

FACTORS AFFECTING CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS RESPONSE TO ADDRESSING
CHILD MALTREATMENT IN ARADA SUB CITY OF ADDIS ABABA CITY
ADMINISTRATION

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DECLARATION

I the under signed, declare that; my thesis has not been previously submitted for the fulfillment of any academic qualification in the university. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the thesis entails no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AA	-	Addis Ababa
AAU	-	Addis Ababa University
ACPF	-	Africa Child Policy Forum
ACRWC	-	The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
AU	-	Africa Union
BOWCYA	-	Women Children & Youth Affairs Bureau
CBO	-	Community Based Organizations
CLPC	-	Children Legal Protection Center
CP: -	-	Child Protection
CRC	-	Convention on the Rights the Child
EWLA	-	Ethiopia Women Lawyers Association
FDRE	-	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FFIC	-	Federal First Instance Court
FGM	-	Female Genital Mutilation
FHC	-	Federal High Court

FSC	-	Federal Supreme Court
GO	-	Governmental Organization
HIV/AIDS	-	Human Immuno Deficiency Virus/ Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
ICCPR	-	International Covenant on Civil & Political rights
ICESCR	-	International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
ILO	-	International Labour Organization
MOWCYA	-	Ministry of Women, Children & Youth Affairs
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
OPRIFS	-	Organization for Prevention Rehabilitation & Integration
UDHR	-	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	-	United Nations
UNCRC	-	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	-	The United Nations Children's fund

Abstract

The general objective of this study is to understand child protection systems opportunities and challenges in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Hence, concrete evidences are provided to GOs, NGOs & UN agencies for nationwide child protection system strengthening initiatives. A qualitative research design was used. Key informant interview, individual stories and focus group discussion and document review were used to collect the data. The research was targeted different community members (parents, teachers, community representative) and institutions (law enforcing bodies, schools, NGOs and GOs) in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa City Administration. In order to select the participant of the research Purposive sampling techniques was employed. This study revealed that still thousands of children in Arada sub city who need various services are unattended by both formal and informal systems due to poor coordination and collaboration between them. In addition to these, the study showed that there is a clear disconnect between the formal and informal systems that are believed to contributing positively for the protection of children. Finally, the research concluded that the major factors for dys-functioning of the existing systems both in governmental and non-governmental organizations including CBO's are lack of common platforms that could bring together all child protection actors to collectively act against challenges and maximizing their good practices to benefit children.

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Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

The government of Ethiopia has been undertaken a series of measures to deal with issues related to violence against women and children in the country. The country has not only signed & ratified the UNCRC, the ACRWC and other human rights instruments, but it has also put in place a constitution that strongly upholds the rights of children.

A number of legislative and policy instruments have also been introduced including those that aim to address violence against children, harmful traditional practices, child justice and other child protection issues. The government has established a national multi-sectorial and integrated strategy on prevention and response to violence against children and a National strategy on the prevention of Harmful Traditional Practices was adopted.

The government also prohibited violence against children in its constitution and other national laws on top of ratifying relevant international human rights instruments. A regulation where corporal punishment is prohibited in schools has been enacted and the criminal code of the country criminalizes harmful traditional practices such as child marriage and FGM. According to the report of CP Working Groups, (2015); Specialised investigation, prosecution and adjudication mechanisms in the form of child protection units, and child friendly benches have been made operational and there are plans to establish additional centres and a hotline to address in a comprehensive manner issues related to violence against women and children in the country. The country has recently introduced a step that moves the country towards a more systemic approach to child protection by setting up one

stop centre for child victims of violence. The centre provide multi-sectoral services under the same roof, roof including clinical and medical services, education and shelter, psychosocial counselling services and access to judicial remedies.

Violence against children at home, at school and in the community is extremely common. Every year approximately one billion children around the world experience some form of violence (Susan, H. 2016). Children with disabilities make up at least 93 million children worldwide and they are even more vulnerable to violence than their peers without disabilities (WHO, 2011).

1.2 Rationales & Statement of the Problem

Almost two decades have been passed since the international legal frame work (UNCRC) has been signed by many state actors to reduce the plight of children across the globe. Regardless of these efforts, the problems of children are the main agenda in international platforms and some additional protocol have been also initiated by different stakeholders like the ILO convention of 182, about the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, the optional protocols like the involvement of children in armed conflict, the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. When we come to the specific targeted sub city of this study location, research evidence on child sexual abuse incidence in Ethiopia is scarce. Despite this, the rate of reports accentuates serious concern. A cross sectional study conducted in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa identified sexual abuse prevalence rate of 38.5% among the general public out of which 29% were committed by victims family members and 68% of them were victimized by adults the children new (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov accessed on: 10/12/2016)

In addition to the above facts and figures, different studies/researches conducted at international, regional and country levels showed that due to different factors of social, economic and political crisis that have been happening in the world the plight of children is the main agenda in international platforms and still skyrocketing beyond that one could imagined.

Similarly, based on the specific cultures, traditions even political systems of a given country the perception of child abuse has different nature & responses, too. In Archand (1999) study the term “Child abuse” is widely used and the lack of specificity in its definition generally ignored. The lack of clarity has contributed to the use of emotive images of children by various charities for fund raising appeals. Many literatures strongly acknowledge the difference of culture with in the larger communities, however, argued that these differences of cultures do not create any different stands about child abuse, meaning they all oppose it. According to Bross DC (2000) different cultures have different rules about what are acceptable parenting practices. Some researchers have suggested that views of child rearing across cultures might diverge to such an extent that agreement on what practices are abusive or neglectful may be extremely difficult to reach. Nonetheless, differences in how culture defines what is abusive have more to do with emphasizing particular aspects of parental behavior. It appears that there is a general agreement across many cultures that child abuse could not be allowed and virtual unanimity in this respect where very harsh disciplinary practices and sexual abuse are concerned.

Due to the culture and people perception towards abuse, some abuse cases are considered simple, even if it has a damaging effect on children later life. Jibril Jemal (2012) child sexual abuse, using children for sexual gratification of adult is a criminal act committed

against children which probably is one of the least acknowledged and least explored forms of child abuse in Ethiopia. In Ethiopia and elsewhere, children are highly exposed for abuse, neglect and exploitation but some abuses are highly gender stratified. A research conducted by Debebe Ero & Azeb Admasu (2015) explained about 7.5 million children are estimated to be found in Ethiopia most of the children have no educational opportunities. Because, they are engaged in child labour, girls are more vulnerable than boys and they represent 54% of the out of school population. Girls work in the household, agricultural work and home based work is often vital for survival, although their work is largely invisible and unvalued.

Study by ACPF (2015) in Ethiopia in 2001 a survey by the Ministry of Labour & Social affairs, the central statistics Agency and the ILO showed that about 84% of the country children are engaged in activities that may be regarded as child labour. The survey found that 52 % of children are involved in productive activities, more than 80% of them (12.6 Million) below the age of 15 years. Almost 90% of them come from the rural areas. More girls than boys do housekeeping work and more boys than girls participate in income generating activities. The case of child domestic workers deserves particular attention. Female child domestic workers have the longest working hours more than 49 hours a week, and higher in Addis Ababa. The abuse of children is a broad range in nature from physical extends to emotional abuse. Vaibhave, G. (2009) conducted a research that, psychological and emotional abuses consist primarily of verbal behavior that terrorizes, humiliates or demeans the victim. Depriving children of normal contact with other persons is a form of psychological abuse. According to article 19 of CRC states parties are required to protect children not only from psychical abuse but also other forms of abuse including psychological. Psychological punishment like insults, shouting and making threats are

common in Ethiopia and community leader's parents and teachers consider psychological punishment less harmful to children. International office of migration (IOM) estimates that at least 1.2 million children and women between the ages of 8-24 years are victims of trafficking in the country every year. They are most vulnerable to abuses, exploitation and violence. A research conducted recently also indicates that over a quarter of nearly 50,000 women and children involved in prostitution are victims of trafficking (www.africanchildinfo.net accessed on 6/20/2016). Therefore, the purpose of this research is to understand how child protection systems are operating in Arada sub city and providing sound and workable recommendations to further strengthening the child protection system responses in relation with ensuring the best interest of the child complying with the country commitment towards to the international and national standards.

Based on the community child rearing practices and the culture that I have been socialized and decade of experiences working at different levels in the area of child protection, Ethiopians long traditions of upbringing of children have mixed approaches of good and bad which inclines to disfavoring of ensuring the best interest of the child. Traditional practices, poverty, lack of awareness and lack of political commitments exacerbate the plight of Ethiopian children in both urban and rural settings and children in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa are not exceptional of facing these kinds of abuse, neglect and exploitation. Due to these facts, child focused NGO's, CBO's GO's, UN agencies and other child rights activist groups have played major roles to create a safe haven for children. Despite all these efforts, millions of Ethiopians children still are suffering under different maltreatments (abuse, neglect & exploitation). These paradoxes and other child protection concerns in the sub city triggered my interest as a basis (rationales) to conduct this study.

Violence against girls and boys remains unacceptably high: despite over all progress in legal reform, development and implementation policies and programs, children in Ethiopia are still subjected to unacceptably high levels of physical, emotional and sexual violence. Almost half of children in Ethiopia (50%), experienced physical punishment from family members. Fifty three per cent of children (53%) reported having experienced mental violence. Three in four girls in Ethiopia have experienced genital cutting (ACPF, 2014).

Weak implementation and enforcement laws and policies: the apparent gaps in implementation and enforcement are primarily because of two critical steps that give meaning to the statutory frame work in translating the provisions to the reality of an individual girl and boy child were not followed up. The first serious deficit highlighted is the weakness in permeating legislation to the work of institutions and shape the training and ethical standards of the professionals working with and for children. Second is the lack of funding for the overall child protection system, particularly to the child protection structures, programs and services in the different sectors impeding the efforts in narrowing the gap between existence of laws and policies and their enforcement/implementation. Implementation and enforcement also need to be supported by awareness raising and social mobilization initiatives, for the public at large and children in particular. Hence, it is crucial that both national governments and civil society actors pay attention to these critical gaps and do more to protect the basic rights of the most vulnerable children (MOWCYA & UNICEF, 2012).

Weak Capacity for overall oversight of the System and Coordination: the capacity of the Ministry of Women and Children, core Ministry responsible for the coordination and

supervision of the national child protection system to design, implement, monitor and evaluate initiatives within and across sectors limited (MOWCYA & UNICEF, 2012).

Limited Sectoral and Stakeholders Coordination: coordination and referral appear to be the weakest points in the child protection system. The formation of vertical and horizontal linkages is limited in number and scope. This gap is particularly critical in the following areas: prevention programs that are linked with social protection measures aimed at empowering families and communities as well as provision of coordinated psychosocial and legal services. **Weak Capacity of social workforce:** the knowledge, skills, attitude and behaviors of the social workforce to establish standard of practice and build capacity for initiating and sustaining a process of individual and institutional change for better child protection outcome is limited (MOWCYA & UNICEF, 2012).

Despite all the above shortfalls and the encouraging progress in advancing the rights of children, there are additional challenges that stand in the way of the full protection of children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. These include, among others, poor co-ordination and the predominant emphasis on vertical, issue-based programming, human resource and budgetary constraints, limited focus on prevention and little emphasis to the protection rights of vulnerable groups of children. For instance, the relevant ministries in Ethiopia working on child protection are plagued by capacity challenges. In a country where children account for more than 50% of the population, the existing core ministries are overstretched and their efforts are thinned out. For instance, both directorates responsible for children and women, within the Ministry of Women & Children, are understaffed, and the budget for the ministry has been totally inadequate. The implications of this severe capacity constraint on programming and programme implementation is huge, which include,

among others: very few attempts are made to document and analyse the situation of children in the country, very few children in need are reached out, service provision for children relied on donors and NGOs raising concerns around sustainability.

There is also the challenge related to fragmented, issue-focused, vertical child protection programming and poor inter-sectoral co-ordination. There is poor co-ordination amongst the ministries primarily responsible for child protection issues, namely the Ministry of Women, children and Youth Affairs, the Ministry of justice and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Even weaker is the co-ordination amongst these core sectors with other allied sectors such as Ministry of Education, Health, Finance, NGO's and the informal system of community based organization. As is the case in most countries, Ethiopia's child protection response falls far short of a preventive focus. A lot remains to be done to ensure that prevention is taken as much seriously as response and remedial actions. All these problems are highlighted due to lack of coordination between the formal and the informal systems still thousands of children are suffering from different abuse, neglect and exploitation and this research will look in to how these two systems are functioning and responding the child protection issues in Arada sub city and aims to make recommendations on better ways of co-ordination and harmony both horizontally within the various government sectors and vertically with other child protection actors, including informal child protection actors. Over recent years there has been a growing recognition of the limitations of a fragmented approach to child protection which traditionally focused on specific child protection issue (World Vision, 2011). Therefore, the highly overlooked system strengthening which is also an infant stage in Ethiopia will get much emphasis by both systems to work together to achieve the bigger goal of creating a safe haven for children wherever they are.

