጠቃሚ (ውጤታማ) ሊያደርገው ይችላል?
7. ከዚህ በፊት በታሰርክበት/ሽ በትሰዳት ያጋጠመህ/ሽ ግዳሮች ምን ነበሩ? እንዴት?
8. እዚህ ከመታሰርህ/ሽ በፊት የነበረህ/ሽ ህይወት ምን ይመስል ነበር?
9. የምትጨምረው/ሪው ነገር ካለ?

በድጋሚ አመሰግናለሁ!

የቁልፍ መረጃ ሰጪዎች ቃለ-መጠየቅ መመሪያ

ውድመላሽ

ስሜፍስሃአባዲሲሆንበአዲስአበባዩንቨርሲቲሶሻልዎርከፕሮግራምየሁለተኛዲግሪተማሪነኝ። በአሁኑሰዓትየመመረቂያጽሑፌን

“ከህግጋርየሚጋጩህጻናትንደጋጋሚወንጀለኝነትመዳሰስ፡

በአዲስአበባሴቶች፣ህጻናትእናወጣቶችጉዳይከህግጋርየሚጋጩልጆችማረሚያማዕከልሁኔታ” ላይእየሰራሁነው። የዚህቃለ-መጠይቅዋናዓላማከህግጋርየሚጋጩልጆችበማረሚያማዕከሉበሚኖራቸውየቆይታጊዜላይቅሬታየሚፈጥሩምከንያቶችንእናየተቋሙንተግዳሮቶችለመዳሰስነው። ለዚህቃለ-

መጠይቅየምትሰጠው/ጨውምላሾችጠቃሚእናሚስጥራዊነታቸውምበጥብቅየሚጠበቅሲሆኑለዚሁጥናትአላማብቻየሚውሉይሆናል። ስምህ/ሽበምንምአይነትመልኩአይጠቀስም። በዚህየምርምርስራላመሳተፍከተስማማህ/ሽበፍቃድኝነትየምታደርገው/ጊው እናምንምአይነትየገንዘብክፍያአይኖረውም። ለመመለስምቶትያልተሰማህን/ሽንየትኛውንምጥያቄያለመመለስወይምከምርምሩበሙሉየመውጣትነጻነትአለህ/ሽ።

ስለዚህጥናትማንኛውምጥያቄቢኖርህ/ሽእኔን፣ተቆጣጣሪየንወይንምይህጥናትእንዲካሄድፈቃድየሰጠውንየአዲስአበባዩንቨርሲቲሶሻልዎርከትምህርትክፍልለማግኘትነጻነትይሰማህ/ሽ። የኢሜልአድራሻ fisehasabawi1991@gmail.com ሲሆንበስልክቁጥር(+251) 912-460-300 ልታገኘኝ/ኚኝትችያለሽ።

ስለትብብርህ/ሽአስቀድሜአመሰግናለሁ !

ተ. ቁ	የኋላመረጃ
1	ጾታ
2	ሙያ/ሃላፊነት
3	የትምህርትደረጃ
4	የስራልምድ (በአመት)
5	የቃለ-መጠየቅቀን _____ የተጀመረበትሰዓት: _____ ያለቀበትሰዓት: _____

ክፍል

I:

ከእርማት መኮንኖች ጋር ቃለ-

መጠይቅ (ኃላፊ፣ መዝገብ ቤት፣ ፖሊስ እና ማናጅ መንገት/ፋይናንስ/ሰው ሃብት አስተዳደር)

1. ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ልጆችን በተመለከተ ያሉ አገራዊ፣ አህጉራዊ፣ እና አለም አቀፋዊ ህጎች እና ፖሊሲዎች ምን ዓይነት ጥያቄዎችን ያሳያሉ?
2. ሰለማረ ሚያተቋሙ አጠቃላይ ሁኔታ የተወሰነ ማብራሪያ ሊሰጠኝ ይችላል? ማለትም - ሰለተቋማዊ አወቃቀር፣ ሰላሉት አገልግሎቶች፣ ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ልጆች አያያዝ፣ ወዘተ.
3. ከህግ ጋር በሚጋጩ ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስር ልጆች የሚፈጸሙ የተለመዱ የወንጀል አይነቶች የትኞቹ ናቸው?
4. ከህግ ጋር በሚጋጩ ልጆች መካከል አከፋፈል አለ? ማለትም - አደገኛ እና ተራ አጥፊዎች፣ ደጋጋሚ አጥፊዎች
5. በሚረገዙ የተቋሙ ለአጥፊ ወንጀል ስር ልጆች የሚሰጡ የሚረገዙ ፕሮግራሞች የትኞቹ ናቸው?
6. ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ልጆች ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስር እንዲሆኑ ስለሚገፉ ተግባራዊ ምክንያቶች ምን ዓይነት ናቸው?
7. ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስር ልጆች ቁጥር እየቀነሰ ወይስ እየጨመረ ነው? በለው ያስባሉ? በምን ዓይነት ሁኔታዎች ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስር ሆኖታል?
8. ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ልጆች ከማህበረሰቡ ጋር በድጋሚ በጥሩ ሁኔታ እንዲሞላ እና ድጋሚ ወደ ወንጀል እንዳይገቡ በሚረገዙ የተቋሙ ምን ዓይነት ስራዎች ተሰርተዋል? ማለትም - ከዚህ ከወጡ በኋላ ክትትል እና ድጋፍ አለ?
9. እስኪሰጡ ድረስ ማህበረሰቡ ተቆጣጥሮ ለመላምን እንደሚመስል ይነገሩኝ (የጤና ባለሙያዎች፣ ሶሻል ወርከሮች፣ ሶሶሎጂስቶች፣ ሳይኮሎጂስቶች፣ እና ሌሎችም)
10. ተቋሙ ከህግ ጋር ለሚጋጩ ልጆች አገልግሎት ለመስጠት ተግዳሮት የሆኑ በትንገሮች ምን ዓይነት ናቸው?
11. የሚጨምሩት ነገር ካለ?

ክፍል

II:

ከእንክብካቤ ሰጪ ባለሙያዎች ጋር ቃለ-

መጠይቅ (የጤና ባለሙያዎች፣ ሶሻል ወርከሮች፣ ሶሶሎጂስቶች፣ ሳይኮሎጂስቶች፣ እና ሌሎችም)

1. ከህግ ጋር የሚጋጩ ልጆችን በተመለከተ ያሉ አገራዊ፣ አህጉራዊ፣ እና አለም አቀፋዊ ህጎች እና ፖሊሲዎች ምን ዓይነት ጥያቄዎችን ያሳያሉ?
2. በተሃድሶተቋሙ የምክር አገልግሎት እና ስልጠና እንዴት ነው የሚታቀዱት/የሚዘጋጁት? የአስፈላጊነት/ግምገማ ደረጃ?
3. ደጋጋሚ ወንጀል ስር ልጆች ከዚህ ባህሪ ያቸው እንዲሻሻሉ ተቋማት ሁሉም የተገቡ ተግባራት ምን ዓይነት ናቸው/ስትራቴጂዎች ምን ዓይነት ናቸው?
 - ሀ. የአዕምሯዊና ባህሪ ያዊ ስነ-ልቦናዊ ህክምና (Cognitive behavioral therapy)
 - ለ. የረብሻ መከላከል ተሳታፊነት ንድፍ (ዕቅድ) (Blueprints for Violence Prevention Initiative)
 - ሐ. ቤተሰብ ተኮር የምክር ህክምና (Functional Family therapy)
 - መ. መልካ-በዙህክ ህክምና (Multisystem Therapy)

ተ.ቁ	የሚታዩባህሪያት	ከህግጋር የሚጋጨደጋጋሚ ወንጀለኛ ልጆች
1.	ከሌሎች በማዕከሉ ካሉ ከህግጋር የሚጋጨደጋጋሚ ልጆች ጋር ያላቸው መስተጋብር/ግንኙነት	
2.	ከማዕከሉ ስራተኞች ጋር ያላቸው መስተጋብር/ግንኙነት	
3.	አገልግሎት እና መዘናኛዎች በተቋሙ መኖር	
4.	የአኗኗር ሁኔታ እና ከባቢ	
5.	ከህግጋር የሚጋጨደጋጋሚ ወንጀለኛ ልጆች የመቋቋሚያ መንገድ/ዘዴ	

Appendix III - Letter of Declaration

I, the undersigned, declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a

degree in any other university, and that all sources of materials used for the thesis has been duly acknowledged.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Place: _____

Date of Submission: _____

This thesis have been submitted for examination with my approval as the Thesis advisor

Name: _____

Signature: _____