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The Challenges faced by NAPTIP Officials in the Control of Child Labour and Human Trafficking in Lagos State,
Nigeria

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**Laurea University of Applied Sciences
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**The Challenges faced by NAPTIP Officials in the Control of Child Labour in Lagos State,
Nigeria**

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This thesis work is designed to specifically bring to the fore the various forms of challenges that are being experienced or faced by the staff of NAPTIP at combating child trafficking and child labour in Lagos, Nigeria. This idea is borne out the desire to contribute to the striking upsurge around the world against child labour with reference to Lagos, Nigeria. The study used a qualitative research approach; structured interviews to collect data. The respondents' for this research were selected from the Officials of National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP). Certain considerations were considered in the course of selecting these individuals some of which are managerial experiences and position in the agency. Six staffs were interviewed and the data that was collected from the interviews was analyzed through content analyzes. The questions that were asked in the interviews were to search for answers to the research question: What are the Challenges faced by NAPTIP officials in the elimination of child labour occurrence in Lagos State, Nigeria?

Findings: The findings of this study revealed that staffs of NAPTIP do face a lot of challenges working in combating child labour. The findings reflected the various forms of challenges faced by NAPTIP staff; inadequate funding, slow judicial process and inadequate penalty and also the attitudes of the victims were the main issues pointed out.

In conclusion, the benefits derived from the working life partner of this thesis, NAPTIP, can not be over emphasized. The moral support, encouragement and constructive criticism of this thesis work received from the agency is immense. The agency also avail the researcher the opportunity to use its related materials and also interview its employees and staff. The outcome of the thesis will be relevant and useful in its operation as the outcome would be used in work life situations as it give information on certain challenges facing the NAPTIP officials.

Key Words: Child Labour, Human Trafficking, NAPTIP, Government Policy

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1 Introduction

Changes and sharp transitions are under way around the globe in organizing Government agencies towards ensuring that the menace called Child labour is completely eradicated in our society. Africa ranks the highest when it comes to child labour participation with 33 percent in East Africa, 24 percent in West Africa and 22 percent in middle Africa, then East Asia and South Asia with 20 and 14 percent respectively (ILO, 2006). In Nigeria, the most common forms of child labour outside the home are street vending, hawking and petty trading, begging, car washing, bus conducting, weaving jobs, farm hands and cattle rearing (UNICEF Child Domestic Workshop, 1998). Children as young as 6 years (or less) old may be found on the street trading, but most victims of this practice are between the ages of 9 and 14 years. Government agencies are in partnership with associations, foundations and institutions with similar goals to provide human services, promote grassroots economic development, prevent environmental degradation, and protect civil rights of children (ILO, 2008).

Child labour is not peculiar to African countries but a global problem that affects the development and growth of a child. There is striking upsurge around the world against child labour. Government agencies and non-governmental organizations are in partnership to control or eliminate the ugly practice called child labour in the society. There are three significant ways of expanding voluntary sector participation in controlling child labour, below, outside and above. "Below" in building spontaneous grass roots energies; "Outside" by the actions of various private and public agencies and; "Above" By Government policies (Salamon, 1994).

Child labour in Nigeria has different dimensions, and they mostly take place in semi-formal and informal companies with hundred of every thousand youths been used as domestic servants working mainly for comfortable urban households. Domestic child workers are the least visible category and frequently sexually bothered. Nigerian children work in public areas such as an apprentice (informal studentship) with auto technicians and vulcanizers; as bus conductors, market street suppliers, beggars, cobblers, vehicle washing, scavengers, foot washing as well as in Semi-public configurations such as cottage industries, auto technician training courses, private household and farming plantation. Metal workers, Carpenters, Tailors / weavers, Hairdressers / Barbers, Domestic Servants, Caterers and on the farm (UNICEF Nigeria, 2006).

Therefore, the research is aimed at investigating "The Challenges faced by The National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related offences (NAPTIP) Official in control of child Labour in Lagos State".

Lagos state , South west Nigeria, was the former capital city of Nigeria. At the moment, Lagos houses fifty seven (57) Local Council Development Areas (LCDA) that constitute Lagos State, and it is the most populous of the thirty-six (36) federating States and the Federal Capital Territory of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Lagos State has a population of 9,113,605 people (National Population Commission, 2006). Also, the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related offences (NAPTIP) was established by the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2003. The establishment of NAPTIP was part of the efforts of the Nigeria Government to coordinate all rules and regulations on trafficking in persons and related offences to strengthen and enhance effective legal means for international cooperation in criminal matters and to investigate and prosecute traffickers, which is a bold step towards addressing the scourge that all forms of exploitation such as sexual abuse, labour exploitation and child labour constitute in Nigeria. However, NAPTIP is faced with numerous challenges in eliminating the menace of child labour in Lagos state. Hence, this thesis is poised at investigating the challenges faced by NAPTIP Officials.

The benefits of NAPTIP to the success of this research is beyond description as the researcher was given an enormous support both morally and in terms of using the relevant and related materials of the agency. NAPTIP officials were also on ground to give relevant answers to the researcher's questionnaire. The outcome of the thesis is also relevant to the successful operation of the agency as the outcome is relevant in real life issues which invariably gives information on certain challenges facing the NAPTIP officials in the course of their duties.

2 Theoretical Framework

2.1 Background of the Thesis

This chapter has been designed to specifically give an in-depth overview of the various literature background on "Child Labour" and description and the role of working life partner. To give a clear cut definition of the subject topic, related terms, views and perspectives of International Labour Organization (ILO) and other related organizations such as UNICEF. This chapter also justifies the needs for the research work. It also explains in clear terms; while the researcher has developed interest in this subject matter.

2.1.1 Child Labour and its General View

Child labour has been given different views and definitions from all corners of the world. Different yardsticks have been used by different countries in the course of giving a proper definition to child labour.

Child labour has been defined based on the views that there are different degrees of differences existing between the natures of works undertaken by children. Some of these works are physically demanding and stressful while others are hazardous in nature and morally degrading. To an extent, it has been agreed by all that it is not all activities that are being carried out by children are termed as child labour and hence; it is pertinent to give a clear distinction between tasks and job that constitute child labour and those that are not. (ILO, 2005)

According to ILO "Child labour is simply refer to as any form of activities or task that denies children of their childhood, potentials and dignity; and are also detrimental to both their mental and physical growth". Hence, Child Labour can be viewed as activities of any form that harms and prevent child's growth and development.