The lack of coordination and collaboration between the formal and informal systems is believed to be the reason for the ever-increasing maltreatment of children in Arada sub-city administration. When these systems working together it paves the way for the different actors to look in to a holistic approach and also allows all stakeholders to simultaneously address the complex economic, social and political environment that affect the child wellbeing. The study aims to generate evidence around existing child protection concerns in Arada sub-city and corresponding responses. It examines the extent to which existing child protection responses are addressing the important aspect of prevention and the extent to which the various actors are working together in dealing with violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. This study will analyse Child Protection Systems and its opportunities and challenges in Arada Sub City of Addis Ababa. The study also documents any good practices in child protection, including any success stories in ensuring multi-sectoral co-ordination and harmony. Based on the evidence, the study will make concrete, contextually-relevant recommendations towards a unified, comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to addressing issues related to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. By so doing the study will create a common understanding around a systems approach to child protection and what it takes to put such a comprehensive, multi-sectoral mechanism in place to address child protection issues in the Arada sub-city and potentially in other sub-cities.

1.3 Objective of the study

General Objective:

The general objective of this research is to clearly investigate & identify
Child Protection Systems opportunities and challenges In Arada Sub City of Ethiopia

Specific Objectives:

- ❖ What gaps and challenges of child protection system responses exist in Arada sub city
- ❖ What major focuses and scope of existing child protection responses and interventions in Arada sub-city
- ❖ What are the existing strengths of child protection system in Arada sub-city
- ❖ What are the possible recommendations in improving the coordination and collaboration of formal and the informal systems in Arada sub-city.

1.4 Research questions

These research questions are designed to show how the child protection systems both the formal and informal are functioning in Arada sub city and expected to show the existing challenges and opportunities to advance the rights and protection of children.

- ❖ How do communities understand the existing laws and policies related with child protection in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia?
- ❖ What services and mechanisms are existing to provide protection for children in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia?
- ❖ How do you see the capacities of different institutions (human & financial) in responding CP issues in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia
- ❖ What are the formal and informal systems roles for dealing with cases of violence in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia?
- ❖ Are the CP actors (police, communities, etc) accountable for CP issues in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia?

- ❖ How is the social environment in responding to child protection concerns (Circle of Care) in Arada sub city of Addis Ababa Ethiopia?

1.5 Definition of Basic Terms

At first I would like to define who a child is? A child is any human being below the age of 18; article 1 (UNCRC, 1989).

In different academic literature and discourses that takes into account the economic, social and political backgrounds of individuals and institutions, scores of definitions of abuse, neglect and exploitation have been given and for this study I preferred the definition of the following: According to Diana J. English (1998) defines child maltreatment in four different types:

Physical abuse:

An act of commission by a caregiver that results or is likely to result in physical harm, including death of a child, Spanking, stabbing, or punching of a child. Spanking a child is usually considered a disciplinary action, although it can be classified as abusive if the child is or injured.

Sexual abuse:

An act of commission, including intrusion or penetration, molestation with genital contact, or other forms of sexual acts in which children are used to provide sexual gratification for the perpetrator. This type of abuse also includes acts such as sexual exploitation and child pornography.

Neglect:

An act of omission by a parent or care giver that involves refusal or delay in providing health care, failure to provide basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, affection, and attention, inadequate supervision, or abandonment. This failure to act holds true for both physical and emotional neglect.

Emotional abuse:

An act of commission or omission that includes rejecting, isolating, terrorizing, ignoring, or corrupting a child. Examples of emotional abuse are confinement, verbal abuse, withholding sleep, food , or shelter, exposing a child to domestic violence, allowing a child to engage in substance abuse or criminal activity, refusing to provide psychological care, and other inattention that results in harm or potential harm to a child. An important component of emotional or psychological abuse is that it must be sustained and repetitive.

Violence:

According to UN study (2006) definition of violence draws on article 19 of the convention on the Rights of the Child: “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury and abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse”.

Similarly, WHO Report (2002) defines as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against a child, by an individual or group that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity. Violence can be committed by individual or by the state as well as

group and organizations through their members and their policies. It results not only in fear of or actual injury but also in fundamental interference with personal freedom.

Chapter Two

Literature Review and Theoretical Perspectives

Since the scientific research introduced and the issue of children became an agenda various literatures have been published to amplify the problem of children at different platforms.

Hence, this research paper has been reviewed different literatures that have a direct linkage with the research topic to picture the different views and perspectives of researchers towards child protection.

2.1 What Constitutes a Child Protection System?

There is no currently internationally recognized or agreed definition of a system approach. However, based on the emerging consensus in the sector, Plan International defines as: A comprehensive, interactive and sustainable series of functions and structures including laws, policies and services (at all levels) within a country with the purpose of preventing and responding to all forms of violence against all children in the country. The definition recognizes that both formal and informal elements make up a child protection system and that to be truly effective, a range of different actors and components need to work together, in a coordinated and complementary manner to ensure consistent, predictable and effective protection for children (Plan Global strategy, 2015-2020).

2.2 The Building Blocks of a Child Protection System

The child protection system encompasses a cycle of preventive, protection and response mechanisms. Ideally, government bodies should be accountable for ensuring that these services are available, as well as for standard setting so that they are appropriately delivered and such services can be assessed and improved. At an organizational level, a child protection system requires building blocks to ensure that the system is possible. The child protection systems mandates the provision of specific capacities such as human resources, funding and infrastructure which can be utilized appropriately to help achieve the goals of the system, and hence ensure children are not harmed and are protected in all settings. This will require strengthening these building blocks of the child protection system which are essentially the human resources, communications and data handling, services, financial resources as well as stewardship. Strengthening these building blocks will lead to better prevention, protection and response to violence against children and eventually better outcome for them (A call to action,2013).

2.3 Country Initiatives on Alternative Child Care Guidelines.

It is very clear that since the pandemic HIV/AIDS revealed the number of children being orphaned and living in the street without parental care are increased in very exponential rate. This alarming number makes the situation of orphans and other vulnerable children a burning issue which needs urgent solution. In order to address this challenge MoLSA in collaboration with Italian Development Cooperation developed Alternative Childcare Guideline in 2001 as part of the interventions to alleviate the problems of children under difficult circumstances in the country. The guideline consists of services on

institutional care, community based child support programs, adoption, foster care and child family reunification.

In 2008 the Ministry of Women's Affairs revised the guideline on alternative child care program in order to update the guideline and ensure the smooth and efficient implementation of the minimum conditions of care to children by all actors in the alternative childcare system. The revised guideline took in to account the four basic principles of the UNCRC, which emphasizes on the best interest of the child, non-discrimination, survival and development of the child and child participation.

According to this guideline the government is responsible to provide appropriate non- institutional alternative care to children who are temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment with or through government and other duly authorized institutions in accordance with its national laws. The government has the obligation to ensure the safety, wellbeing and development of children who are receiving alternative care. As the result a state shall:

- ❖ Assure to the child who is capable of forming his/her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child.
- ❖ Assure the views of the child are being given due weigh in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.
- ❖ If it recognizes and/or permits the system of adoption, ensure that the best interest of the child shall be the paramount consideration.

- ❖ Recognize that inter-country adoption may be considered as an alternative means of childcare, if the child cannot be placed in a foster or adoptive family or cannot in any suitable manner to be cared for in the child's country of origin.
- ❖ Accord special protection to orphans and shall encourage the establishment of institutions which ensure and promote their adoption and advance their welfare and education.
- ❖ In all actions concerning children undertaken by public and private welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies the primary considerations shall be the best interest of the child.

The guideline provides five alternative childcare guidelines; community based childcare, reunification and reintegration program, foster care, adoption and institutional care service (FDRE: MOW, 2009)

Community Based Child Care

Community based child care approach is used to mobilize the community, its resources and indigenous knowledge with ultimate goal of addressing the needs and rights of orphans and other vulnerable children in order to ensure their sustainable and healthy growth and development within a given community (Ibid)

Reunification and Reintegration Program

Reuniting children separated from their parents/relatives due to natural or manmade catastrophe with their birth families or relatives is a widely recognized practice as a primary

alternative against residential care and other out home child welfare service. The main objective of child reunification program is to restore child family ties by reuniting the child with biological parents or extended family members (Ibid).

Foster Care

Foster care refers to short term or long term care within the private house of foster families mainly addressing those children who are unable to live with their biological parents and families. The overall objective of foster care service is to secure a substitute and temporary familial environment for orphans and vulnerable children on a temporary basis, until a child is reunified with his/her extended family or placed in other permanent alternative childcare program (Ibid).

Adoption

Another alternative would be adoption: its main purpose is to cater for the proper care and development of orphans and destitute children by placing them in a substitute and suitable familial environment (Ibid).

Institutional Care:

Institutional child care service is widely accepted to be used as a short term alternative care strategy and only as a last resort when all other types of child care options have exhausted. This is because according to different researches, placing children in institutions has an impact on children's development, vulnerability to abuse within institutional settings and high operational cost that institutional care often requires. It also makes it harder for a child to assimilate back in to the community and deny him/her access to the lifelong

attachment and community support system that family relations and communities can provide (Ibid).

2.4 Challenges Facing Child Protection

Even if the forms and types and the triggering factors are different, issues of child protection have been challenged by social, economic and political factors across the globe. However, when it comes to less developed countries like Ethiopia the plight of children are tremendous due to various reasons like poverty, lack of political commitment for signed and ratified human rights instruments mainly UNCRC and HIV/AIDS epidemic that lets many children to be orphaned and the age long traditional practices that gives less attention for children, that ultimately downgraded the best interest of the child.

According to Lachman Peter (2002), poverty can be both financial and psychological, and this affects the effect of prevention programs. In many African and Asian countries, the AIDS pandemic has changed the social structure of society with AIDS orphans and children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS becoming more common. The impact has devastating effects on the way we view child protection and in particular child sexual abuse. The consequence of post – traumatic stress resulting from war needs to be addressed, and the development of programs that place children in the center of relief programs to foster a culture of child protection is essential. Global debt is now a major issue in many less developed countries. The poverty that faces the population of Africa negates against any realistic prospect of effective child protection services being developed. Most of these countries do not have the resources for child protection. Child labor continues to be an issue. The richness of African culture and the inherent value placed on a child – centered

family life can be an example to other more industrialized societies. Yet this richness that sustains children under the most trying circumstances is being threatened by the existence of poverty, starvation, and preventable diseases including HIV/AIDS, war, and child labor.

Almost 196 countries have been signed and ratified the different human right instruments mainly UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child), irrespective of signing and ratifying this convention different countries especially in Africa responds their commitment in different ways by amending their country laws in compliance with the UNCRC and allocating of budgets to implement the convention.

Many children in Africa are denied their right to growth and development due to inadequate health and nutrition. Africa children are still dying from preventable causes such as malaria, malnutrition and diarrhea, largely due to limited access to food and water, sanitation and hygiene. Commitment to children participation in the decision that affect them- as a right itself and as means to develop and implement more effective policies and programmes for children – is inadequate in Africa. Many countries are engaging in innovative and deliberate efforts to engage and consult children, of which the most effective those that are integrated in to institutional structures and mechanisms, thereby making child participation more accountable. However, greater efforts are required to overcome the general lack of commitment that impedes these processes (ACPF, 2013).

2.5 Issues around Child Maltreatment

Children living in less developed countries like Ethiopia coupled with long aged traditional practices that give less attention to children, the degree of maltreatment in

relation with physical, emotional and sexual are the biggest challenge for children physical and emotional development.

In Ethiopia, the problem of child maltreatment and abuse has been rampant, prevails in all communities and settings. It threatens almost all children and happens to most children in its varied forms. It has been aggravated by complex factors such as poverty, illiteracy, violent conflicts and war, harmful traditional practices, and absence of proper systems for birth and death registration and certification. Even though, state of the aggravating factors has come to gradually improve. There is no clear evidence whether the general trend of the problem is declining (TsegayeDeda, 2011).

2.5.1. Children Exposed to Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

The prevailing myth has been that children are sexually abused by strangers. It is now known that a significant percentage of sexual abuse is perpetrated by family members or by surrogate care givers who are close to the child. Yet there is also danger that, friends, acquaintances, and even strangers abuse and exploit children.

2.5.2. Pedophilia

In Cynthia study (as cited in Schwartz & Cellini, 1995; Flora, 2001) pedophiles are individuals who have a sexual interest with children. Although some incestuous fathers may be pedophiles in their orientation, the term is mostly reserved for the abuser whose victim is outside the family. Perhaps one difference between the pedophile and an incestuous father is that incest is indicative of family dysfunction (although some pedophiles abuse in the home), and the perpetrators is a participant in a complex web of dysfunctional relationships. Pedophilia is related to the individual pathology of the abuser. A pedophilia

may be either fixated or regressed and his choice of victim may reflect his particular type of pathology. Pedophiles seek a relationship with a child because they see children as non-conflictual partner who can satisfy their unmet emotional needs. The fixated perpetrator has probably nurtured his interest in children for some time. He has become expert at engaging children. He becomes emotionally involved with these children and sees himself at their level. Outside of his relationship with children, the fixated pedophile views himself as helpless and ineffective.

2.5.3. Sexual Abuse by Clergy

In Cynthia study (as cited Jason Berry, 2000) an increased amount of attention has been given in the news media to the abuse of children by religious figures such as priests ministers. In August 1993 Newsweek featured major coverage of "Sex and the Church" with a discussion of priests who abuse. Jason Berry's book *Lead Us Not Into Temptation* (2000) met with much controversy (when it was first published in 1992) as it chronicled the abuse by a number of priests during the 1980's. Berry supports for the need for such a book by commenting that: "Between 1983 and 1987, more than two hundred priests or religious brothers were reported to the Vatican Embassy for sexually abusing youngsters, in most cases teenage boys an average of nearly one accusation in a week in those four years alone. In the decade of 1982 to 1992, approximately 400 hundred priests were reported to the civil authorities for molesting youths. The vast majority had multiple victims. By 1992, the church financial losses – in victim settlement, legal expenses, and medical treatment of clergy- had reached an estimated \$ 400 million." The Catholic Church should not be singled out as the only religious organization to be plagued by deviant activities among its clergy. Across the

nation, other religious orders and denominations are being disillusioned by reports of clergy abuse (Cozzens, 2002).

