

**CAUSES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY;
A CASE OF LIDETA SUB-CITY ADMINISTRATION
REMAND AND REHABILITATION CENTER OF ADDIS
ABABA**

**MSW DISSERTATION A RESEAECH PROJECT
PROPOSAL (MSWP-001)**

PREPARED BY:

SISAY ZEGEYE TESFAY

(ENROLMENT NO: ID1403760)

ADVISOR:

MOSISA KEJELA (MR)

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

SEPTEMBER, 2015

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF MSW PROJECT
PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL FROM ACADEMIC
COUNSELLOR AT STUDY CENTRE**

Enrolment No.: ID1403760

Date of Submission: SEPTEMBER, 2015

Name of the study centre: ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Name of the guide: MOSISA KEJELA (MR)

Title of the project: CAUSES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY; A CASE OF LIDETA SUB-CITY
ADMINISTRATION REMAND AND REHABILITATION CENTER OF ADDIS ABABA

Signature of the student: _____

Approved/not approved: _____

Signature: _____

Name & Address of the student: _____

Name & Address of Guide: _____

SISAY ZEGEYE TEFAY

MOSISA KEJELA (MR)

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

Date: SEPTEMBER, 2015

Table of Contents

Content	Page
1.1. Background of the study	1
1.2. Statement of the problem	5
1.3. Research questions	7
1.4. Objectives of the Study	7
1.4.1. General objective	7
1.4.2. Specific objectives	7
1.5. Significance of the study	8
1.6. Operational definitions	8
1.7. Universe of the study	9
1.8. Sampling method	9
1.9. Tools of data collection	10
1.9.1. Observation Guide	10
1.9.2. Interview Guide	10
1.10. Data gathering procedure	10
1.11. Data processing and analysis	11
1.12. Ethical considerations	11

1.13. Chapterization/Organization of Chapters 12

References 13

1.1. Background of the Study

The term juvenile delinquency refers to the criminal acts performed by juveniles or the youths, thus calling them juvenile delinquents. It is also the legal term for criminal behavior carried out by minors recognized for having problematic behavior. Juvenile Delinquency can actually be traced in the early times, where governments all over the world have these poor laws that gave the youth much freedom, while some began as a form of youth rebellion. The problem of juvenile delinquency is the result of poor background, broken family, and influence of peer groups. Poverty, which is considered to be the roots of all problems and issues in the country, may not be eradicated easily. When there is poverty, there would still be juvenile delinquents prowling all over the city. Juvenile delinquency is a major problem in many societies as it causes major distress and damage to victims, perpetrators, and society at large. (Nas et al., 2005, cited in Nayak Bimal Kanta, 2013)

In the history of human society, in one way or another, there has been no time that men became absolutely free of problems. One of the most serious problems in human society is the problem of deviation from social norms. Anti-social behavior has occurred since the beginning of human appearance in the world. In other word, it is as old as human beings. Crime and delinquency are some of manifestations of such ant-social behaviors. Delinquency and violent crime threatens the quality of life of urban dwellers in the world. Not only does this divert scares resources from urban social development, but it also constitutes a serious impediment to the city's economic development. Globally, crime patterns are changing. Offenders are getting more and younger; and violent crimes are becoming more common. In addition, our life, our views of the world and our ways of knowing about crime have under gone considerable change with the changing patterns of crime and recent years. The roots of such violence may not be clearly understood but declining income and work opportunities, and the consequent frustration, particularly for youth are important factors. Violence, crimes and anti-social

behaviors are thought to be products of social inequality, social exclusion and lack of institutional and social protection. (Ainsworth, 2000)

An important aspect of the socialization process and a determinant to delinquency is the quality and process of interaction between parent and child. If communication breaks down at any point, it could lead toward delinquent behavior. In addition to that the absence of family as a unit could affect childhood and how children socialize. Where the family fails, other socializing agencies will take on an increasing role in a child's life. (Wickliffe, Joseph A. 2005)

The significant factor of juvenile crime is also the increasing number of single-parent families. Studies show that juvenile-delinquency rates are twice as high for youngsters from single-parent homes as for those in traditional households. Children in single-parent families are taken less care of and thus have feelings of being neglected, discriminated and isolated. The lack of parental love makes them hostile and cynical towards the society. (Audy, nd, cited in FSCE, 2005)