2.1.2 Child Labour in Nigeria

Child labour is not peculiar to African countries but a global problem that affects the development and growth of a child. There is striking upsurge around the world against child labour. Government agencies and non-governmental organizations are in partnership to control or eliminate the ugly practice called child labour in the society. Child labour in Nigeria has different dimensions, and they mostly take place in semi-formal and informal companies with hundred of every thousand youths used as domestic servants working mainly for comfortable urban households. According to Child welfare league report one hundred thousands (100,000)

boys and girls is working as a child in Lagos, Nigeria (Child Welfare League of Nigeria 2000). "The first empirical concern with Child Labour in Nigeria was contained in a doctoral thesis (Oloko, 1979). The same author also investigated child labour on a reasonably moderate scale on 1,200 children and 334 adults in 4 local government areas (LGAs) in Lagos State. The research was supported by Ford Foundation between 1987-1989. Upon completion of the research, UNICEF was consequently convinced of the necessity of addressing child labour in Nigeria, thereby supported the Situational Analyses of Street Working Children in Lagos, Kaduna and Calabar" (National Survey on Child Labour, 2000, 2)

With reference to the National Survey, "the results of the analysis showed that of 60 percent boys and 40 percent girls were found on the streets trading within the age bracket 6 and 16 years. A subsequent survey, which focused on identification of the circumstances, and problems which confront Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances (CEDC) was carried out in five towns - Kaduna, Bauchi, Lagos, Calabar and Oshogbo (Oloko, 1992). The study consisted of a total of 2,079 subjects of whom, 413 were street children, 362 were working street children, 454 were in cottage industries and mechanical shops and 297 were young domestics. The cited studies document the following trends:

Children worked at earlier ages in the 1990s than they did in the 1980s. Working children received less training for their economic participation in the late 1990s than they did in the 1980s. Whereas only 1 out of 4 school children worked in street vending in Lagos State after school hours, late in 1970s; the number increased to 2 out of 4 in the late 1980s and 2 out of 3 in the late 1990s. (Oloko, 1992)"

"Increasingly boys and girls now engage in most occupations as gender restrictions have been totally eschewed in the involvement of children in work in certain crafts. In some of the study towns, one-third of domestic servants escaped from the rural areas to urban areas like Lagos State, Port-Harcourt (capital of Rivers State) and Abuja (Federal Capital Territory) but mostly to Lagos State without the knowledge of their parents. Unfortunately, the middlemen abandoning them to their fate upon arriving in Lagos State resulting in the case of child labour while the middlemen appropriating a substantial part of their income. (Oloko 2000)"

According to the survey on Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances (CEDC) in Lagos State (Oloko, 1992), exposure to accidents and deviant adults, assaults, sexual exploitation, extortion and vulnerability to diseases were identified as the hazards of child labour in Lagos State and Nigeria as a whole. Moreover, restricted opportunities for enrolment in school, dropping out of school, absenteeism, lack of punctuality and abysmal performance to mention but a few were identified as the educational consequences of child labour. However, it is worthy of note that their observations need to be made on this thesis based on the literature review with regards to child labour in Nigeria and Lagos State to be specific.

Firstly, their literatures, citations, findings, although revealing, could not be generalized across the country because their scope was not national but selected States. Secondly, the unavailability of national data on child labour resulted in the research to be based on estimated figures, which varied significantly from 16 million in 1979 (Ukpabi, 1979) to 8 million in 1999 (Oloko, 1999) depending on the meaning of child labour that was utilized. Thirdly, whilst most of the previous researches and literatures were partly or completely focused on visible child labourers such as street trading children, less priority was given to hidden working children such as those involved in house maid activities. It is however unfortunate that national, zonal and even state statistics on various aspects, dimensions and trends in child labour have been partially responsible for the weak political will to implement policies and enforce extant laws. The government took a systematic step in 2003 as the country signed a Memorandum of Understanding with International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), which gave birth to the Nigerian National Programme known as NAPTIP on the Elimination of Child Labour. Despite this step, the agency had been saddled with challenges that had hindered the agency in its efforts to control child labour in Lagos State, Nigeria. With this commitment, Nigeria is prepared to initiate, support and implement programmes at eliminating child labour.

Numerous studies have been done on the menace of child labour and fostering practices, however less studies are available on child labour from the view point of fostering practices in urban areas like Lagos (which cannot be over studied) due to its high population growth with consistent inflow of migrants with the perception that life will be rosy and a better greener pasture in Lagos thereby increasing the scenario of child labour. Domestic child workers are the least visible category and frequently sexually bothered. Nigerian children work in public areas such as an apprentice (informal studentship) with auto technicians and vulcanizers; as bus conductors, market street suppliers, beggars, cobblers, vehicle washing, scavengers, foot washing as well as in Semi-public configurations such as cottage industries, auto technician training courses, private household and farming plantation. Metal workers, Carpenters, Tailors / weavers, Hairdressers / Barbers, Domestic Servants, Caterers and on the farm (UNICEF 2006). Children survive by begging on the streets in the Northern Nigeria (U.S. Embassy-Lagos, 1995). Daughters of a poor household were sold under the disguise of marriage as a means to increase their income (IPEC, Nigeria).

Therefore, the need to eliminate the occurrence of child labour becomes imperative and also the importance of children in society cannot be overemphasized. That is, children are treasured worldwide for the main point of the fact that the baton of leadership will be handed down to them. Thus, children need to be safeguarded; their rights to education, self-expression and freedom from exploitation need to be upheld at all cost.

2.1.3 Causes of Child Labour

Child labour cannot be effectively discussed without looking at some of the major causes of this menace. This study shall try to look at the causes under three subheadings; Child labour as a form of contribution to the family, Child labour as a consequence of family-dynamics and Child labour as a result of poverty.

This is extremely prevalent with many children in developing countries where youngsters work because they want to support their household. Children in these area work because the family need assist both with contributing to the household income and support with unpaid family work. As children often regard themselves as a member of the family unit, most youngsters say that it is reasonable and valid to contribute to the family, particularly when the survival family depends upon it. The figure 1 shows different menial jobs that children engaged in to support themselves and their family.

As shown in the figure 1, the children engage in activities ranging from hawking, agricultural activities and mining to support their. A research carry out among children on the street in Brazil showed that youngsters lived in the streets because they wanted to assist their family. The largest part of their earnings are paid to their family monthly. The fear of losing support from family and left alone is another common factor behind child labour. However, the enforcement of standards concerning minimum age requirement for work are been seen by many children as a bearer to their will of contributing to their household and to have an income. The children are of the view that they have the right to work because they must satisfy their needs and thereby protect their own survival. (Boyden J, Ling B and Myers W (,144-145)

Child labour as a consequence of family-dynamics is the effect of family structure on the welfare of children in mostly developing countries. The World Bank among others has stressed the relationship between family size and the occurrence of child labour among poor people in developing Nations. A general finding is that children from large families are more likely to part in child labour than children from small families. Other impediment to child development and welfare which is connected to large family sizes are malnutrition, child mortality and morbidity. Children's educational involvement and progress in school may decrease through large family sizes as parents spend a little money on their children's schooling. Children from large families are more likely to get involved in child labour Nigeria for example not all children in the same family were deprived equally in most cases. Many societies send their boys to school, not the girls and the older child are more likely to be sent to work than the younger ones. (Boyden J, Ling B and Myers W,137).