2.5.4. Child Pornography

In Cynthia study (as cited Freeman Longo and Blanchard, 1998) the production possession and distribution of child pornography are deeply interwoven in the activities of pedophiles, pederasts and those involved in rings, sexual trafficking, child prostitution, and more recently the internet. Pornography is a stimulant and by-product, in many forms of sexual exploitation of children. Sometimes referred to as *kiddie porn*, child pornography currently is a multimillionaire business. With little effort and even by accident children can pull up a variety of pornographic images on the computer screen. Pornographic appears to be more available now than at any other time in history. Perhaps this may be due to some misconception we have about it. In reality, there are legal guidelines for what is considered pornographic and therefore illegal. Some feel that pornography is either harmless or that is an acceptable outlet for those who might otherwise act out sexually. And yet, exposure to pornography actually desensitizes so that some individuals are more likely to play out their fantasies (Hughs, 1998).

2.5.5. Child Labour

In Abiy Kifle study (cited as Bequelle&Myres, 1995) child labour is a widespread phenomenon in the developing world. Despite the existing the UN Convention on the rights of the child (1989), the practice still continues unabated. Children are engaged in all forms of paid work, in factories, commercial as well as subsistence agriculture, service industries shops, market places and in household chores. Many studies cite as the root cause chronic

poverty, broken home, irrelevant school system and unemployment and in the formal and informal sectors. Many of these children have neither access to education nor have adequate remunerations, satisfactory working and living conditions, which constrain their holistic development.

The ILO estimates that there are around 211 million children aged between 5-14 working world wide, (ILO, 2002). More than 50% of these are estimated to work in the worst forms of child labour (Geneva NGO Group for CRC, 1995). These figures are inadequate and remain to be an estimate because traditional national statistics does not capture working children, especially girls, in invisible activities. According to the 2001 child survey report, 91% of the children in Ethiopia were engaged in agriculture related activities. In the rural areas, close 94% of these children were 5-14 years old.

2.6 Child Protection Systems Response to Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Ethiopians long traditions of helping one to another and richness in good practices of communities and religious institutions that lending a hand for someone problems is very common and impressive. However, addressing the different protection issues of children are challenged by the traditional or religious beliefs of people. Similarly, the two systems which are the informal and formal systems are not known each other and not well coordinated to addressing abuse, neglect and exploitation that strongly hamper the survival and development rights of children.

The essential elements of a system approach to child protection as reflected in the academic and practice literature. The literature suggest that each child protection system has to have certain core functions, capacities, and structures to go along with processes and

service continua that ultimately define what a specific community does to protect its children. How a community chooses to define those structure, capacities, functions, and continua will be as unique as the normative framework in which it operates. A system's framework or perspective does not guarantee a particular outcome or ensure that a system will take a particular form. Rather, the particular contribution of the systems approach to child protection is the manner in which it accommodates diverse perspective and creativity within a rigorous analytical framework that favors accountability (Wulczyn et al., 2010).

2.6.1 Legal & System Issues

Ethiopia has signed and ratified the different international human rights instruments mainly the UNCRC. Similarly, attempts have been made to amend the existing country laws in compliance with the international standards, however, still the country is miles away addressing or benefitting those children who have been abused, neglected and exploited.

According to the UNCRC (1989) in all actions concerning children whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative institutions or legislative bodies, the best interest of the child shall be a primary consideration. Both parents and state parties to the convention are responsible for the upbringing and development of the child according to the convention stated above.

It is not the only CRC but ILO too, which give priority which responds to the protection of child right. It is the state obligation to take appropriate measures for the same. But it is panic on the part of the state when it denies or escape in fulfilling its obligation because of the insufficient resources with it. And no doubt one can observe the same practice in the underdevelopment countries. Child exploitation either economical or

sexual child abuse, neglect or trafficking are widely observed in these countries. This might be related to several factors like poverty insufficient efforts and commitment from concerned bodies, low rates of reporting child abuse, cultural norms or values and harmful traditional practices or others. Any way these child exploitation, abuse and neglect highly affect the upbringing and development of the child including education. The same is with one of the underdeveloped country of Africa that is Ethiopia (GoelVaibhav, 2009)

in spite of the fact that, child maltreatment exists in a very alarming rate and children are still looking for a safe haven to ensure their future the Ethiopian government has made a positive step towards amending the existing laws and adding some subordinate laws that could scaling up the efforts of addressing the plight of children in a very systemized way.

There are many subordinate laws that deal with the different aspects of violence against children. The Family law, the Penal law, the Criminal Procedure law and the Labor law are the notable ones. All of these laws have gone through some revision recently, with the principal objective of making them consonant with progressive standards and constitutional principles. The old family law that had been in operation in the country since 1960 is being replaced by a new one in many regions (member states) of the Ethiopian Federal Democratic Republic. The family law that was proclaimed to be enforceable in the administrative cities of Addis Ababa & Diredawa has served as a model for the other regional family laws. The family law contains many provisions, which attempt to ensure that children are not let without guardians and tutors as well as to ensure the well-being and physical and intellectual development of children entrusted to them (FDRE, 2005).

In child protection both the formal and informal systems are responsible to create a safe haven for children, in Ethiopia the formal system especially the law enforcing bodies has a legal guide and ground to protect children from abuse, neglect and exploitation. In this formal system the perpetrators are accountable for any crimes that they committed.

For child protection system to place the child in substitute care or impose requirements on the parents, the juvenile or family court must grant temporary custody of the child to the state after weighing the details of the case, the rights of the parents, and the safety risks to the child. In many instances, however, the family voluntarily participates in services and no court involvement is needed. When the Child Protection System agency "Opens" a case for oversight and services, a caseworker and the court monitor the child safety and the family progress. A Child Protection System case may be closed when the risk to a child who remained home subsides, when a child who was placed has been safely reunified with his or her family, when the court reassigns guardianship or terminates the rights of the parents to allow adoption, or when the child becomes 18 and is no longer considered a dependent (Marry, 1998).

2.7 The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

The domestication of international human rights instruments ratified by Ethiopia is of major significance of the constitution of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (1995). The key place given to these international human rights instruments is reemphasized and extended under article 13 (2). Under this article, international human rights instruments. Including UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR, and UNCRC, are viewed as standards for the

interpretation of Chapter 3 of the constitution, which deals with fundamental rights and freedoms.

A major feature of Ethiopian constitution in relation to human rights is the provision (Chapter 3) of fundamental rights and freedoms for all persons, including children, consistent with the international human rights framework. The constitution also addresses the rights of children separately, under article 36. This provision directly addresses the issue of exploitative practices under sub article 1/d/which says, *“Every child has the right... not to be subject to exploitative practices, neither to be required nor permitted to perform work which may be hazardous or harmful to his or her education , health or wellbeing.”*

Finally, the constitution provides for general policy guidelines that acknowledge *“the best interest of the child”* as a basic principle in the design and implementation of programmes that affect children. Article 36/2/ which says:

In all actions concerning children undertaken by public and private welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the primary consideration shall be the best interest of the child .

This principle is provided for under article 3 /1/ of the UNCRC, and was adopted word by word in the country’s constitution. Ethiopia ratified the convention in 1991 and is bound by all its provisions. According to article 9 (4) of the Ethiopian constitution, all provisions of the UNCRC are considered an integral part of the law of the land. Ethiopia is also part of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, adopted in 1990 and entered in to force in 1999, is the most relevant regional instrument developed by member

states of the African Union (AU) in the area of child rights. The charter was adopted on the basis of the Declaration on the Rights Welfare of the African Child and to reaffirm the UNCRC.

In adapting the provisions of the UNCRC, the charter identifies a child as *“any human being below the age of 18 years”*, there by dropping the exception under the UNCRC (article 2). The Charter also emphasizes protection of the child from social and cultural practices *“prejudicial to the health or life of the child”* and *“discriminatory to the child on the grounds of sex or other status”* (Article 21). In another variation on the provision of the UNCRC, the Charter also provides for the rights and responsibilities of the child towards the family, the society and the international community (Article 31, on the responsibilities of the child).

2.8 Subsidiary Legislation

2.8.1 The Criminal Law

The 2005 Revised Criminal Code of Ethiopian has rendered a number of violent acts against children published by law. The revised code criminalizes various forms of violence against children that are deeply rooted in tradition- harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation and transmission of disease through harmful traditional practices. The Criminal Code has also for the first time criminalized child marriage, which has been shown to have significant impact on the wellbeing of children.

2.8.2 Family Code

The Revised Family Code of July 2000 reflects an attempt to confirm family law with the 1995 Constitution and relevant international instruments, including the UNCRC. The

Code replaces the provisions of the 1960 Civil Code relating to the rights and cares of the child and incorporates the principle of the best interests of the child as per Article 3 (1) of the UNCRC and Article 36 of the Ethiopian constitution. Moreover, the Revised Family Code reaffirms that the family is the appropriate setting for "the full and harmonious development of [a Child's] personality ... in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding" in conformity with the preamble of the UNCRC.

The most significant contribution of the Revised Family Code to child protection is the setting of a minimum marriageable age for girls at 18 years, old, instead of 15, which was the age set under the previous Civil Code. This provision is applicable to the federal cities of Addis Ababa and Diredawa and serves as a model for the regions, which have a mandate to issue their own family law under the constitution.

2.8.3 Labour Law

Article 89 of Ethiopia's Labour Proclamation No. 377/2003 stipulates that "it is prohibited to employ person under 14 years of age", although it allows a person of fourteen years of age to enter into a contract of employment. As this age is below the age of majority, it may be argued that the law allows child labour. It must be said, however, that the labour law itself contains provisions for the particular and preferential treatment of employees between the intermediary ages of 14 and 18, which it refers to as "young workers". For this category of worker, regular working hours are restricted to seven hours (for adults a regular working day is eight hour). Young workers are prohibited from working overtime and holidays. Furthermore, some types of work, considered too dangerous, are

prohibited. Fourteen is assumed to be the age when most children will complete their primary education

2.9 Child Abuse under Criminal Law

2.9.1 Sexual Exploitation

The Ethiopian Criminal code punishes the procurement of children for prostitution for gain, keeping a brothel and serving as landlord of a house of prostitution. These acts are primarily dealt with under Article 634, which reads: "*Whoever, for gain, makes a profession of or lives by procuring or on the prostitution or immorality of another, or maintains as a landlord or keeper, a brothel, is punishable with simple imprisonment*".

2.10 Child Pornography

2.10.1 Protection of minors from indecent acts and materials

The Criminal Code provides protection for children from public indecency, obscene and indecent publications and other materials that may pervert or misdirect the sexual instinct. Article 639- which deal with public indecency and outrage against morals in the form of deliberate performance of "*the sexual act or any other obscene act or gesture grossly offensive to decency and morals*" increase the punishment where such behavior is knowingly performed in front of a child.

Similarly, Article 640, dealing with obscene or indecent publications, stipulates a punishment of " simple imprisonment for not less than one year, and a " fine (not exceeding) ... ten thousand Birr" where the offender "knowingly exhibits, hands over or delivers such objects to a minor".

2.10.2 Abduction

Article 590 deals generally with abduction of minors. Article 590/2/e/reads: "whosoever carries off, abducts or improperly detains an infant or a young person... with intent... to use him for ... prostitution", is subject to a punishment of rigorous imprisonment. Article 596/3/of the code provides for a higher level of punishment where the victim of enslavement is a child.

2.10.3 Abuse

Article 555 of the Ethiopian Criminal Code deals with grave, willful bodily or mental injury. This article provides for punishment with "rigorous imprisonment not exceeding fifteen years, or with simple imprisonment for not less than one year".

2.11 Corporal Punishment in School and Care Institutions

The imposition of all forms of corporal and humiliating punishment on children in schools and care institutions has been legally prohibited in Ethiopia since the adoption of the constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Article 36 of the constitution states that "every child has the right to be free of corporal punishment or cruel and inhumane treatment in schools and other institutions responsible for the care of children.

2.12 Harmful Traditional Practices

Article 561 and 562 of the Ethiopian Criminal Code states that anyone who comm its the harmful traditional practices (HTP) described in the criminal Code is punishable by law.

Other HTPs not listed but are proved to be harmful by medical science are also recognized as HTPs.

The criminal code listed as harmful traditional practices female circumcision, using cow dung or similar or similar items on infants, milk teeth extraction, making an infant swallow butter, keeping infants away from sunlight and preventing a child from being vaccinated.

Article 565 of the criminal code states that any person who circumcises a girl child of any age is punishable.

Article 566 states that any person who stitches together a female genital is punishable. Where the act has caused bodily and mental injury, more stringent punishment is set accordingly.

Article 569 also provides for punishment of parents or any other person who took part in the commission of the act.