Juvenile delinquency include not only those minor who actually broken the law but also those who are likely to do so. It include whose attitude to other individuals, to the community to law full authority is such that it may lead him/her to breaking the law, if he/she has not done so persistent truants or children beyond the control of parents whether or not it is the parent fault would come within this definition. Therefore, in juvenile delinquency breaches of law represents only one aspect of the problem. The police statistics are useful indicating broadly the rates of crime and to a very limited extent, that of juvenile delinquency rather the attention of the police were emphasized only in ordinary crime because of this the problem has never been given full attention. Imprisonment was the major type of punishment made by juvenile because of the non-existence of special courts dealing with juvenile delinquency and the lack of juvenile institutions to which juvenile delinquency can be committed and also there is no rehabilitation or treatment centre in the case of juvenile delinquency. Adolescents form

remarkable portion of society, it demands to pay much attention to the adolescents. (Changizi, 2007, cited in Bimal Kanta Nayak, 2013)

Concentrated urban poverty is also recognized as having a significant role in determining if adolescents will be involved in criminal activity. (JCPR, 2005)

Juvenile delinquencies have implications for national security, which in turn can affect national economics through their negative impact on tourism and foreign investment. Extreme deprivation of basic life necessities can force children and youth to seek survival means and may involve in criminal activities such as pick pocketing and stealing. Among other things, delinquency is concentrated in deteriorating parts of the city. In addition to physical factors, environmental, cultural and social participation played an important role in the rates of crime and delinquency. The slum youth participate in culture that prescribes or encouraged delinquent behaviors. Nowadays, the problem of delinquency is more serious and wide spread in developing countries that have embarked in the process of rapid urbanization. (Andargachew, 1992)

In urban areas of most developing countries, especially African family, kinship and community ties are weakening due to urbanization and mobility. Urbanization, accelerated mobility, personal anonymity and the introduction of cash economy in developing countries that are leading the breakdown of the informal social control mechanism. As a result the peer groups such as youth gangs are flourishing in many African cities. (Abbot, 1973 cited in Laurence, 1989)

The causes and conditions for juvenile crime are usually found at each level of the social structure, such as social institutions, social groups and organizations, and interpersonal relations. The most important of which are described such as, Economic and social factors, Socio-economic instability is often linked to persistent unemployment and low incomes among the young, which can increase the likelihood of their involvement in criminal activity, Cultural factors- delinquent behaviour often occurs in social settings in which the norms for acceptable behaviour have broken down, Urbanization-Geographical analysis suggests that countries with

more urbanized populations have higher registered crime rates than do those with strong rural life styles and communities. The ongoing process of urbanization in developing countries is contributing to juvenile involvement in criminal behaviour, Family-Dysfunctional, family settings—characterized by conflict, inadequate parental control, weak internal linkages and integration, and premature autonomy—are closely associated with juvenile delinquency. Migration-it is also one of the causes which have major impact in child's career. (Mooney and Lind et al, 1997)

According to Andargachew (1992) Ethiopia is one of the developing countries where the majority of the people live below the poverty line. Young people constitute the majority of the poor. Moreover, the wide spread poverty, rapid urbanization, drought and famine, armed conflict, destabilizations of family life etc. have left millions of children in Ethiopia without care and protection. A Part of this, Ethiopia is a country where traditional values have existed for centuries and deep rooted. These and other related socio-cultural factors have led to the abuse, neglect and/or mal-treatment of children in Ethiopia. Though there is no adequate information depicting the problem of juvenile delinquency in Ethiopia, available information from the police indicates the problem is alarmingly increasing from time to time. It is not only the increase in number that should be of concern, but also the seriousness and the proportion of offenses committed by young people as compared with adults. In addition, the numbers of children who are potential delinquents have reached a very alarming proportion and should be taken very seriously before it becomes a far reaching social problem.

In Ethiopia, the problem of juveniles was mainly vagrancy than hardened delinquency. A survey research done in urban centers have shown many street boys were migrants from the surrounding rural areas who moved to the cities in search of employment and education when they failed to get what they wanted they stayed on the streets and started begging and or doing odd jobs such as working as partners in market places rather than return to their villages where life was not any better. (Andragachew, 1992)

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Recently, serious and violent crimes are being committed by juveniles in an alarming rate in developing countries. In addition to their involvement in violent person and property crime, juveniles are committing increasing number of alcohol and narcotic or drug related offences. Economic deterioration and poverty have absolutely aggravated the problem. Uncontrolled and unplanned migration from rural to urban areas in search of better working condition for exacerbated the problem of delinquency. (Andargachew, 1998)