The level of education and occupation of parents is another important area of note in family-dynamics. Parents with no or low level of education tends to settle for informal and petty jobs which fetch very little income. These parents see education something, not within the realm of their wards and will rather have them work as street hawkers, bus conductors, and cleaners, etc. to support the income of the family. A general discussion is about whether poor households have children as a systematic plan to provide more workforces. When children start to involve economically from childhood, their income from labour greater than the costs of raising them. (Boyden J, Ling B and Myers W,137-139).

The fostering of children is also another ancient phenomenon contributing to the growth of child labour in Lagos State, Nigeria and it is also one of the consequences of family-dynamics. Child fostering means the relocation, transfer, giving out or exchange of children among families as well as from biological or natal homes to other homes where they are raised and cared for by foster parents (Fiawoo, 1978). Fostered children do not receive any formal education, instead they are forced or lured to serve as domestic servants become street hawkers or engage in other activities that are not favourable to their growth mentally, physically, educationally, socially and morally and as well as being exposed to all sorts of vices. However, in Nigeria, to foster out a child does not means that parents inferiority but for other reasons especially, as the child is expected to return to the biological parents anytime from a couple of days to many years and may be an important source of wealth transfer to the parents or of social mobility for the clan or kin group at an older age (Isiugo-Abanihe, 1985

Therefore, the most common forms of child abuse and child labour are through child fostering, it remains a wide spread phenomenon throughout the nation engaged by both biological as well as foster parents and children on the street. It is an issue that has generated diverse opinion from different scholars and interest groups in Lagos and in Nigeria as well.

Poverty is one of the most common of causes behind child labour or under age work. Most of research in developing countries shows that poor household put their children in labour market more often than household in a better financial situation. Increase in the house earnings is one the reason while children work , it is also a security method to balance the risk of losing economic earnings, for example, with the loss of an adult income earner. Since many poor families spend their income on food, the income of the children is very crucial to the family sustenance. It is the common notion that poverty is the major reason children go to work; this is an area where some employers of labour explore because they know poor children have less education, less option for employment and no little or none of their rights. (Boyden J, Ling B and Myers W, 127-128).

2.2 Child labour and protection

Recent statistics suggest that child participation in the labour market fell globally by 11 percent between 2002 and 2006 (International Labour Office, 2006). According to the same report, the number of children involved in hazardous work declined even more drastically falling by 26 percent overall and 33 percent among workers aged 5-14 years. The report also suggests that the more harmful the work, the faster the decline in child involvement has been (International Labour Office, 2006). These figures reveal broad geographical differences where in Latin America child labour declined by more than 68 percent, leading the decline rates, while in Asia and Africa it reportedly fell by 3 and 8.4 percent (International Labour Office, 2006,6).

This reduction follows two decades of theoretical developments in conceptualization of childhood and a consequent reassessment of the role of work in this early life of victims. The current interpretation of childhood is no longer constrained by classical models of children as “weak, helpless and in need of protection and supervision”, but as a social construction perceived in relation to their particular socio-cultural and historical context (Woodhead and Montgomery, 2003). This theoretical shift and its gradual incorporation into international policy appear to have been catalysts for the development of local programmes aimed at addressing child labour.

Supposing these figures represent accurate estimates, what has been witnessed in Latin America over the past four years is a little short of a miracle. The global figures suggest that signatory States of the ILO's convention (182) are in fact taking actions to “prohibit and eliminate the worst forms of child labour”. The decline in Latin America is largely attributable to events in Brazil, where a combination of government, civil society, private enterprise and a high profile publicity campaign have brought about a unified front committed to reducing child labour. It also applied in Mexico, where education and welfare programmes appear to be having a positive impact in the reduction of child labour. With a combined population of nearly 300 million, these countries (Brazil and Mexico) make around 60 percent of the total Latin American population. However, there appear to be a consensus of opinion that Latin America has taken giant strides to significantly decrease child labour.

To this end therefore, Liebel (2007) contends that the ILO's 2006 figures represent an unconvincing overestimation of the true decline. Irrespective of this discrepancy, the question however, is whether the decline of child labour in the region ultimately depends upon social, political and cultural factors specific to the region; or whether it represents a successful example of concerted locally led initiatives aimed at reducing child labour, or perhaps a mixture of both (Furtado de Oliveira, 2006). Whichever was the case, the multiple factors that

have contributed to the decline represent an example of how child labour theories have influenced policies that in turn have informed successful local programmes.

To illustrate the link between theory, policy and practice using the example of Latin America, first we have to discuss the disjuncture between classical notions of childhood, work and real lives and how assumptions made based on a western conception of childhood have informed unsuccessful policies. It is necessary to take a look at how theoretical developments have influenced child labour policy, particularly convention 182 and how it has been translated into practice. In the same connection, a presentation of strategy for the eradication of child labour based on the success of local programmes would be apt in this process. This strategy draws heavily on recommendations made at the “Dignidad sin perdida” Conference (Mexico City, March 2006), over which the authors of the document cited presided.

2.3 Child Labour and Government Policy

James and James (2004) describe the role of policy within the process of production and reproduction of childhood. Their discussion situates social policies within the arena of law and legislation, which they describe as “formal institutions such as courts, judicial and other legal actors as well as informal processes for regulation such as discursive processes through which morals, norms, expectations and behaviour are both framed and moderated” (James and James (2004). In this sense, policy is “one of the primary social mechanisms for social ordering, comprising a system of principles and practices that underpin the social construction of a wide range of behaviours, attitudes, beliefs and relationships” (James and James (2004). Legislation, it is suggested, must therefore “comprise and reflect cultural knowledge, (because) it is quintessentially normative, defining people's rights, freedoms and responsibilities” (James and James, 2004). When legislation and policy do not reflect the social and cultural realities that they should be defending and defining, laws are either physically enforced in an authoritarian style, or flagrantly ignored, corrupted and abused.