In the literature reviewed various thoughts assumptions and facts have been seen. These all different ideas of the same issues that are "children" has thought me even if children live at different social, economic and political frameworks, children because they are children and immature in terms of physical & emotional development they are highly exposed for different child maltreatment all over the world. At the same time in the literature review I have seen lots of initiatives like developing the child protection mechanisms like the UNCRC and locally contextualized laws policies to ensure the best interest of the child. Finally what I concluded is, what mainly matters are not the haves and

have-nots rather the functionalities of the existing laws and policies towards protecting children.

2.13 Theoretical Perspectives

In the following section different theoretical perspective on the Child Maltreatment (abuse) are reviewed based on the existing literature. Even though, these theoretical perspectives can help to understand how different child maltreatment occurred and its consequence against child behavior which is developed through time. As the qualitative research, the research objective and questions can be best explained from the emerging thematic explanation of the finding.

2.13.1 The Sociological Perspectives

The first perspective is the sociological perspective; some writers have suggested that many cases of child sexual abuse are indirectly caused by sociological factors such as the society's philosophy and value system, especially in terms of the prevailing cultural attitudes toward violence. An understanding cumulative stress model suggests that living under difficult economic circumstances and in underprivileged social conditions contributes to the stress and frustration experienced by individual with dependent offspring. The degree of stress experienced is said to be a determinant of abuse. There is also a theory of a cycle of deprivation that implies that there is a risk of abuse being repeated in successive generations unless the cycle can be broken. Many children are believed to be at risk of sexual abuse if one of their parents was abused, despite there being no sound research to confirm this. Sociological explanations maintain that societal changes in the breakdown of traditional community neighborhoods, increase in divorce and the resultant withering of

family bonds have all led to a social isolation that has left children vulnerable to sexual abuse (Anne, L. 2004).

According to Rand, M.R (2009) The extent that much violence against intimates and children is rooted in the frustration and stress accompanying poverty, efforts that reduce poverty will also reduce family violence. And to the extent that gender inequality helps explain violence against women, continuing and strengthening efforts to reduce gender inequality should also reduce violence intimates, as most of this violence is directed by men against women.

2.13.2 The Feminist Perspective

Reid, C. (1989) refers to the feminist perspective of child sexual abuse, with its focus on incest, which defines sexual abuse as the abuse of male power in the family.

Hallet and Birchal (1992) quote the incest survivor campaign definition of child sexual molestation as being abuse performed by any person whom that child sees as a figure of authority and respect. In both these definitions, sexual abuse is seen as the abuse of power. Child sexual abuse is seen to be the product of the patriarchal social structure and male socialization. While the inclusion of the misuse of power ultimately may form part of a substantive definition, the introduction of the term ' Incest' does not appear to enhance the move towards a consensus definition, and is used to cover a whole gamut of sexual transgression perpetrated on a child by a member of that child's family or surrogate family. In other literature also amplify the male dominance has something to do with child abuse. "The combination of male control, misleading psychological knowledge about women's propensity for "bonding" and sanctions used to enforce gender stereotypes of motherhood

combine to increase the entrapment and inequality from which battering and child abuse originate, a process termed “patriarchal mothering.” The best way to prevent child abuse is through “female empowerment” <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3346117> accessed on 20/10/2016.

2.13.3 The Systems Perspective

According to the Family system theory (Satir 1967; Minuchin and Fisherman 1981) child sexual abuse is viewed as a symptom of a dysfunctional family system. Examples may be where a mother has had to take work in the evenings to support the family, or where there is a child with learning difficulties or physical disability. In either case, the frustration resulting from having to cope with what seen to be insurmountable problems place undue stress on the whole family system. This stance holds that both parents are responsible for their role in the sexual abuse. Feminism has challenged this position as being a deflection of responsibility for abuse from the perpetrator. According to the National Institute of Justice (1992) family system theory, focusses primarily on the family and is a process of identifying problems as a consequence of dysfunctional relationships among family members. For example in case of incest where the father is the perpetrator, the possibility that the mother’s reluctant intervention may appear to be tacit approval would be explored as a contributing factor in the repeated abuse.

2.13.4 The Psychiatric Perspective

Another orientation written within the disease model is represented in psychiatry, where the perpetrator is known to have an individual psychopathology with a diagnosed mental disorder. The assumption is that the perpetrator is not wholly responsible for the

harm caused and is in need of psychiatric treatment. Under this psychiatric perspective the victim would also be considered to be in need of psychiatric or psychological treatment. The psychoanalytic model promulgated by Freud that continues to be adopted by the present – day school of psychoanalysis and often regards a patient's current psychological distress as a symptom of repressed sexual abuse in childhood would also come under this psychiatric perspective. Recovered memory syndrome and the false memory syndrome, discussed earlier, are examples of current dilemmas that reflect the problems related to the employment of the Freudian interpretation of child sexual abuse (Parton et al. 1997).

Similarly, Carolyn. M (1983) explained that child abuse has been noted to have many causes as a childhood symptom of violence towards the care giver of environmental and social stresses on the family and of society acceptance and promotion of physical violence. Physical, social, emotional and cognitive developmental consequences of child abuse yield inescapably to an impression of serious and profound pathology in the victims

2.13.5 The Integrationist Perspective

It is the beginning to be acceptable that a social integrationist perspective of child sexual abuse which moves away from an emphasis on individual pathology is to be preferred (Parton et al. 1997). Practitioners should be able to reflexively integrate a multitude of factors such as sociological, psychological, economic and environmental, as they all have a part to play in the phenomenon of child sexual abuse.

Chapter Three

Research Methodology

This chapter defined the research methodology that I have employed for this specific study. I particularly emphasized the research design, method of data collection, sampling techniques, method of data analysis and ethical considerations.

3.1 Research Design

This study by design is a qualitative study where valuable and reliable information in relation to the topic of the study have been collected from primary sources using “Purposive sampling” procedures. This study is heavily relied on fieldwork which entails key informant interview, individual cases and focus group discussion with Parent teachers association members, community elders, CBO’s Leaders, teachers, students/children, NGO & GO’s officials, Police & Judges whose roles, responsibilities and concerns are believed to be highly related to the topic of the study specifically in Arada and in Addis Ababa in general. In this study they referred as ‘participants’. The field study was conducted for three weeks which started from May 02/2016 to May 16/2016 & June 27/2016 to July **04/2016**. As the study aimed at collecting information in exploratory manner, the following data collection methods were used; un- structured (face to face) interviews, focus group discussion and key informant interviews (semi-structured). During the interview a mobile recorder has been used to capture points and the whole scenario of the data collection process. Consequently, I have transcribed responses of the participants in the text. Finally, the reason that I employed qualitative study was to probe deeply and to get very detailed

information from respondents that could help me to see the real scenario of what I intended to investigate.

3.2 Description of the Study Area

Addis Ababa, as one of the important regional states, with a population of about 3,048,631 has also achieved positive changes in the lives of children. The Arada sub-city, with a population of about 235,363 people, but with a relatively poor state of service provision and infrastructure development. The sub-city has large number of slum and street dwellers and has been one of the sub-cities worst affected by resettlement and evictions of families in the name of urban development and city beautification (A.ABOFED, 2004). In the sub city there are scores of local, international and UN agencies that are working towards ensuring the best interest of the child. Each has made important contributions to advancing the rights of children including in promoting their right to protection.

According Sahlu (2006) King Menilik II & his wife Empress Tayitu founded the city in 1866. At its earlier stage the city was concentrated at the three nodal points of the Menelik palace, St.George church and the Arada area which serves as the city centre for the administration & St. George church acted us centre for religious activities. The Arada area found between palace and the church, used to serve as a cultural and commercial centre. Sahlu (2006) argues that earlier settlement started to sprawl around the centre. As the centre of the city that attracted a variety of trade investment especially hotel and bars the children of Arada have been faced scores of problems and the government has established one rehabilitation centre in the city that serves all children that need assistance which Arada sub city also beneficial.

The Addis Ababa Rehabilitation Centre is the only institution in the country that caters for the needs of children in conflict and contact with the law. Two others specialized rehabilitations and reintegration centres were built in Awassa and Bahir Dar, but other departments are now using them. The Addis Ababa Centre is capable of hosting only 150 children. Initially established to accommodate boys, it started admitting girls in 2000, even though it was not built to meet their special needs. In March 2010, 76 male and 20 female children had been placed in the centre. The centre suffers from acute shortages of human and financial resources. The supervision and inspection of the centre that is envisaged by article 3 (3) of the CRC is spasmodic and inadequate. The service available is from ensuring the right of children to an adequate standard of living (www.unicef.org/ethiopia: accessed on 5/11/2016)



Excerpt from Google Map

3.3 Inclusion/exclusion criteria

The informant constituted diversified categories of persons in close contact with children such as parent teachers association members, CBO leaders, community leaders, teachers NGO workers and law enforcing bodies that have direct linkages addressing the legal rights of children and children themselves the specific criteria for selection was age, working in child protection related activities and knowledge about child rights/protection. In this study boys & Girls age ranges from 12-17 years were included in the study. Serious cautions have been made to exclude those who have cognitive problem that possibly

provide distorted information. Similarly, from Ethiopia context poverty driven causes are one of the major factors that exposed children for abuse, neglect and exploitation much emphasis had been given for those who raised in impoverished urban settings which was the reflection of Arada sub city, due to the place where the current Addis Ababa originated a century before. Similarly, communities from different walks of life like teachers, police, judges and children and experts in the social sectors were invited to give their reflection in the different service provisions of children living in Arada sub city. Utmost care has been taken to exclude inappropriate respondents by doing a rapid review of background checks of the respondents like mental health problems.

3.4 Method of Data Collection

In this particular study Different data collection methods have been used with different target groups. This research used a number of data collection strategies to have detailed understanding about child protection system in Arada Sub City of Addis Ababa. Accordingly un structured, semi-structured interview, FGD, and key informant interview conducted.

3.4.1. Unstructured (face- to -face) Interview:

In order to have clear picture how children are perceiving the different child protection issues individual cases (stories) have been gathered by employing primary data collection methods from a child using individual life story method substantiated by stories reviewed the document and children stories narrated by respondents . The individual story focussed on children individual experiences that they passed through. I collected qualitative information in face to face interviews in Child protection Legal Center & Abebch Gobena

primary school with close collaboration with the student counsellor & Pro-bono lawyers to select children that have special child protection concerns. During the interview, I tried to make the environment conducive that supported the children to speak in a very open manner. The interview took 35 minutes on average.

The individual story research method has many advantages including getting 'other kinds of information that do not get in to the public record' (Yow, 1994). The method is also advantageous 'if respondent does not understand research questions in a personal interview, the researcher can fill in, and if, the researcher senses the respondent is not answering fully, he/she can probe for more complete data ' (Bernard,2006). Moreover, the physical presence of the interviewer helped establish the rapport needed for asking sensitive and personal questions about the painful experience of bereavement (Caserta et al, 1985) and 'comprehending the complexities of a person's day-to-day decision making and the ultimate consequences that play out in that life so that insights in to the broader, collective experience may be achieved '(Cole & Knowles, 2011)

3.4.2. Focus Group Discussion:

Focus group discussion was one of the methodologies that I used to collect data from the respondents. Therefore, the FGD has been held among two identified groups of student's teachers Parent Teacher Association members and CBO leaders separately in two rounds. In the first round 9 students (4 girls & 5 boys) and in the second round 8 teachers, PTAs members & CBO leaders (3 females & 5 males) were participated the focus group discussion. The aim of these focus group discussions were to collect data's of people how they perceive and understand the child protection systems service delivery, the community perception and how children are benefitting out of the country committed laws and policies

both national internationally ratified human rights instruments mainly the UNCRC. The focus group discussions, which took 1:00 hr on average. In order to make the environment friendly and making active the respondent's tea and soft drinks have been provided. Similarly, efforts have been made to create a conducive environment appropriate sitting arrangement was made and various jokes were used as an ice-breaker and also general issues were raised before directly entering to the main issues.

I selected this method based on the advantage of collecting deeper understanding and gathering detailed information from the respondents in a very detailed manner concerning the issue of children. The rationale behind this methodology is to have clear picture of how the different actors in the child protection systems are addressing in Arada sub city.

3.4.3 Semi – Structured Interview (Key Informant Interview):

Using the semi –structured interview method, the study collected information from five key informants from Local & International NGO's, Police, lawyers and social affairs experts to generate rich qualitative data on legislative and policies as well as practice related to child protection service delivery mechanisms, capacity of service providers and collaboration among actors in the local context. In this key informant interview a total of 5 people participated. In addition, to the semi-structured interview being undertaken with the informants, available document/data pertinent to the study were collected, reviewed and analysed. The rationales that I selected the organizations were not only among the organization that worked in partnership with my current place of work rather they were the one that provides support for children in different forms. This strongly supported me to collect the most reliable data without any constraints.

Semi-structured interviews were designed in the form of list appropriate issues for investigation was drawn up prior the interview. Denzin & Lincoln (2000) states that such a list contains some precise questions and their alternatives or sub-questions which depend on the answer to the main questions. According to the above statement, semi-structured interviews help to clarify concepts and problems. It also works very well in projects where the researcher is dealing with 'high-level bureaucrats and elite' members of a community' – people who are accustomed to efficient use of their time (Bernard 2006).

3.4.4 Observation

Observational research (field research) is a type of correctional (i.e., non-experimental) research in which a researcher observes on going behaviour. Observational research is particularly prevalent in the social services and in marketing. It is a social research technique that involves the direct observation of phenomena in their natural setting (www.atlasti.com accessed on 7/14/2016).