Juvenile delinquency is not only the increase in number that should concern but the seriousness of the protection of offence committed by young people as compared with adults. During the ten months between July 1993 and June 1994, there were 143,169 criminals and juvenile offenders in the country, 1.7% of the crime or offences were committed by the 9-15 age group, 11.3% by 16-18 age group and 47.1% by the 19-30 age group. Hence, 60% of the crime and offences were perpetrated by children and youth. (Police report: 1993/94 cited in FSCE, 2005)

The problem of Juvenile delinquency is being more severity in the capital city Addis Ababa where we find more than 100,000 street children. Though the problem of Juvenile Delinquency is a problem of urban areas, few researches conducted on the problem in Ethiopia showed that the majority are migrants from rural areas where various social amenities are lacking. (Marina Ottawa, 1976 cited in Nayak, Bimal Kanta 2013)

According to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia(FDRE) Central Statistical Agency(CSA) Statistical Journal, 2015 total projected population of the country is estimated to be 90,740,000 persons of whom 73,219,000 are rural and 17,521,000 of urban. Based on the journal of 2015, Ethiopia is a country with a total population that exceeds 90 million standing third in Africa by its population size. It is believed that quite substantial part of the peoples live in rural or village areas where agriculture is the most dominant means of subsistence. In security of land and fluctuating agricultural production forces the rural youth to the capital city Addis Ababa in search better job and education. In their arrival in capital they realize that their dream of good

and luxuries life would not match the reality. Finally, they end up unemployed or became one of the street youth and children below the age. (The Reporter, 2015)

Though, there is not available information depicting the problem of juvenile delinquency in Ethiopia, some information from the police indicated that the problem is alarmingly increasing from time to time. Crimes and offences committed by the 9-29 age groups in Ethiopia have increased from a total of 36,789 in 1986/87 to 42,006 in 1988/89. (Andargachew, 1992)

The concern with the problem of juvenile delinquency is not only its increasing rate in Ethiopia but also the seriousness of the offences they commit. Delinquencies where reported to the police, no more for simple vagrancy and other petty offences, as in the early days of the 1960, or an even latter on. The seven most serious crime delinquencies were reported for the police in 1995/96 and 1996/97 were intentional homicide, assault and battery, robbery and attempted robbery , burglary (by day and night), theft, reach of trust, and crimes against state and municipal regulations such as black market activities. (Andargachew, 1998)

Remand and Rehabilitation centers for juvenile delinquents are a few institutions in the country. Addis Ababa is a capital city where the biggest and many long distance cross-country bus stations are situated. This made the place more vulnerable for high number of street children who in one way or another became involved in criminal act and join Addis Ababa rehabilitation institution for juvenile delinquents institution.

This is mainly because this city is first doorstep where the migrants make their first appearance before distributing the other towns. Moreover, poor people inhabit most of the villages in the sub-cities and the houses are very crowded and dilapidated shacks which harbor the formation of juvenile, sub-cultures. Despite its seriousness, the governmental organizations in the country have neglected the problems of Juvenile Delinquency. Whatever efforts have been made until now it is a drop in the ocean and could seldom scratch the surface of the problem. Therefore, the aim of this research paper is to find out the causes of juvenile delinquency and to suggest possible recommendations to the government and non-governmental organizations.

1.3. Research Questions

To analyze the causes of juvenile delinquency in Lideta Sub-city Administration remand and rehabilitation center, this research paper focuses to answer the following basic research questions.

1. What are the main causes of juvenile delinquency?
2. What are the major types of crimes committed by juvenile delinquents?
3. What kind of socio-economic statuses of juveniles have had before they enter to the Remand and Rehabilitation center?

1.4. Objectives of the Study

The study has both general and specific objectives.

1.4.1. General Objective

The general objective of the study is to determine the main causes of juvenile delinquency in Lideta Sub-city Administration remand and rehabilitation center for juvenile delinquents.

1.4.2. Specific Objectives

- ✓ To examine the main causes of juvenile delinquency.
- ✓ To find out the major type of crimes committed by juvenile delinquents.
- ✓ To determine the socio-economic statuses of juveniles before they enter to the Remand and Rehabilitation center.
- ✓ To suggest possible recommendations based on the result of the findings which may help to deal with the problem of juvenile delinquency in the fut

1.5. Significance of the Study

Like many other developing countries, Ethiopia is a country where the issue of juvenile delinquency has been neglected. But the problems seem to increase from time to time in an alarming rate. This study aimed at investigating the causes of juvenile delinquency. Although the scope the study is limited to certain aspects of the problem and only in one institution, it will be used as the base to study for further related problems. To sum up, this study had the following significances:

- ✓ It would pin point causes of juvenile delinquency.
- ✓ It would give some information to the concerned bodies to make further investigation.