Working children have complained that policies supposedly established for their protection place them at a disadvantage instead (Myers, 1999). They often reject International Labour Standards because the views of children and childhood presented by these policies do not fit with the realities of developing countries (Myers, 2001; Boyden et al., 1998). It is well documented that forcibly removing children from work may push them into more hazardous forms of employment (Boyden, 1997; International Working Group on Child Labour, 1998). Research into the role of child labour on school enrolment also discloses failing policy as a result of many factors: the elevated economic burden of delivering children to college; poor children schools are frequently not available nearby; and the pessimism that an excellent education is nearly impossible to acquire (Anker, 2004) and (Boyden, 1988 Boyden, 1997)

However, school and work can also be combined, especially where school hours end or begin in the middle of the day (Anker, 2002). Neither does ethnographic research support the assumption that if parents could, they would always send their children to school and that it is poverty that forces them into work (Boyden, 1997). This suggests that parents do not necessarily see formal education as superior to the training and skills that can be acquired at home or at work.

Child labour theory has also focused too much on “traditional” types of work; assuming it is located largely in illegal, informal and agricultural sectors; and that it (child labour) is linked to a particular stage of economic development that will decline as economies grow, become formalized and industrialized. Recent research suggests that globalisation and capitalist style “development” has actually brought about an intensification and expansion of child labour in formal sectors (Aitken et al., 2006; Seabrook, 2001). Mexico presents an example of this where after a decade of strong growth child labour is quite literally on the move. While whole families migrate annually to commercial agricultural plantations, hundreds of thousands of youths make the journey north to work in maquiadoras or risk their lives illegally crossing the border in search of similar work (Gamlin et al., 2006; Barriero Gracia et al., 2002; Zabin and Hughes, 1995).

Child labour policy might have been “getting it wrong” for some time by focusing on the complete eradication of child labour and perpetuating western versions of childhood which dictate that work itself is harmful to child development. Researches increasingly show that children in fact see work as a legitimate right and opportunity to play a more active and important role in the society and a rite of passage to adulthood (Liebel, 2004). This perspective emphasises the function of private agency in children’s labour market participation and recognises the fact that it serves a fulfilling objective to the household need by making children contributors to family aspiration. There are advantages it offers to children because they acquire abilities and skills, form social associations, build relationships and worthwhile experience.

The social-constructivist’s position does not decimate child labour to the realm of absolute relativity and it is unhelpful to discuss its legitimacy as a dichotomous “good or bad” situation. While a blanket policy of child labour eradication is socio-culturally unacceptable and potentially harmful, a long-term strategy which concentrates on reducing child participation within the work market and starts to focus around the situations where they’re most in danger is appropriate for most of the world’s children. Most children working full-time are unable to either attend school or to progress adequately (Anker and Melkas, 1996). Formal schooling, at least to secondary school level, is essential for children to have the chance of earning a living wage as adults. Even in countries where schooling is of poor quality, researchers found that the “credential effect” from school attendance is powerful. Alleviation of poverty and redis-

tribution of income are long-term goals for most poor nations and child labour works to their detriment (Post, 2001). Child labour hinders development since it means the next generation of workers will be less skilled and less well educated (International Labour Organisation, 1998).

If the importance of social mobility, poverty reduction and improved education are not considered adequate justification for a long-term policy of reducing child labour, then it is worth remembering that most forms of child work are also exploitative and potentially hazardous. The majority of manual tasks are potentially hazardous when they are carried out by young children for long periods under difficult conditions, or in the vicinity of hazardous substances or equipment. Children employed in family and local work may be more vulnerable to exploitation since legislation tends to be less vigorously imposed on this type of child labour (Gamlin and Hesketh, 2007; Landrigan et al., 1995). As Nieuwenhuys (1994) suggests, “exploitation outside the world economy, within the realm of the family is equal, if not more likely than in the formal sector”. While we recognize that in some situations and for some families, child labour is necessary to alleviate short-term hardship, this perspective does not contradict the need for a long-term strategy targeted at reducing child labour and increasing school attendance (UNICEF, 1996).

2.4 Child Labour and Development

The effect of child labour on development could be personal, family and societal. At the individual level, child labour disrupts the physical and mental development of children. This situation leads to an increment in the amount of wayward, psychologically unstable, and stunted persons in the society. It continues as a source of children poor performance in class, shying away from school, getting in contact with bad peer group whose influence push the child into such untoward misdemeanour like armed robbery, rape and drug abuse. This youthful misdemeanour spells disaster for the society, as Basu (1998) maintained that there's a ‘child labour trap’ that the family will probably perpetually fall into. His contention is that an increase in child labour frequently causes a decline in the acquisition of human capital. He explains further that if a child is employment-involved all through the day, it is likely that the child will remain uneducated and have low productivity later in life as an adult. That is, if a child works more, his productivity as an adult decreases because child labour diminishes adult productivity. Pigou (1920) noted that many forms of unskilled labour the child is exposed to early in life not merely deny them the necessary training, but gradually untrained its victims. Swaminathan (1997) confirmed this in her study in India; while Galbi (1997) argued that the share of child labour in the mills fell during the early nineteenth century precisely because the earlier indulgence in child labour meant that, as these children grew up, there would be a ‘cohort of none productive adult workers’. The Flagrant consequence of child labour in a society is the high increase in level of illiteracy and crime rate. The children who are exposed to child child

and making money in their early life may find it difficult to return to school, as most of them do become gangsters, hoodlums, and urchins who may later constitute a nuisance to the peace of the nation.

The long run implication of the exploitation of the child through child labour won't only damage the children concerned but additionally suppresses the emergence of the skilled labour force, which can easily lead Nigeria automatically into a cycle of impoverishment. It can result in high child mortality rate; a consequence of working routinely during teenage years for longer hours, as well as in hazardous conditions. When such children attain their adult years they are frequently broken physically, psychologically, morally and intellectually. Usually, these victims may have lost the chance to have education which could open secured futures for them. This feeling becomes salient since the quality and quantity of schooling in youngsters today determines the wage they eventually earn in the labour market. Government shouldn't only emphasis on the decrease in family size but additionally enforces what the law states around the prohibition of child labour and compulsory education, which can only be attainable when parents are provided with the right impetus for children to earn free compulsory qualitative education.

2.5 The description and Role of Working Life Partner

The working life partner of this thesis is the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP). The reaction of Nigeria government to address the bane of child labour and human trafficking in Nigeria and in fulfilment of her international duty under the United Nations convention on human trafficking protocol against transnational organized crime, the agency (NAPTIP) was founded by the Law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2003 on the 14th of July 2003. The agency commences its operation on the 26th of August , 2003 . The Agency has seven (7) zones: Lagos Zonal command, Kano Zonal command, Benin Zonal command, Uyo Zonal command, Enugu Zonal command, Sokoto Zonal command and Maiduguri Zonal command with the headquarters at the Federal capital territory Abuja, Nigeria and they majorly financed by the Federal government of Nigeria and donations from local and international organisation.