In addition of capturing all verbal responses I used the utmost efforts to see how the respondents were emotionally behaving through their facial expression. Similarly, during visiting the school I saw the physical structure of the school (playground, class room and toilets) to evaluate how the school are friendly to students. The other scenario that took my interest was the Child Protection Legal centre in the Federal Supreme Court where children are receiving different legal aid. In the CPLC I observed many children some of them are with their Pro-bono lawyer and the others are with their parents waiting for the decision by the court. In the CPLC there are also social workers who are responsible to provide inputs for the decision where children should go or live while their parent's are legally divorced. Hence, I realized that the decisive inputs of social workers before the

decisions are made by the court or judge. I also went to Addis Ababa Police Commission and saw children and women seeking referral to the court to get appropriate legal aid. At the same time I visited the Temporary centre in Addis police commission where children temporarily stay until they referred to appropriate place to the CPLC or to the health centre. All these observations greatly supported me to triangulate what people were said with the actual reality in the ground.

3.5 Sampling Techniques

This study has employed a purposive sampling method. The individual story study also demands applying this kind of sampling techniques. The selection of respondents both the face to face (unstructured) interview and focus group discussion has been purposive considering different attributes like age, gender, roles and responsibilities were taken in to account. By considering all these, samples in the study have been selected from both sexes with in the age range of 12—17 for children that are enrolled in school, and adults at different age and work experiences related to the issues. In relation to economic status the study mainly focussed on children that grown up in lower economic status. During the data collection process especially in key informant interview I met people that I know in different working groups like child protection that made easy and shorten the process of data collection. Before I conducted the interview, meeting time had been set up, which was feasible for all respondents and according to the agreed time schedule I met different respondents that I believed that have a stake in this research.

In depth research requires informed respondents, not just responsive respondents – that is, people whom a researcher choses on purpose, not randomly. This is because the individual life story research often deals with sensitive personal cases. Bernard (2006)

discusses this in detail “come to think of it, just about everything is a sensitive topic when a researcher digs deeply enough.

3.6 Method of Data Analysis

After the field data collected and documents reviewed, the researcher proceeded to process and analyse the data collected. There is a growing interest these days in the analysis of qualitative data (Bernard 2006:463). Qualitative data analysis is an iterative process (Strauss & Corbin, 1999: 68) by which a researcher may study transcripts of the data in order to understand the relevant aspects. A well tested method in analysis of qualitative data is what Bernard (2006:492) calls '*memoing*' which entails keeping continual notes about the coding and new directions of the research. Inductive or 'open coding' allows understanding to emerge from studying the texts (Ibid: 493). It means that highlighting some of the words or phrases a researcher thinks might be important may turn in themes. Therefore, I divided all the responses in to five different themes like child protection service delivery, laws and policies, Coordination & Collaboration, Protection Risks, Threats Crimes & Reporting and child protection issues in the study area. In fact, Strauss and Corbin (1990:68) recommended explicitly using actual phrases of the text –the words of real people –to name themes, a technique they call **in vivo** coding. Milles and Huberman (1994:56) say simply: 'coding is analyses'. In this research the data analysis strategy what Bernard (2006:495) calls 'an interpretive analysis' was implemented. This includes transcription and text management.

Much care has been taken and transcribed the raw data every information after which codes (themes) were labelled directly in to the transcribed texts of the field notes.

The codes have been mnemonics of my own that were given according to the participants name and place to conceal identities and to each topic of the research as a measurement device to relate or mark differences of the participant's answers under each topic. Following the transcription, the pile sorting method has been used to organize themes of the transcribed text in accordance with the points of discussion from the interview guides.

Finally, analysis has been made in choosing segments of the text – verbatim quotes from participants –as exemplars of concepts or exemplars of exception to the review of the literature. In addition to the verbatim, non- verbal expression (facial, emotional expression) of respondents were taken accordingly. Replies (real words/phrases) from participants are collected in Amharic language. However, to give access to a wider readership and as English is a medium of instruction; it has been translated into English.

3.7 Problems with the proposed Research Strategy

'Nothing in research is more important than validity' (Bernard 2006:53). Focus group discussion research method may lead the group to follow the dominant ideas in the group and follow the ideas of a child that is most influential in the group (ibid: 233), hence the method is a threat to both internal and external validity. But, I have made the utmost efforts to minimize this problem at the lowest risk level by giving equal chance to the respondents and encouraging those who seem shy and less active during the discussion.

The life story research method may also be influenced by the 'history and context in which they occur and are told' (Kakuru and Paradza 2007:11) and making generalization may be difficult since the information gathered mainly lies in the selectivity of narrators (Yow 1994:17). In addition, if the stories are not collected with great care it may result in a picture that is 'narrow, idiosyncratic or ethnocentric' (Ibid: 16).

The other challenging task in individual life story research method is 'ethics in probing'. This is because in probing one can get intimate information by making people 'open up', therefore, a more responsible researcher will ensure that people do not suffer unnecessary emotional distress in doing so. According to Bernard (2006:233), 'informants who divulge too quickly what they believe to be secret information can later come to have real regrets and even loss of self-esteem. They may suffer anxiety over how much they can trust you (a researcher) to protect them in the community'. According to him, the responsibility to protect people from becoming emotionally burdened for sharing their secrets is an ethical challenge for all researchers. Taking this in to account, I have made all efforts not to expose such emotional reactions of respondents, by explaining the purpose of the interview and shorten the duration when I felt respondents are tired.

3.8 Ethical Consideration

Ethics is a critical reflection on morality. Amson & Carlsmith (in Cohen & Mannion 2000) argue that conducting research involves tension from two sources. The tension that exists between two sets of related values held by society; a belief in the value of free scientific inquiry in pursuit of truth and knowledge; and a belief in the dignity of individuals and their right to those considerations that follow from it. Striking a balance between the two requires skill and involves ethical considerations particularly from the point of view of research participants. Based on the above rationales I used utmost care when I conducted this study in the following way.

The planned study has been considered ethical issues during the collection of data from all people that have stake in this study. All participants (the researcher and respondents) respected all national and international laws to ensure the best interest of

children. Prior to the collection of the data permission from children, government and non-government offices have been secured. Generally, people that were intended to be participated in this research were asked for their permission to participate in this study. Oral informed consents had been asked from respondents to participate in the study and gave their consent with informed understanding of the intended purpose. Similarly, all information that they had given anonymously documented without mentioning respondents names.

To conclude this chapter I have discussed the importance of and observed limitations of the research strategy/methodology that I used in this study. I have also stated ethical guidelines which were followed in this particular study. Next, I will analyze the data collected from the field study.

Chapter Four

Finding & Analysis

This chapter is mainly focusing on explaining major findings in relation with stated objectives. Similarly, the chapter organized in six thematic areas with five sub themes. The first part is all about the background information of study participants. The second theme is about different child protection concerns in Arada sub city. The third theme is analyzes community understanding of child protection related laws and regulations. The fourth thematic area is assessed the different services provided for children in need like legal, psychosocial, mediation and etc. The fifth theme is about crime and reporting that deals with how children related crime is reported and responded. The last theme is about coordination and coloration which deals with how the formal and informal systems are coordinating and collaborating each other.

4.1. Demographic characteristics of respondent

List of Participants	Position	No.
Abebech Gobena school	School counsellor	1
Abebch Gobena School	Teachers	7
Abebch Gobena school	Students	7
PTA members	Member	3
Addis Ababa Police Commission	Children & women focal person	1
Arada sub city Police Commission	Children & Women focal person	1
Addis Ababa women & Children Bureau	Children affairs expert	1
Arada sub city women & children office	Children affairs expert	1
CBO leader	Chair of Idir	1
Community leader	Elder	1
Federal Supreme court	Lawyer	1
Child Protection officer of Plan international Ethiopia Addis Ababa program office	Protection Officer	1
Total		26

4.2 Child Protection Concerns

According to the response obtained from key staffs of organizations (GOs, NGOs and CBO's) that have direct linkages with children explained that , there are scores of child protection concerns (physical, sexual & emotional) prevailing in Arada sub city. Similarly the Arada police commission confirmed that regardless of the sex, both boys and girls are exposed for different abuses. However, the type and kind of abuses are sex specific. For

example, in Arada sub city girls are highly exposed for sexual abuse while boys are exposed to physical abuse and child labour and living in and off the street. However, total vulnerabilities of children are affecting both sexes.

Type of Abuse	M	F
Physical	20	12
Sexual	-	15
Total	20	27

Source; Arada sub city Police (April-June) reported cases

Due to cultural and biological factors girls are most vulnerable to be abused in Arada sub city. In addition to being abused like their male counterparts, female children are also abused while serving as a domestic worker and their rights of education and health have been denied by their employers. According to the cases reported to arada sub city police children and women department 35 domestic workers have been reported sexual abuse cases from September to May/2016 by family members of the employer's at different times and of which 13 domestic workers also denied their request by the employer to attend their education in their spare time.

One of the driving factors for children to be abused in different forms in Arada Sub City is poverty driven causes. This is because many families do not have the knowledge of family planning and give birth as much as their biological fitness allows them to do so. In addition to children of Arada, migrant children from south and north parts of the country are also victims of abuse in the city. Especially those who come from rural parts of the

country are highly engaged in exploitative child labour like weaving, cleaning in Hotels and in car washing and in child prostitution.

In and around Arada sub city there are many young girls working in bars and brothel. Most of the child commercial sex workers come from rural areas looking for jobs opportunities. After couple of days, since they arrived in the city they engage in commercial sex for they don't earn any other means of survival. OPRIF's is a local NGO working with schools and Addis Ababa Police Commission that rehabilitate children that pass through commercial sex experiences, this organization rehabilitated 35 young commercial sex practiced girls in different skill training in 2016. However, the cases are expected more in our sub city. (FGD Participants)

It is quite difficult for our office to mention the exact number of children who are engaged in child labour. However, the problem of child labour is very common. Since our sub city is very close where regional bus station is located, where the center that received scores of young child laborers and trafficked children from different corners of the country. Therefore, all concerned bodies should do concerted efforts to curb the plight of children involved in exploitative child labour which is hazardous for their future life. (Key informant; AA BOWCYA)

4.3 Community understanding child Protection Related Laws & Policies

Many of the respondents are well aware about the country commitments by signing and ratifying different international human rights instruments mainly the UNCRC. However, community at grass root levels has their own definition of child abuse. The community definition of child abuse has shown clear discrepancy between what the national law says including the international convention that the country expressed its commitment for implementation. Hence, these different perceptions of laws and rules in relation with child abuse let many children to be neglected to be protected by the standard that children deserves, this means the country commitment and endorsement of the different international human rights instruments mainly the UNCRC is not well mainstreamed with in the different government sectors like health, education and other institutions that are providing different social and economic services which entails less awareness of the convention at community level. Similarly, many people know the Ministry of Children & Women is the responsible body taking care of children rights, however, they are highly hesitant this ministry is playing the role as much as mandated ministry. Similarly, the community is well perceived about the different abuse that children always suffer like physical, emotional and sexual abuse but some community members still argue the legitimacy of reasonable corporal punishment is important to discipline their children but strongly argued to justify to what extent corporal punishment is allowable.

Community Perception of Child Protection/Rights

We are well aware about that the utmost care should be given for children like providing food, clothing and education but sometimes children are wrongly informed about the rights issues which is not given emphasis on

their obligation and this led children to go away from the usual norms and behaviors that affecting their social development and easily exposed for bad behavior like chewing khat, drinking alcohol and other unnecessary behaviors that damages their future life since in Arada sub city there are many bars, Hotels and small shops that sell different substances and we prefer our culture of child rearing practice than the international acknowledged rights and protection (FGD Participants, teachers)

Children are somehow aware who does crime against children and the legitimate government office taking action against the perpetrators, but they are very hesitant whether the perpetrators are penalized as much as the crime that he/she committed against children. Similarly, the community defined some abuse cases as normal and when it happens instead of taking to the court or police they try to settle the issue in traditional way. Hence, there is clear discrepancy between the community understanding of violence/abuse and the legal definition which shows a clear disconnect between legal definition of violence/abuse and the community perception of violence & abuse. Children in Arada sub city know as they have rights, mainly the rights of education but not aware as they have a stake of participation in all matters that affect their life.

Children Participation on Governance

We know that in the UNCRC different articles states that children have a right of participation in all matters that affect our lives. But here we don't have a right or clear participation in school decisions that affect our day to day lives. Similarly, in local governance of our respective kebeles, we don't

have a say and even those who are in kebele administration do not know children should participate in decision taken by the local authorities. (Children FGD participants).

Children have little awareness about the existed service providers both the formal and informal systems working in their respective woredas or in the sub city in general. In relation with reporting and responding mechanisms, there are some GO's and NGO's like Addis Ababa Police Commission, Abebech Gobena , Child Fund and OPRIFS are actively doing this in close collaboration with health and legal institution . These NGOs & GO's are reporting when an incident happens to police and other agencies but generally the reporting mechanism is extremely weak. The school counsellor shared this individual child case in this way:

The unattended child sexual abuse

A female child who was a 15 years old victimized and raped by her uncle two years before. One of her friend was aware about the sexual abuse of her friend and kept the issue for the long time. A friend of a victim girl consulted the victim to report the case, but the victim was scared the revenge from her uncle and social stigma, and told to her friend to keep the issue secret. At some point the victim was not able to attend class regularly since her uncle pushed her to quit the school and back to her parents to rural village. When her school mate realized this she reported to school director about what had happened in the life of her friend. The school Director in collaboration with the school

counsellor tried to reach the victim and had asked all the cases and she told to school director and the counsellor all the stories and the school started the legal process but when the victim knew this process she abandoned her uncle home and went out where difficult to trace her whereabouts. This implies even in a big cities like Addis Ababa where different institutions available still children have been abusing by adults and serious attentions should be given to ensure children safety (School counsellor)

School communities especially teachers are well aware about the different convention, policies that the country signed including the constitution that upholds the right of children. Similarly, the child protection understanding varies across the community which depends on the economic and academic status of individuals. However, physical intrusion of sexual assault is considered as an abuse by most community members. However, because of economic deprivation the community does not label child labour as an abuse. Some respondents know where to go and report when child abuse cases happen but there is no clear guidance of reporting and referring systems in Arada sub city. The formal and informal systems handling cases in a very minimal way and their services are not well known by both parents and children.