1.6. Operational Definitions

Crime: is an act committed in violation of law where the consequence of conviction by a court is punishment, especially where the punishment is a serious one such as imprisonment.

Detention: A physically-restraining facility for the temporary placement of juveniles, who require secure custody for his/her own or the community's protection.

Juvenile: A person who is less than eighteen (18) years of age.

Juvenile delinquency: refers to crimes committed by young people who should not be treated like adult offenders. It may include young people who have actually committed or who are predisposed to commit crimes. According to the Ethiopian law, Juvenile delinquents been confirmed by court of law are minors between 9 to 15 years who have violated article 52, 56, 161, and 182 of the Ethiopia criminal code (1958 article 52, 56 and 182) and when this is confirmed by a court of law established of the purpose. (National youth policy implementation manual; 2005)

Juvenile delinquent: A person who is under age (usually below 18), who is found to have committed a crime in states which have declared by law that a minor lacks responsibility and thus must not be sentenced as an adult.

Offenders: are accused defendants in a criminal case or one convicted of a crime.

Offences: are illegal acts; transgressions.

Prisoner: A person deprived of liberty and kept under involuntary restraint, confinement, or custody; especially; one on trial or in prison.

1.7. Universe of the Study

The research is not an exhaustive or sufficient inquiry on the issue of investigation. The very purpose of this study will to examine the main causes of juvenile delinquency in Lideta Sub-city Administration remand and rehabilitation center for juvenile delinquents. Thus, this study uses only selected few individuals, theoretical backgrounds, socialized delinquents and the un socialized delinquents, the Causes; Treatment and Prevention of juvenile delinquents.

This study cannot make a generalization that its findings represent the overall causes of juvenile delinquency. This is because the respondents are limited only to Lideta Sub-city Administration Remand and Rehabilitation Center of Addis Ababa with a total population size of 110: among these 86 subjects will be taken as a sample. There might be other remand and rehabilitation center in Ethiopia. The universe of this study is therefore, limited and there is a certain degree of bias by the researcher.

1.8. Sampling Method

The sampling method used for this study will be simple random sampling, because simple random sampling is important to select respondents in equal chance and fairway. Out of this 110 total sample frames 86 subjects will be taken as a sample. Out of this 72 respondents are males and the remaining 14 are females. The size of the sample was determined from (Krejcie and Morgan 1970, cited in MSW-006 Social Work Research). The researcher prepares this

method so as to reduce the biases and to keep the reliability, validity and representativeness of the study. In the sample recruitment session list of names and role numbers of samples are taken from the sampling frame using lottery system.

1.9. Tools of Data Collection

To conduct this paper both quantitative and qualitative data will be collected from primary and secondary sources. In this method open ended as well as close ended questionnaires will be used. The study also uses qualitative methods such as observation guide and interview guide will be applied.

1.9.1. Observation Guide

Observation involved systematic watching of the places of detention (i.e. selectively attending to what is perceived as most useful to the study. It entails careful planning of what to observe. And also, in order to make observation 'public', what is seen has to be recorded in some way to allow the information to be analyzed and interpreted.

1.9.2. Interview Guide

In order to collect both quantitative and qualitative data, the researcher will prepared data collection plan and went for conducting field survey in the center. The researcher thus contacted the center coordinating office to identify and select the sample respondents carefully before administering the schedule. Semi-structured interviews will conduct with the counselor and caregivers to collect relevant information to the achievement of objectives of the study.

1.10. Data Gathering Procedure

The information required will be gathered with the help of questionnaires by administering the questionnaire among the study population. The questionnaires are prepared in English and translated in to Amharic. The questionnaire will be used for primary data collection in which

questionnaires will be filled by the juvenile delinquents in Lideta Sub-city Administration Remand and Rehabilitation Center. The translated questionnaires will be distributed by the investigator to selected study population. Pretesting will be conducted with selected respondents' to avoid ambiguity and complication, the feedback of the respondents will be used to prepare the final questionnaire. Questionnaires can be closed or open ended. In the case of closed-ended questionnaires, all the provided answers are found in every question and listed in the form of choose. In the case of open-ended questionnaires, the questionnaires will be answered by writing necessary information on the provided space clearly and neatly. The questionnaires will be prepared in a way that could be able to determine the causes of juvenile delinquency a case in Lideta Sub-city Administration Remand and Rehabilitation Center. Questionnaires will be used for primary data collection and the reason for choosing as a means of data collection mechanism are to minimize cost of the study and to enable respondents to answer the questionnaires in accuracy and privacy.