In other to carry out this mandate, the following departments were created within NAPTIP in accordance with section 8 (1e) of the the Law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2003 : Administration, investigation and Monitoring, counselling and rehabilitation, public Enlightenment, Finance and Account, Research and progrmme Development, Training and Manpower Development and legal prosecution. The Section 4 of trafficking in persons Act 2003 empowers NAPTIP to perform the following functions: to coordinate all laws and regulations on human trafficking, child labour and related offences and undertake the duties to improve the

success of elimination of human trafficking and child labour. NAPTIP fortify and increase effectual legal means for international joint operation in criminal issues; it controls the international activities of trafficking in person to investigate and prosecute traffickers, which are bold steps towards addressing the scourge that all forms of exploitation such as sexual abuse, labour exploitation and child labour in Nigeria constitute.

NAPTIP adopt 4 P's strategies in its operation for effective reduction and elimination of child labour and human trafficking. The 4 P's as follows: Prevention in every crime is the most important. NAPTIP has departments that are responsible for different functions in preventing human trafficking and child labour. One of such is the Public Enlightenment Department, which has been saddled with the task of sensitizing the public on the danger of child labour and human trafficking. Protection involves comprehensive activities geared towards the successful rehabilitation of and integration of victims into the society. After counselling, the victim's family is traced; the victim is empowered and made ready to be integrated into the society. The officials of NAPTIP stated the challenges they confront in the protection and rehabilitation of the victims of child labour and human trafficking. Prosecution involve investigation, monitoring of cross-border movements and prosecution all case of child labour and human trafficking in courts of law. It is important to note that National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP) cannot do it alone, therefore, the agency is in partnership with international and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, media organizations within the country and abroad. The agency is in partnership with both local and international organisation such as United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Organisation for Immigrants (IOM), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organisation (ILO), United State Agency for International Development (USAID), United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). Also, NAPTIP is in collaboration with some Africa, Asia, America and European countries for effective eradication or elimination of child labour and traffic in persons.

3 Research Methodology

3.1 Purpose of the Study

This research looked into the challenges being faced by NAPTIP officials in the control of child labour in Lagos. This study investigated some challenges or problems faced by NAPTIP officials in controlling child labour. Divergent transitions are under way in Nigeria in organizing government agencies towards the elimination of child labour and trafficking. The research focused on the workers (staffs). Its aim was to discover the challenges faced by the workers in controlling the menace of child labour in order to reach a meaningful conclusion on the problem of child labour and trafficking, this objective was used in this research: To examine or investigate the scourge facing NAPTIP officials in Lagos State towards controlling child labour and child trafficking.

The problems to be studied as well as its objectives were arrived at in collaboration with the working partners (in NAPTIP) who supported the researcher efficiently throughout the process. Also, the aim of the working life partner was to use the outcomes of the thesis in its operations. Primarily, the moral support, encouragement, advice, constructive criticism and suggestions received from the present Zonal Commander, Mr. Joseph Famakin from Lagos Zonal office of NAPTIP was immeasurable. Also, it is worthy of note to acknowledge the support received from the various departments ranging from the Investigating and Monitoring, Legal and Prosecution, Public Enlightenment, Admin and Finance, Research, to the Counseling and Rehabilitation departments all within NAPTIP through the departmental heads. Specifically, the research and developments assisted greatly with the necessary and relevant literatures to get the research started and especially with the hints on forming reasonable interview questions. This department also supported the researcher with required data from past and relevant researches. Tremendous support was also received from the administration and finance department in getting enough material about the agency itself, NAPTIP. This department also supported the researcher with required data. Real time information about the legal proceedings, reported and prosecuted cases was also retrieved from the legal and prosecution department. Counseling and rehabilitation department assisted greatly by providing the researcher with practical field experience through visitation to the rehabilitation center at Ikeja (Lagos State capital). In all, the support received within the agency at large was significant to ensure a hitch-free research process. The results of this research would be used in work life situations as it will give information on certain challenges facing the NAPTIP officials. Also, this research will help in policy formulation as the outcome of the study would as well create required awareness on the danger of child labour and trafficking and its implication on the national development. Realizing these challenges, intervening actions might increase the standard of services and fast reduction on child labour and child trafficking.

Research Question

What are the Challenges faced by NAPTIP officials in the elimination of child labour occurrence in Lagos State, Nigeria?

3.2 Qualitative Research Approach

Qualitative research method was employed in this research because the research is person-centered and the topic seemed to address the why and how of an agency, not just what, where, or when. Therefore, the knowledge obtained in using a qualitative interview approach is therefore situational and conditional (Rubin 1995, 38). It is more discovering and describing the complexity of an idea and new perspectives in order to find meanings. There are other research methods such as narrative analysis, constructivism, and phenomenological approaches though these are newer research methods as compared both quantitative (variable-centered) and qualitative methods (person-centered) (Padgett D: 2008:1). Qualitative method is less expensive and the data are easily collected. This research method seeks to locate the meanings and knowledge of encounters, provide a clearer view of problem under study; it as well offers protection against ambiguous claims. Qualitative scientific studies are frequently utilized in social research because it uses a case study of words and pictures instead of amounts. It has also found widespread acceptance in social services because it gathers an in-depth knowledge of human attitude and the reasons for such behavior. It is stated that qualitative research tries to understand life experiences of people; thereby people's point view are documented and analysed (Silverman 2000). The use of qualitative research method does not limit the researcher to existing theories but it rather gives room to new ideas and new theories. In-depth deblockations of participants' events are a concern to qualitative research, and qualitative data are collected through such methods as structured interviews, participant observation, documents and texts, and the researcher's reactions (Myers 2009,73). It is however worthy that while quantitative research uses statistics to get its results. Qualitative researcher's uses questionnaires, observation and interviews to collect data. Hence, justifying my reason for choosing interview as a means of conducting a qualitative research on the challenges faced by officials of NAPTIP in eliminating child labour in Lagos State, Nigeria.

3.3 Selection of Participants

The participants' for this research were selected from the Officials of National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP). Focused individual interviews were conducted on six heads of various departments of NAPTIP, Lagos state, Nigeria. The heads of these departments were chosen because of their managerial experiences and position in the agency. Because the researcher is a student of Social services Degree wanting to study the participants' experiences on the challenges facing NAPTIP Officials in control of

child labour and human trafficking and their willingness to talk about these challenges were the basis for selecting the participants for this study. Participants interviewed has been working with NAPTIP for more than four years . six interviews were conducted with six participants (heads of departments) between the 29th of April,2013 and 2nd May, 2013. The Zonal Commander interview took 60 minutes while interview with other heads of departments took about 45 minutes each . The copy of consent letter from the Headquarters' of NATIP , Abuja were given to the participants and the interviews were conducted. The Zonal Commander and head of Investigation and Monitoring department were interviewed on the first day the 29th of April, 2013. The head of Research and Programme Development and Administration and Finance were interviewed on the 30th of April, 2013 at their various offices and finally , the head of Legal and Prosecution department and Public Enlightenment and Counselling department were interviewed on the 2nd of May, 2013 in their office and the interview. (60 minutes) with the zonal commander while interview with other respondent took about 45 minutes each .