4.4 Service & Service Delivery Mechanisms (Provide Protection for Children)

This research found out different services that have been providing by different child protection actors mainly legal aid and school based child protection services. One of the main actions taken by both the Federal Supreme Court and the African Child Policy Forum is

establishing the Child Legal Protection Center (CLPC). According to the information obtained from the Federal Supreme Court, The CLPC was established to strengthen government's effort to improve the administration justice for children by working closely and in partnership with the justice sector and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. It was established under the auspices of the Federal Supreme Court Child Justice Project Office in collaboration with the African Child Policy Forum in September 2012. The objective of the CLPC is to protect the rights and interests of children involved in the justice system through the provision of legal and psychosocial services. It also has the goal of creating a sustainable child protection structure in the justice system of the country. One of the major activities that CLPC providing is legal aid for children. Based on the discussion with the CLPC lawyers in the Federal Supreme Court the legal aid for children is main activities in the center. There are some NGOs and schools that are providing first level counselling services, but Abebech Gobena School that has been providing holistic supports like education, health and nutrition services are exemplary that others should follow. Since in this organization children of the most disadvantaged can get different services under the same roof.

I started living alone since 2012 when my mother died due to unknown disease. I don't know my father, my mother told me as he lives outside Addis Ababa. Since the time my mother died life becomes difficult to get my food, education and many other necessities. During these difficult times one of our neighbors gave a refugee and allowed me to live together and they provided me shelter and food. Similarly, I supported them in their small shop by loading and unloading goods for their

customers. During night time they usually send me to buy “Khat” which I also practiced to chew and through time I became victim of it. Fortunately, my teacher who suspected me suffering life sent me to the school counsellor and he follows and regularly talking to me my case and advised me what should I do on daily basis. School counsellor also referred me to the school feeding program to have meals once a day (lunch). Now am doing well and also perform better in school than before. (A child live story)

4.4.1 The Legal Aid

Although access to justice is a fundamental human right of every human person, certain segments of the society such as children face various obstacles to access it because of their physical, social, emotional, economic and other statuses. Therefore, CLPC provides assistance to children as a way of equalizing the unequal before the justice system. These assistance help children to overcome the barriers they face to access justice because of their lack of legal awareness financial incapacity to buy the services of lawyer and because the system is complex and intimidating. To this end, CLPC has set up a pro-bono lawyers scheme (an argument in favor of a proposal or position) and is providing legal aid through the preparation of court applications, affidavits (documentation), and the provision of oral counselling as well as judicial representation. CLPC provides legal aid service through the fifty pro-bono lawyers, paralegals of AAU as well as its own legal officers. With the view to create a sustainable legal aid scheme in the country and make the service uniform across the country CLPC is also working towards establishing a legal aid network among service providers.

The following tables show the number of beneficiaries of CLPC’s legal aid service both in its offices in the federal courts handling the case of children.

Table1: children received legal services

No	Legal aid Center	No. of cases	No. of Child Beneficiaries		
			Male	Female	Total
1	Legal aid center in FSC	374	251	261	512
2	Legal aid center in Lideta FHC	690	520	545	1065
3	Legal aid center in FHC- Bole Branch	889	612	568	1180
4	Legal aid center in EWLA	487	413	292	615

Source: CPLC; Federal Supreme Court (Jan-Dec,2015 report)

Table 2- Judicial representation for children in conflict with the law

No	Federal Court Benches	No. of Child Beneficiaries		
		Male	Female	Total
1	FFIC Akaki Kaliti children –in-conflict with the law bench	70	8	78
2	FFIC Nifas silk Lafto children in conflict with the law bench	163	6	169
3	FFIC Arada children in conflict with the law bench	126	19	145
4	FFIC Lideta children in conflict with the law bench	624	54	679
5	FFIC Kolfe Keranyo children in conflict with the law bench	213	28	241
6	FFIC Bole children in conflict with the law bench	64	11	75
7	FFIC Addis Ketema children in conflict with the law bench	30	2	32
8	Federal High Court	22	1	23
Total		1312	129	1441

Source: CLPC Federal Supreme Court (Jan-Dec, 2015 report)

Disregard to the best interest of the child in the consideration of facts and evidence in civil cases is a fundamental error of law

The case involves an orphan who inherits a condominium house from his deceased mother. The child and his deceased mother used to live in a *Kebele* house. The aunt began living in this house after the death of her sister and after being named the guardian of the child. The *kebele* house was demolished for city development purpose and the government gave condominium houses as a replacement for the evictees. The aunt fraudulently changes the title deed of the condominium house to her own name and evicted the child. Another aunt of the child instituted a court suit but lost the case. The aunt brought the case to CLPC and CLPC starts investigating into the case in collaboration with the Addis Ababa Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs through the referral system. To help gather concert evidence the Bureau consulted the resident's profile at the local *Kebele* where the child and his deceased mother used to live. On the profile and evidence showing the child's mother as an original registrant to the condominium lot and owner was found. Then after, the Centre assigned an attorney to represent the child and appealed to the Federal Supreme Court Cassation Bench claiming existence of error of law. The Cassation Bench considered the evidence acquired from the *Kebele* administration and overruled the decision of the lower courts. It reasoned that, though production of title deed is the legitimate evidence to show ownership over a building, courts should not be hindered from considering additional corroborative evidence when the best interest of the child is at stake. As a

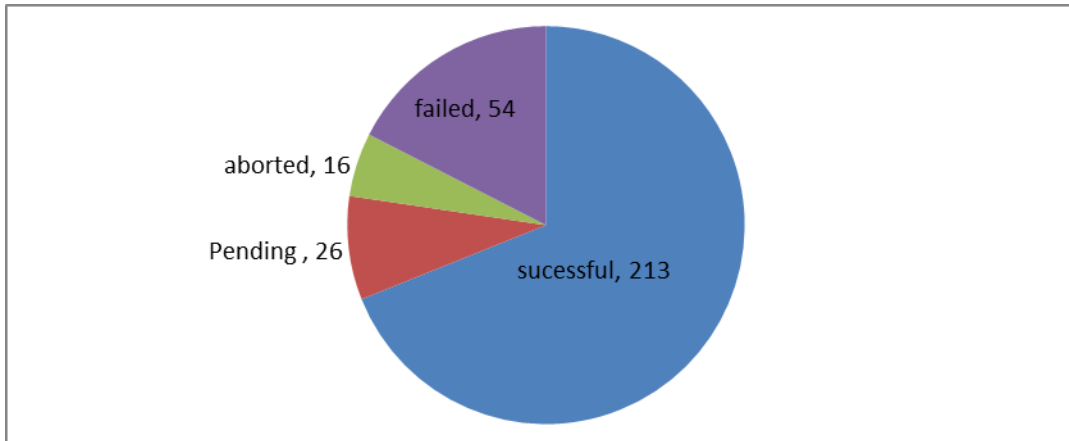
result the case is remanded for reconsideration to the lower court. (File No. FSC 324/05)

As a researcher I have my own view in this interesting legal story. One of the major challenges for Ethiopian children not to benefitting from nationally and internationally recognized laws and policies are the law enforcing bodies both in the court and in the police are less familiarized about the right and protection of children clearly stated in UNCRC, the constitution and other laws of the country. Hence highly professional legal institute like the CLPC should be established in different part of the country that could lessen the plight of children in relation with fundamental error of law.

4.4.2 Mediation Service as Part of Legal Aid

The mediation service being provided in the CLPC is a child focused and is conducted to realize the best interest of the child and given based on CLPC's mediation guideline. In the reporting period from Jan-Dec, 2015 a total of 109 cases were sent from the family benches of Federal First Instance Court, 16 cases were sent from the social work unit of Federal First Instance Court and the remaining 93 cases were cases of client approaching CLPC seeking legal aid but referred to mediators rather than resorting to the normal court procedure.

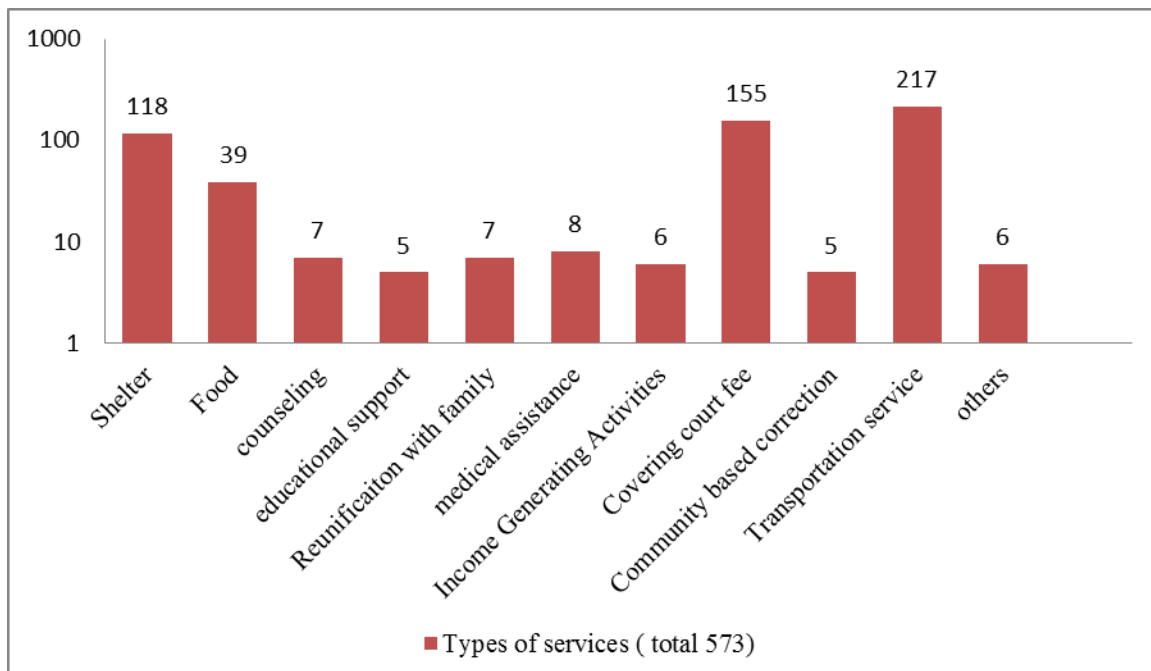
On the other hand, in the formal legal procedure, from the total of 309 cases handled in the reporting period, 267 were finalized, 16 cases were aborted while 26 are still pending. From the 267 cases that were finalized 213 cases were fully or partially amicably solved protecting the rights and welfare of children involved in the cases.



Source CPLC (jan-Dec,2015) report

4.4.3 Beneficiaries of CLPC’s psychosocial services

Through the referral system and the victim’s fund support, CLPC has been able to provide different services depicted under the following chart to 573 children involved in the justice system.



Individual cases that have been received services from Children Legal Protection Center in the Federal Supreme Court

Legal Aid for Children in the Broken Families

Thirteen years old boy, is charged with the crime of assault on and snatching money from younger children in the neighborhood in FFIC in Arada children in conflict with the law bench. When he appeared before the court with a neighboring woman, the boy was very untidy, angry, arrogant and mannerless. The pro –bono lawyer tried to study the background of the boy and found that his mother is in the Middle East and his father is mentally ill. He has no parental follow up and is on the average of starting a street life. The boy was given counseling services and changed his manners dramatically. He even started to appear for his court appointments in clean and mended clothes. Based on the request of the pro-bono lawyer the court acquitted him with reprimand considering his behavioral change and his family background.

4.4.4 Children Voicing their Concern in School

Children in school have suggestion boxes that they can drop any kind of abuse cases in the school compound; however, there is neither reporting nor responding mechanism both in schools and in their respective communities. Similarly, there is a mis-match between the school and any one of the formal or the informal system that are believed to providing services for children. Children are well aware about the responsibility of the larger community taking care for children especially in relation with education, protection and recreation but they are totally unaware of where the decision lies on, whether the

community or any agency in the sub city. Moreover, children of Arada sub city are not well aware “*Who does what*” or the service provision related with health care, legal services, psychosocial care/counselling. Even if the problem is huge In Arada sub city children are familiar mainly with some NGO’s, that are well known supporting children; like Abebech Gobena, Child Fund, OPRIFS, etc. Abebech Gobena and Child Fund are providing scholastic support and school feeding for limited and extremely poor students; however, according the response, the government institutions are less known in providing this kind of support. Child abuse reporting system is very weak; this is because the community gives much value to their social relationship than reporting and getting justice for children. In Arada sub city scores of crimes against children are taking place like sexual abuse, child labour, physical abuse among all mostly sexual abuses are reported to the police the rest are considered to normal and seems the community perceiving these abuses should be shouldered by children.