Observation guide and interview guide will be developed to participate participants in the discussion.

1.11. Data Processing and Analysis

Data will be processed and analyzed using hand tally, calculators and presented. Descriptive analysis technique will be used to convert raw data in to understanding forms and it will be analyzed through the tools of tabulation and percentage.

1.12. Ethical Considerations

The study will not have serious ethical implication on the study population. The method used to collect the data will not expose the study subjects to any punishment or harms. The study subjects will be briefed about the benefits and objectives of the study. The respondents will not suppose to give their names for interviewing and confidentiality and privacy during the data

collection process will be ensured. The subjects will be interviewed by the Amharic language, which both the data collector and respondents can communicate freely.

1.13. Chapterization/Organization of Chapters

This MSW dissertation is structured mainly in five chapters keeping in mind the objectives of the study.

1. The **first chapter** shall be an introduction and background to the study as well as the overall view of the study including, statement of the problem, the objectives, operational definition of key terms in the study, significance of the study, limitations of the study.
2. **Chapter two** literature review which outlines previous research undertaken in relation to the issues on the present study. In this chapter an attempt shall be made to describe the Theoretical background of juvenile delinquency, Sociological perspectives, Psychological perspectives, who is arrested, the historical development of the problem of juvenile delinquency in Ethiopia, factors of juvenile delinquency, who is juvenile delinquents, the possible Causes of juvenile delinquency in Ethiopia, Treatment and Prevention of juvenile delinquents.
3. **Chapter three** is about study area, study design and methodology, universe of the study, Sampling methods, Tools of data collection and Procedures, Data Processing and analysis including description of the study area, and ethical considerations in the research process.
4. **Chapter four** presents will focus on the data analysis and discussions that are gathered from the field of study.
5. Finally, **chapter five** is about packing those major findings in order to draw conclusions and forward recommendations for action.

References

- Andargachew Tesfaye (1980). **The Crime problem and its correction.** Volume I Addis Ababa-University, Ethiopia.
- Andargachew Tesfaye, (1992). **The Crime and Delinquency and its Correction.** Volume II Addis Ababa University-Ethiopia Senior essay.
- Andargachew Tesfaye, (1998). **Crime and Delinquency and its Correction.** (2nd edition.), Addis Ababa University-Ethiopia.
- Andargachew Tesfaye, (1998). **Manual on Community-Based Correction.** Addis Ababa, Forum on Street Children Ethiopia (FSCE).
- Andargachew, T. (2004). **The Crime Problem and its Correction.** Addis Ababa University Press. Vol.2.
- Azeb, A. (2004). **The Addis Ababa rehabilitation Institute for Juvenile Delinquents; Institutional Capacity Needs Assessment Survey Reports.** The Addis Ababa Social and Civil Affairs Bureau and Forum on Street Children Ethiopia.
- Forum on Street Children-Ethiopia (2005). **Baseline Study the State of Children in Conflict with the Law in Four Cities of Addis Ababa.** Addis Ababa-Ethiopia.
- Joint center for poverty research (2005).
www.Jcpr.org/conferences/old_briefings/juvenilecrimebriefing.html
- Laurence Steinberg, (1989). **Adolescence.** Cornell University (2nd edition.), Mc Graw Hill Company.
- Ministry of youth and sports (2005). **National Youth Policy Implementation Manual.** Addis Ababa-Ethiopia.
- Mooney lind a et al (1997). **Understanding social problem.** 4th edition Australia et al wads worth.
- MSW-006 Social Work Research. **Tools and Methods of Data Collection.** Indira Gandhi National Open University 2008

- Nayak, Bimal Kanta (2013). **Juvenile Delinquency: its Magnitude and its impact** at Gondar Town in Ethiopia (Journal Art).
- Peter B. Ainsworth, (2000). **Psychology and Crime**. (3rd edition.), Boston, Tim New burn.
- The Reporter, July 14, 2015 Ethiopia
- Wickliffe, Joseph A. (2005). **Why Juveniles Commit Crimes**. Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute.

[http:// www.Yale.edu/ynhti](http://www.Yale.edu/ynhti)