3.4 Structured Interview

Data collection techniques simply give and explained the various methods or techniques employed in the course of collecting data for research work. There are basically two (2) major methods of data collection techniques that are being employed in the collection of relevant data needed for research work. These two (2) broad categories are briefly explained as follows. The researcher chose interviews in carrying out the research because a well prepared interview brings out meaningful, valuable ideas and themes within a short period of time unlike questionnaires which consumes time and may lead to very short answers. There might not be enough space and time to fill in the questionnaires. Interviews help to bring more information from the interviewee as a result of the face to face contact. Interviewee sometimes uses body language which could shed more light on the motive of the interview (Deborah 2008). Therefore; the interview method employed in this thesis helped the researcher to observe the physical appearance of the interviewees and also their countenance when the interviews were conducted. In this research, the data were collected using structured interviews also known as standardized interviews. By structured interview, it means that the content of the interview was the same to all the interviewees without changing the order of the questions since it is a structured interview. Same questions were asked amongst the interviewee with the same wording and in the same sequence. It has been suggested that it would be preferred if questions could be read out in the same tone of voice so that the participants would not be influenced by the tone of the interviewer (Gray, 2004, 215). The interview was conducted in a way that the questions elicit valid response from participants. There are no ready answer options; everyone answers in their own words. This method is good in case of attaining highly personalized data and also in finding out tacit knowledge and controversial details,

which might not come up in a traditional interview. Open ended questions could be asked which responses could lead to more probing to get more information (Hirsjävi & Hurme: 2006). With structured interview, control is given to the researcher over the topics and the format of the interview. This is because a detailed interview guide is used from the onset. Consequently, there is a common format for all the interviewee, which makes it easier to analyze code and compare data.

There were six (6) participants for the interview session. These participants were randomly selected from the departmental head of the agency. The interviews lasted for 45 minutes per participant and 1 hour for the zonal head. Each of the participants were interviewed in their various offices at the NAPTIP Zonal Headquarter in Lagos, Nigeria. Portable tape recorder was used to record the interviews. The researcher repeatedly listens to the recorded interview so as to understand the interview in depth without introducing any personal view or assumption.

3.5 Data Analysis

Content analysis was used to analyze data in this research. It helps to easily deduct the different themes from the data. Content analysis has gained wide acceptability in analyzing data even the advancement of technology. For instance, Harold Lasswell used content analysis to analyze the contentment of magazines, newspapers because he wanted to find out why people were more interested in a particular media and their intentions of using the particular product. Content analysis is aimed at identifying clear and important ideas that are brought out in the message and to use suitable methods to see how they could be linked to each other and the themes (Jupp.V 2006). The interviews lasted for 45 minutes per participant and 1 hour for the zonal head. The researcher repeatedly listens to the recorded interview so as to understand the interview in depth without introducing any personal view or assumption. Subsequently, the researcher transcribed and wrote down all the various responses from the questions asked. The responses were compared and grouped accordingly. The ones that were not similar were written down separately. All the interviewee mentioned challenges noticed based on what is peculiar to each department. From the interview, the challenges were grouped together to justify the topic of the research. It was from the interview that the researcher came up with the challenges as enumerated in the chapter on findings. Five different themes which were similar to the research question of this work were deducted. The researcher came out with the theme of inadequate funding, slow judicial process and inadequate penalty, victim's attitude, traditional relationship, TIP and child labour and globalization as the challenges faced by officials of NAPTIP in eliminating child labour. The researcher took cognizance of the points raised by the interviewee in identifying the bane to achieving NAPTIP's objectives although all of the points have been grouped under the themes mentioned above.