The child abuse referral and reporting systems are not well strengthen but people somehow know to report when any incident happens against the life of children. The respondents know that the formal systems (GO, NGOs & UN agencies) have the responsibility to provide health, education and legal support. Similarly, the informal system has also a responsibility to take care for children, however, both the formal and informal systems much behind of delivering expected services and poor coordination to work together. In Arada sub city there are a number of NGOs that provide services for children like local and international NGOs. In reporting and referral cases, physical abuse are most commonly reporting cases in the sub city while many other abuses like emotional, sexual, trafficking are the less reported cases in the sub city. The respondents know the responsible

body to handle the issue of children but due to lengthy process of settling cases and lack of evidence of the case, people are discouraged to report the incident.

4.5 Capacities: Child Protection Service Provision, Including Capacity Building

Human and Financial and Adequate resources.

Even if children are able to imagine who is responsible to take care of the legal and protection rights of children, they have lost trust of the police and other law enforcing bodies are standing to defend their rights due to corruption and nepotism. The service providers: teachers, health workers, social workers, and para social workers are not well trained how to identify and reporting child protection concerns. Children also confirmed that they heard that as there is child protection unit but the response for any violence against children is very minimal. Children are completely unaware about how the different child protection services are financed, this indicates that child participation in governance issue very minimal or nil. In regards with budget allocation many of the government offices responsible to child protection issues are meagre resources to do their job and providing service for abused children. For instance, the Addis Ababa Police Commission/Arada police usually receive scores of child abuse cases but they don't have reasonable budget to support victims due to these they highly incapacitated in addressing the problem of children in the sub city. In addition to these, since the new civil society law in acted, NGO's are not allowed to work on right issues and capacity building in the areas of Human rights instruments like UNCRC are going down and the knowledge of the law enforcing bodies and other actors in the area of child protection are not updated and a lot of knowledge gaps have been seen while this discussion taken place. Moreover, in Addis Ababa Police commission children and women department are highly understaffed approximately two-

three staffs are assigned to handle the issue of children and women in the city, this also the same at sub city level in Arada.

4.6 Protection risks, threats, crime and reporting

In order to have more credible information about protection risks, threats, crime and reporting thorough discussions have been conducted with Addis Ababa Police Commission and Arada sub city Police office. In regards with reporting broad ranges of issues like physical, sexual and emotional abuses have been reporting to the police, however, there are also community members who hid the child protection issues and cooperate with the perpetrators. The community members use different kinds of communication method to report the child protection concerns like through phone & physical presence/reporting. The police child protection department treats children by its own procedure and gives emphasis protection of children rather than the crime he/she committed. One of the major challenges of the child protection unit in the police station is the place for children to stay is not friendly for children to play and enjoy while they are under the police custody. In addition to this, one of the great challenges are after the case of abused child transferred to the court, the court procedure is lengthy in process without taking in to consideration the problem of children and at the same time children are suffered much not having food, clothing and even the place to stay until their cases are settled by the court. However, the CPLC in the Supreme Court has taken some positive steps towards the best interest of the child while child victim's cases are handling by the court. The Addis Ababa Police Commission children and women section has shared this child victim individual story:

The case involves a 15 years old victim who was allegedly raped by her own father and the police found out that the victim was impregnated as the result of the abuse. During the investigation process the police was convinced that it is not safe for the child to remain in her father's house before the final verdict is given to ensure her safety and for justice to be done and referred the child to CLPC for shelter and care. CLPC referred the child to a safe home for care and counselling so she could rehabilitate from traumatizing experience until the court gives final ruling on the case. By staying away from immediate families and with the counselling she got in the shelter. She was able to give her testimony freely and effectively. Therefore, the court found him guilty for crimes of rape and incest after hearing the testimony of the victims and after considering medical and other corroborative evidences. The father was sentenced to serve 21 years in prison. (Referral File No. 105/05)

The government assigns prosecutors, however, many of the service expenditures like transport, food and clothing's are covered by some NGOs. According to the response there is a very poor coordination and collaboration between the police and the court which might be the real cause for the delay of settling the issue of abused or justice seeking children in the court. They even mentioned that there is better collaboration with NGOs that seem responsive for the police request while they need some assistance to support children. One of the main problem that children suffering in Arada sub city or in Addis Ababa in general is family separation (Divorce). In addition to these, according to the information from Metebaber Idir chair explained that, even the collaboration with the informal system (CBOs, Idir) is very loose and the community based organization prefers to settle the issue of children with in their own system rather than bringing the issue to the police.

4.7 Coordination & Collaboration of Child Protection Systems

Both the formal and informal systems are functional in Arada Sub city. However, according to the respondents there is no clear guidelines or institution that push them to work together to solve the problem of children. Currently, there are a number of platforms like child protection advisory groups, Child Marriage Alliance which are a good start but the platforms only accommodate the formal systems (GOs, NGOs & UN agencies) by setting aside the informal systems (CBOs, religious groups and etc) and other gate keepers that weaken the effort of both formal and informal systems to play their own role to protect the right of children

Chapter Five

Discussion

In regards with the cause and consequence of child abuses various theoretical perspectives have been forwarded their thoughts, assumptions and their long time taking research findings, for instance, according to Reid (1989) sociological perspectives perceived that the society philosophy and value system, especially in terms of the prevailing cultural attitudes toward violence, the Feminist Perspectives child sexual abuse is male power in the family. According to Satir (1991) the system Perspective; child abuse as a symptom of dysfunction of family system. The Psychiatric perspective also states that the cause of child abuse is mental disorders. Integrationist perspective; child sexual abuse which move away from an emphasis on individual pathology rather a multitude of factors such as sociological, psychological, economy and environmental as they all have a part play in the phenomena of child sexual abuse.

During my discussion with the different section of the communities like the school communities, NGO & Gov't employees and the wider community, all their assumption why children living in Arada sub city are suffering by child protection issues have more than one causes which clearly comply with all perspectives but much more with the two theoretical perspectives of system and integrationist perspectives. Since the problems of children have a multifaceted in nature and factors that contribute for their plight are beyond one issue. Hence, in my experience of discussing with different respondents I realized that the poor system functioning with the family is also the cause for the disintegration or divorce of the couples and let children to run away from home. At the same time as Integrationist arguing the causes of child abuse are multi-dimensional like sociological, psychological, economy and environmental which is sound to the scenario that I studied. Based on the discussion that I had with the respondents all the above mentioned factors are collectively contributing and exposing children to be abused in different forms like physical, psychological, emotional and etc.

Based on my practical experiences of working for the right and protection of children there are scores of causes that truly comply with many of the theoretical perspectives and potentially contributing affecting the best interest of children. For instance, if we take the sociological perspectives failing to adhere the value system is the major cause for abuse and neglect of children. The so called urbanization and economic problems in Ethiopia were the causes of failing adhering community support mechanisms that stays for centuries. Due to these facts, community members are losing natural way of supporting children that are disadvantaged due to losing their loved ones or living under severe poverty. Similarly, system failure is also the cause for children suffering. According to the information received

from law enforcing bodies and my live experiences of working with the communities “*Divorce*” is the current phenomena that seriously disturbing the life of children. The family system is not functioning well that leads to separation and unstable family system. But, in my opinion the system dys-functioning goes beyond families rather to political leadership, this means the country should be accountable for UNCRC that the government signed and ratified, if the political system is not accountable or failed to go along with its commitment the system is failed and children of this specific country is not benefitting from government commitment towards the convention. This kind of problem is also common in well developed countries and in these countries community support mechanisms are replaced by different institutions, the paradox is countries like Ethiopia where the community support mechanisms are diminishing and the institutionalized support mechanisms are almost nonexistent that complicated the life of dis advantaged children living In a poor countries like Ethiopia. Finally, what I realized is signing and ratifying the different convention like UNCRC is not an end rather a means to ensure the best interest of the child that is why children of Arada sub city are not benefitting to the expected level from UNCRC that was signed and ratified on Nov.1991 by Ethiopia government.

5.1 Limitation of the study

As Child protection is the right issue some of the respondents especially from different government ministries feared to say what they know what they feel about the issue. In addition to these, very little supporting research/literature was found about child protection system response in Ethiopia. Similarly, to get permission to conduct the interview in some government officials also one of the tough task during data collection.

5.2 Implication of social work intervention

The formal and informal systems explained in this research are the main mover to push forward or promote the best interest of the child which is internationally acknowledged protections and rights of children. The main purpose of this research is to look into why children are still suffering many years after the country commitment for the UNCRC. Similarly, this research has put some indicators that compass what all stakeholders should do to have maximum synergy system responses in the sub city. Creating a safe haven for children need the coordination and collaboration of GOs, NGO's, Policy Makers and community at large. Similarly, the government has made different commitments like developing a guide for alternative child care, developing youth policy, signing and ratifying the UNCRC and also including the basic human rights issues in the constitution. Regardless of these efforts, the implementation of the existed laws and policies are miles away in addressing the plight of children. This is because child protection actors both NGO's and GOs are failed to bring their efforts together. UNICEF has taken a lead to establish platform of child protection working groups which entails major child protection actors of international NGO's that forgotten including other child protection actors like the elders, community leaders, local NGO's that have a stake in ensuring the right and protection of children. Even if the effort is good, the marginalization of other child protection actors from the working groups seriously affected the strength and contribution of the working group to take forward the issue of child protection in the way that benefitting children.

These scattered child protection services weaken the efforts that have been made by child protection actors. This means each child protection actor has their own specialties that could contribute to address the problem of children. But because of this un coordinated

efforts, referral and networking are very weak. Because, when children are abused they need different supports like medical, nutrition, psychosocial and counselling supports. In addition to these, there are encouraging activities to ensure the legal rights of children by CLPC that has been established by the African Child Policy Forum and the Federal Supreme Court. However, the number of children that need the legal support and the number of institutions providing services are not compatible that enforces children to wait for long period of time to get justice. Similarly, the government does not allocate enough money for responsible government ministry to ensure the best interest of the child. The other shortfall that I realized, there are few trained social workers in the Child Protection Legal Center and also a problem to assign trained social workers in other child friendly benches.

This research can serve as a bench mark for policy makers and child protection actors to identify the gaps of coordination and collaboration amongst the different stakeholders that have a mandate working in the areas of child protection or rights of children. Similarly this research will be serving as point of departure for researchers who want to go further to study challenges and opportunities of child protection system responses in Ethiopia. Similarly, this research will have positive inputs for the curriculum development of Social Work Education how child protection systems are the most contributing factors to ensure the best interest of children.

Hence, the following recommendations are forwarded to effectively reducing the plight of children in the sub city.

In my capacity as a graduate student of Social Work, I would assist or recommend the government to do proper analysis of these challenges for clearer and in-depth

understanding of what is needed and what exists and what is lacking, and then work with the frontline ministry to build a system whereby all relevant actors work together under a comprehensive national plan and strategy.

For instance, Ethiopia has a National Plan of Action for Children, a National Plan of Action on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, National Policy on Women, Youth Development Policy, and a number of guidelines such as on alternative care. These fragmented plans and programmes have to be brought together for better co-ordination and efficiency through a deliberate move towards a systems approach to child protection. The existing multi-sectorial and integrated strategy on prevention and response to violence against children and women and its co-ordinating body can be used entry points to build such a system. This envisaged support in the area of child protection systems strengthening is in line with UNICEF's strategy of moving towards more comprehensive and systemic approaches to child protection.

So, I would amplify the government to use its own existing structures, from Federal to Woreda level to encourage applying child protection system responses by taking in to account the informal systems that are always being considered as the gate keepers of their own communities to ensure the best interests of children. Assistance needs to be given to the relevant ministry to operationalize the child protection strategy, including by supporting the government to cost the strategy and to break it down into concrete projects as well as in organizing working groups to facilitate its implementation. The lack of preventive focus of existing interventions is also attributed to the widespread tendency of regarding families and communities just as perpetrators of violence, and not as child protection actors. So, I

would ensure that existing and planned interventions capitalize on family and community knowledge and resources in child protection.

Similarly, CLPC is providing professional services equipped with competent professionals both from child protection perspectives and legal aspect, but this is the only full-fledged children legal centre operating only in the capital Addis Ababa in very few courts, and it is highly recommended to replicate the service with in Addis Ababa and another region of the country where child protection is much a concern.

5.3 Summary

In this study serious attention had been given and observed how the formal and informal systems are working together to ensure the best interest of children at the same time looked at their lack of synergy and disorganization those negatively contributing systems efforts in ensuring the rights and protection of children in Arada Sub City. As per the findings of this study various shortcomings have been found in collaboration and coordination of the child protection systems both vertically and horizontally. This means there are no clear platforms or forums that bind together the systems to holistically serve children living in Arada Sub City. Even the collaboration between the government offices those are responsible providing different services for children like the Police and the court are not fitting with in addressing the case of abused children in timely basis. Hence, children whose cases are under court are suffering a lot until getting justice. In addition to these when abuse occurs on children, the community is not active in reporting the cases rather they try to settle the issue without the involvement of legal procedures. Due to these facts cases of many children still behind justice. Paradoxically, many of the respondents from school community and law enforcement bodies (Police) are well aware about the right of

children and the country commitment at least by signing and ratifying the different human rights instruments mainly the UNCRC and also stated the right of children in Article 36 of the country constitution which is considered as the supreme law of the country, but many of the respondent are highly discouraged reporting cases of children to the police thinking that the lengthy process of finding justice. In my discussion with Addis Ababa Police commission children and women department, they are doing all their best by referring children to the right place where they can get different kinds of supports, however, as the school communities and other respondents mentioned, the police themselves have strong concerns about the very lengthy process of the legal procedure to find justice for the abused children and the courts are not considering the cases of children are needing immediate action to protect children from further attacks.