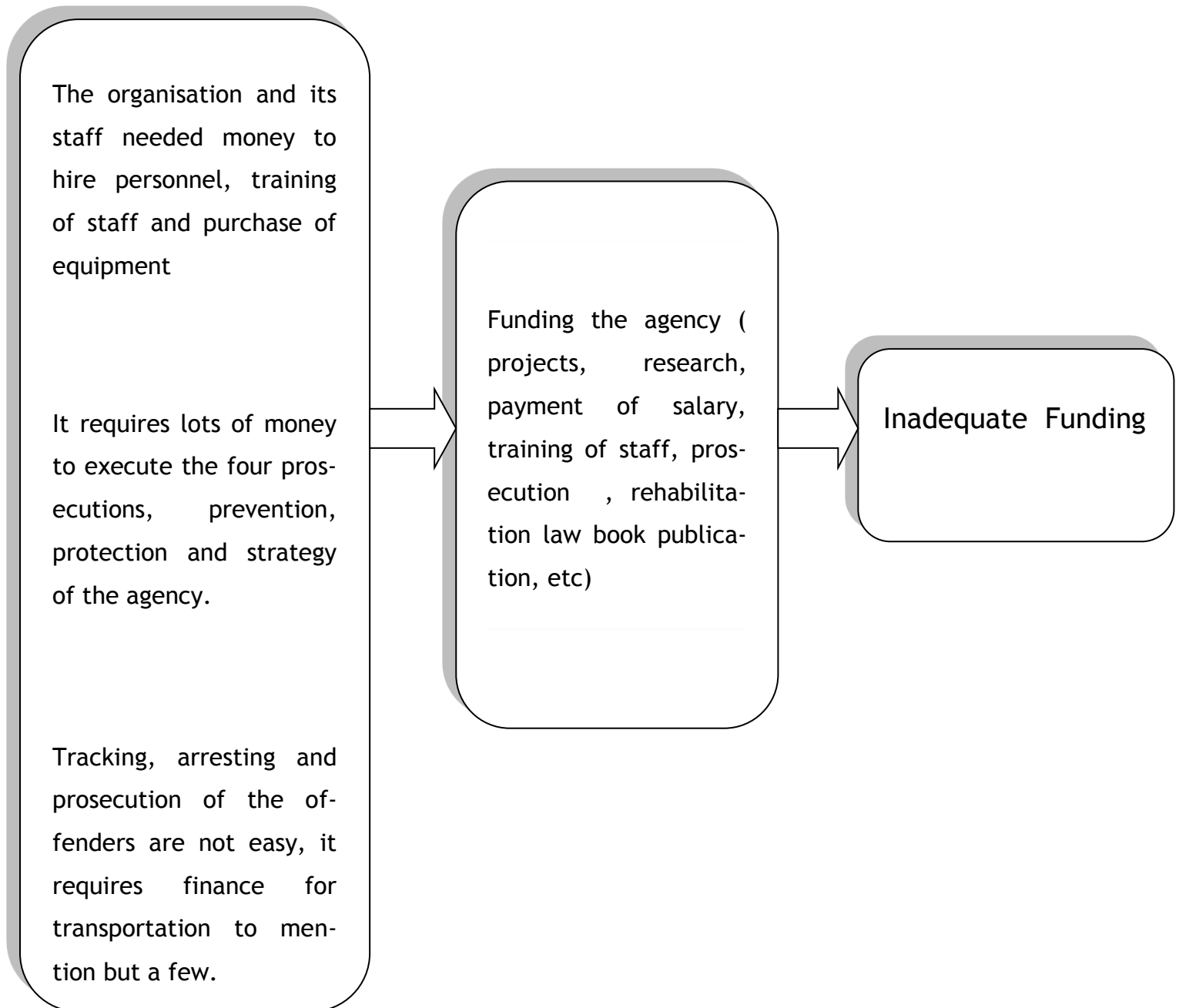


Figure 1: Inadequate Funding identified as a challenge

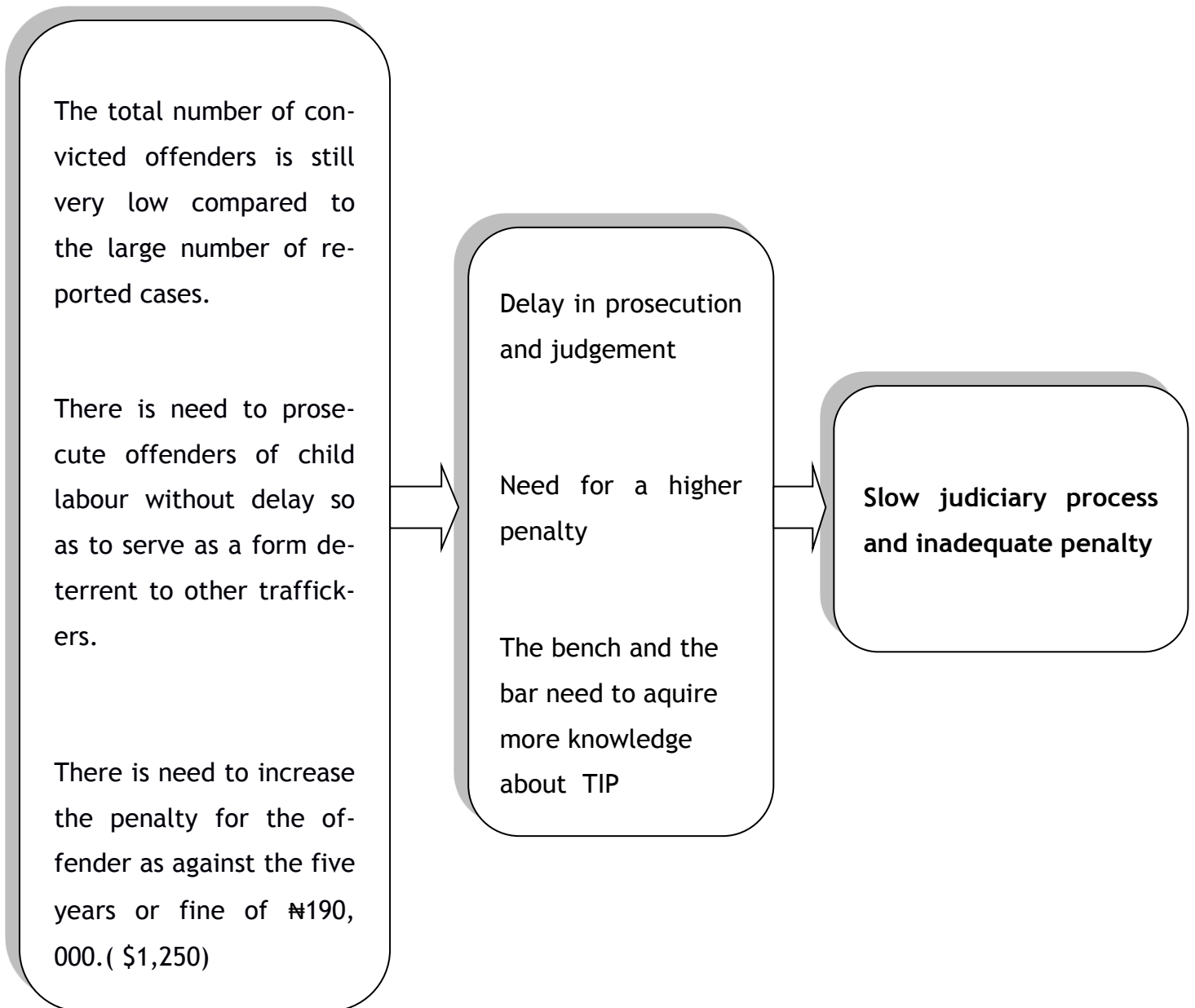


Figure 2: Slow judiciary and inadequate penalty as a challenge faced by officials