In Arada sub city many children are dropping schools due to not having the minimum provision of scholastic materials and food. In my visit I found Abebch Gobena primary school that was providing meal service for children from the poor family that keeps hundreds of children to stay in school. In regarding system strengthening UNICEF has been taken the initiative to bring all NGOs & UN agencies to work together to ensure effective child protection system responses but this working group lacks including other member of formal and informal systems like GO's, CBO's and Local NGOs.

5.4 Conclusion

This study has made a great effort to identify the factors that affecting the child protection system functioning in Arada Sub city. Hence, one of the major factors for dysfunctioning of the existing system both in Gov't and non-Governmental organization

including CBOs, there are no any common platform that bring together to share challenges, opportunities and the way forward. Due to this poor coordination and between systems and even between governments offices like the Police & the Court let hundreds of children suffering in finding justice. Even the new initiative of the Child Protection Working Group chaired by UNICEF has setting aside the informal systems and the local NGO's that have a stake in contributing the best interest of the child. Therefore, this study strongly upholds the recommendation stated in this research.

CLPC is the only legal aid center in Ethiopia that specifically targets children. Although, other legal aid providing institutions are targeted children as one of the vulnerable of indigent sectors of the society, they do not specialize to handle those cases of children in a more professional way. This specialization has helped CLPC stay focused and effective. Due to this professional services the number of beneficiaries using the CLPC services ae getting higher and higher.

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Annex I

Introduction

My name is Zeru Fantaw i am studying Master of Social Work in Addis Ababa University. I am conducting an assessment to know how the child protection systems both formal and informal are working in Arada Sub City to ensure the protection of children. This discussion is part of the study and aims at exploring and understanding how the formal and the informal systems are working together and factors that affect the systems to work effectively. Your contribution in this discussion could help in successfully accomplishing my studies and providing workable recommendation of system responses to all stakeholders that are responsible ensuring the protection of children. Your opinion and views discussed in this discussion will be used only for this study and will be confidential. Any personal identification like name and similar information will not be included in the study. During the discussion I will use tape recorder not to miss any information raised throughout the process and the recorded information will be accessed by the researcher only and deleted at the end. Genuine and honest information will have a positive contribution for this study and for all stakeholders working the rights and protection of children.

I. Questionnaire/Interview guide for children

Researcher areas of interest to know/what I want to probe

- ❖ Common child protection issues in the study area
- ❖ Which groups of children exposed to different abuse
- ❖ Services provided for children in the sub city.

A. Identification of Informants

1. Age_____
2. Religion_____
3. Education Level_____

B. Child Protection Issues

1. Are there any children that have come across in different abuses like (trafficked, sexually & physically abused, missing, engaged in child labour, living or working on the street, living w/t parental care or in institutions. Etc..?
2. What are the main violence, safety or crime problems that affect children in Arada sub city?
3. Can you identify the most vulnerable to the identified child protection issues & why?
4. Can you mention particularly risky situations, places, or times when these crimes happen?
5. What are the main causes of the identified issues & problems and why?

C. Service & Service Delivery Mechanisms (provide protection for children)

1. What reporting mechanisms are existed when a child is affected by abuse violence or exploitation by whom & to whom?
2. What are the formal and informal systems roles for dealing with cases of violence against, abuse & exploitation of children in the community? Who informs, who makes decision & what is their response?

3. Is there any GO's or NGO's in Arada sub city providing services of child survivors of abuse, neglect & exploitation? Like health care, legal services? Psychosocial care /counseling?
4. Can you mention social benefits that are provided for vulnerable families and children?
5. Which institutions are providing these services
6. When cases occur do people report them to the police?
7. Can you mention the types of crimes are usually reported to the police
8. What crimes are usually not reported to the police? Why?

Focus Group Discussion

1. Introduction

My name is Zeru Fantaw I am studying Master of Social Work in Addis Ababa University. I am conducting an assessment to know how the child protection systems both formal and informal are working in Arada Sub City to ensure the protection of children. This discussion is part of the study and aims at exploring and understanding how the formal and the informal systems are working together and factors that affect the systems to work effectively. Your contribution in this discussion could help in successfully accomplishing my studies and providing workable recommendation of system responses to all stakeholders that are responsible ensuring the protection of children. Your opinion and views discussed in this discussion will be used only for this study and will be confidential. Any personal identification like name and similar information will not be included in the study. During the discussion I will use tape recorder not to miss any information raised

throughout the process and the recorded information will be accessed by the researcher only and deleted at the end. Genuine and honest information will have a positive contribution for this study and for all stakeholders working the rights and protection of children.

Introduction of participants

No	Name	Age	Sex	Religion	Educational level	occupation
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

Researcher areas of interest to know/what I want to probe

- ❖ How the existing policies and regulations are functional
- ❖ How the existing policies are familiarized by the community and children
- ❖ Service available for children

- ❖ Who are providing services for children
- ❖ Budget allocation for children by GO and other actors

A. Laws Policies Rules & Regulations

1. How are violence, abuse and exploitation against children defined by law?
2. How child abuse defined by the community? And are there any differences between the legal and community definitions?
3. What legal protections are stated in the country laws in relation with children abused, neglected & exploited?
4. Which government bodies & institutions are mandated by law to provide protection for children at sub city, woredas & kebele level?
5. Are service providers obligated by law to report suspected abuse or exploitation of children? If so, do they always do this?

B. Service & Service Delivery Mechanism (Provide Protection for Children)

1. What reporting mechanisms are existed when a child is affected by abuse violence or exploitation by whom & to whom?
2. What are the formal and informal systems roles for dealing with cases of violence against, abuse & exploitation of children in the community? Who informs, who makes decision & what is their response?
3. Is there any GO's or NGO's in arada sub city providing services of child survivors of abuse, neglect & exploitation? Like health care, legal services? Psychosocial care /counseling?
4. What types of social benefits are provided for vulnerable families and children?
5. Which institutions are providing these services

6. When cases occur do people report them to the police?
7. Can you mention the type of crimes usually reported to the police?
8. What crimes are usually not reported to the police? Why?

C. Capacities: Child Protection service provision, including capacity building human and financial resources and adequate resources

1. Responsible bodies by law for protecting children from violence, abuse & exploitation, are they willing to respond to child protection issues? Why or why not?
2. Are service providers (teachers, health workers, social workers & para social worker) trained to identify & report cases of violence, abuse, & exploitation?
3. Is there child protection unit in the police that is responsible for responding to reports of abuse, violence against children or exploitation?
4. How are the support and response services financed?

Key Informant Interview

1. Introduction

My name is Zeru Fantaw I am studying Master of Social Work in Addis Ababa University. I am conducting an assessment to know how the child protection systems both formal and informal are working in Arada Sub City to ensure the protection of children. This discussion is part of the study and aims at exploring and understanding how the formal and the informal systems are working together and factors that affect the systems to work effectively. Your contribution in this discussion could help in successfully accomplishing my studies and providing workable recommendation of system responses to all stakeholders that are responsible ensuring the protection of children. Your opinion and views discussed

in this discussion will be used only for this study and will be confidential. Any personal identification like name and similar information will not be included in the study. During the discussion I will use tape recorder not to miss any information raised throughout the process and the recorded information will be accessed by the researcher only and deleted at the end. Genuine and honest information will have a positive contribution for this study and for all stakeholders working the rights and protection of children.

Researcher areas of interest to know/what I want to probe

- ❖ To know the major violence against children
- ❖ How *criminals are treated by the existing laws*
- ❖ *The practicality of existing laws believed to be benefitting children*
- ❖ The type of service available and its quality of provision
- ❖ Budget allocation to children issue at different levels

A. Child Protection Issues:

1. Are there any children that have come across in different abuses like (trafficked, sexually & physically abused, missing, engaged in child labour, living or working on the street, living w/t parental care or in institutions. Etc..?
2. Can you mention the main violence, safety or crime problems that affect children in arada sub city?
3. Who is mostly by or vulnerable to the identified child protection issues & why?
4. What are particularly risky situations, places, or times when these crimes happen?
5. What are the main causes of the identified issues & problems and why?

B. Laws, Policies rules and regulations

1. How are violence, abuse and exploitation against children defined by law?
2. How child abuse defined by the community and is there any differences between the legal and community definitions?
3. Can you mention legal protections stated in the country laws in relation with children abused, neglected & exploited?
4. Which government bodies & institutions are mandated by law to provide protection for children at sub city, woredas & kebele level?
5. Are service providers obligated by law to report suspected abuse or exploitation of children? If so, do they always do this?

C. Service & Service Delivery

1. What reporting mechanisms are existed when a child is affected by abuse violence or exploitation by whom & to whom?
2. What are the formal and informal systems roles for dealing with cases of violence against, abuse & exploitation of children in the community? Who informs, who makes decision & what is their response?
3. Is there any GO's or NGO's in Arada sub city providing services of child survivors of abuse, neglect & exploitation? Like health care, legal services? Psychosocial care /counseling?
4. What types of social benefits are provided for vulnerable families and children?
5. Which institutions are providing the

6. When cases occur do people report them to the police?
7. What types of crimes are usually reported to the police
8. What crimes are usually not reported to the police? Why?
9. Responsible bodies by law for protecting children from violence, abuse & exploitation, are they willing to respond to child protection issues? Why or why not?
10. Are service providers (teachers, health workers, social workers & para social worker) trained to identify & report cases of violence, abuse, & exploitation?
11. Is there child protection unit in the police that is responsible for responding to reports of abuse, violence against children or exploitation
12. How are the support and response services financed?

D. Capacities: Child Protection service provision, including capacity building human and financial resources and adequate resources

1. Responsible bodies by law for protecting children from violence, abuse & exploitation, are they willing to respond to child protection issues? Why or why not?
2. Are service providers (teachers, health workers, social workers & para social worker) trained to identify & report cases of violence, abuse, & exploitation?
3. Is there child protection unit in the police that is responsible for responding to reports of abuse, violence against children or exploitation
4. How are the support and response services financed?.

Protection risks, threats, crime and reporting (these questionnaires are intended to law enforcing bodies)

1. What types of crimes are usually reported to the police?

2. What do people usually do when a child is abused or exploited in this community?
3. What is the response of police when abuse, exploitation or violence against children is reported? (For example when a child is raped, assaulted in family or community, child is working, is trafficked, etc...) NOTE: In this question, you really need to probe: what are the procedures, who is involved, is the police understanding of the law accurate and do they know how to deal with child victims/witnesses (have they received training in this area)
4. What is the response of police when children commit these crimes or other crimes? Is child detained, where, etc...?
5. Are there any issues which make it difficult for police to maintain law and order, and investigate or address violence and crime against boys and girls in this area?
6. Is there a person or special unit within the police that is responsible for responding to reports of sexual abuse, trafficking or exploitation? If yes, what training have they received?
7. Are there special codes of conduct or behavioral protocols you need to follow when addressing cases of abuse, exploitation and violence or when dealing with children?
8. What problems are there for people in accessing the police and judicial system?
9. Do you know which, if any government or NGO agencies in this area provide the following for child victims:
 - a. Healthcare?
 - b. Legal services?

c. Psychosocial care/counseling?

d. Other services?

10. Do you know if any other government and NGO agencies/institutions get involved in resolution of child protection cases and in which way?

11. Do you collaborate and coordinate your activities with any of these agencies and actors? How?

12. How the referral systems look like to benefit victims of violence?

13. Are there any other child protection issues that we should know about? Or the child protection issues we have discussed, which do you think is the most important to address?

Interview guide for Individual cases story

Introduction

Good morning/afternoon: my name is Zeru Fantaw I am a student of Addis Ababa University. The objective of this study is to explore the child protection issues and service delivery by different child protection actors in Arada Sub city. As part of my study I am coming to discuss the situation with you. I will use the information I obtain from you to provide a clear picture of child protection challenges and opportunities for children in Arada Sub City. Your presence and participation in this research is imperative to learn and understand the situation. The information I am going to collect will not identify you in any way and you may withdraw from the interview at any time without any negative consequence to you.

1. Tell me about your childhood and what your parents told you?
2. Tell me about your parents like education, jobs and social life
3. What is your contribution in the household in supporting your parents
4. Are you aware about child abuse?
5. What are the major child protection concerns in your area?
6. Have you come across any abuse by someone or any of your friends?
7. Do you know where and to whom report, if something happens in your life?
8. Is there any story that you want to share to me?

Thanks!!

Annex II
Statement of Informed Consent

I, _____ am requested to be part of the study conducted by Zeru Fantaw, on Factors Affecting Child Protection Systems Response to Addressing Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation against Children in Arada Sub City, Addis Ababa City Administration as a fulfilment of MSW.

I realized that the general aim of the study to understand how the formal and informal systems in Arada Sub City are working together to ensure the best interest of the child. My opinions and views discussed in this discussion will be used only for this study and will be confidential. Any persona identification like name and the like will not be included in the report of the study. I also understand that as a participant, my participation in this study is

voluntarily and I have the right to withdraw from the Interview process at any time. Signing in this document, I voluntarily consent to be interviewed as a participant in this study.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Researcher

Date