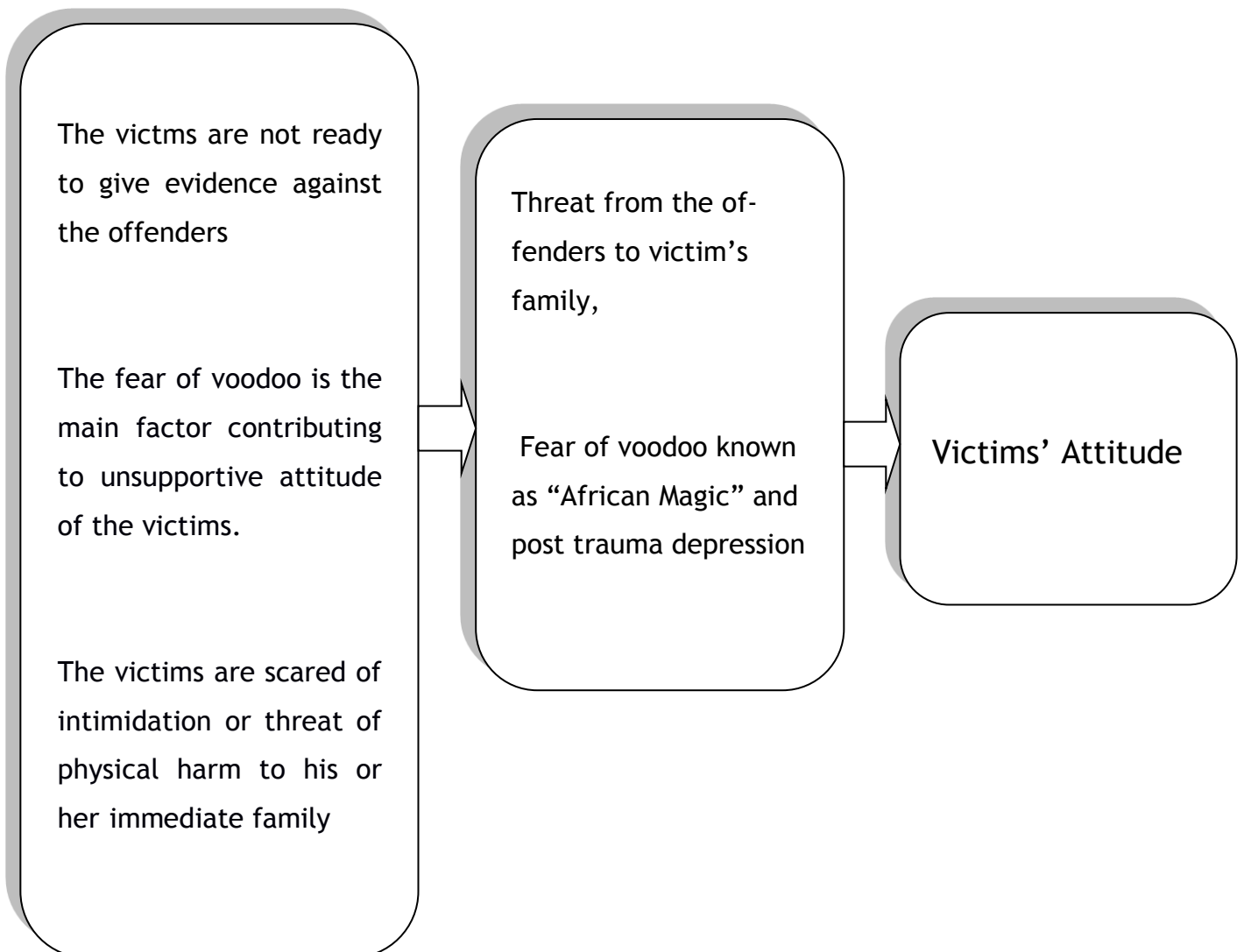
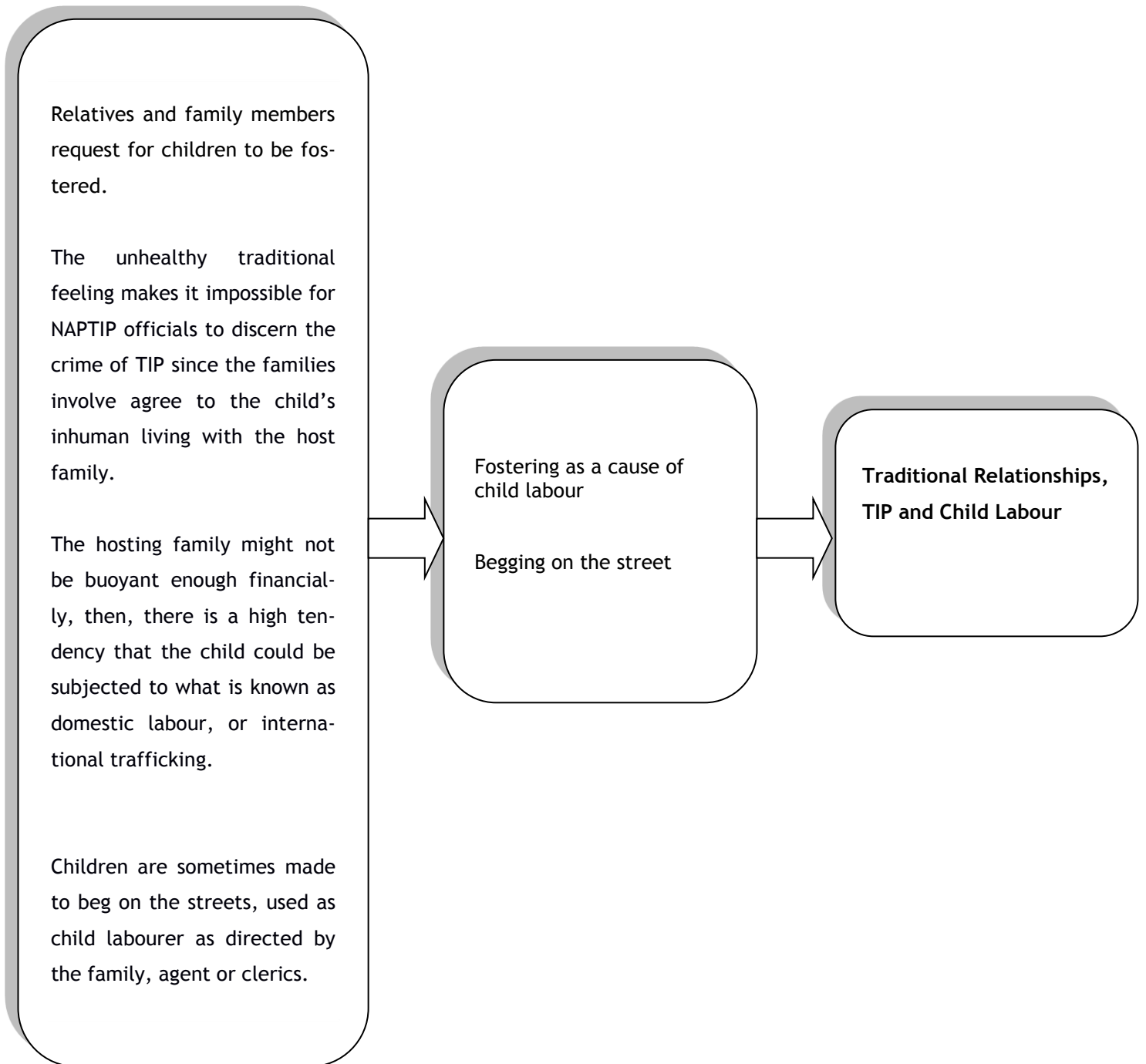


Figure 3: Victims Attitude as challenge of NAPTIP



Figures 4: Fostering as a cause of child labour.

Globalization has many advantages, however, child labour and human trafficking could be regarded as one of the dark side of globalization.

The ECOWAS visa-free programme amongst West African States has ensured easy trafficking of children for child labour into Lagos, Nigeria from member states

Traffickers remit their ill-gotten funds back to their home country with ease through advancement in technology

The internet has made the traffickers operate anonymously.

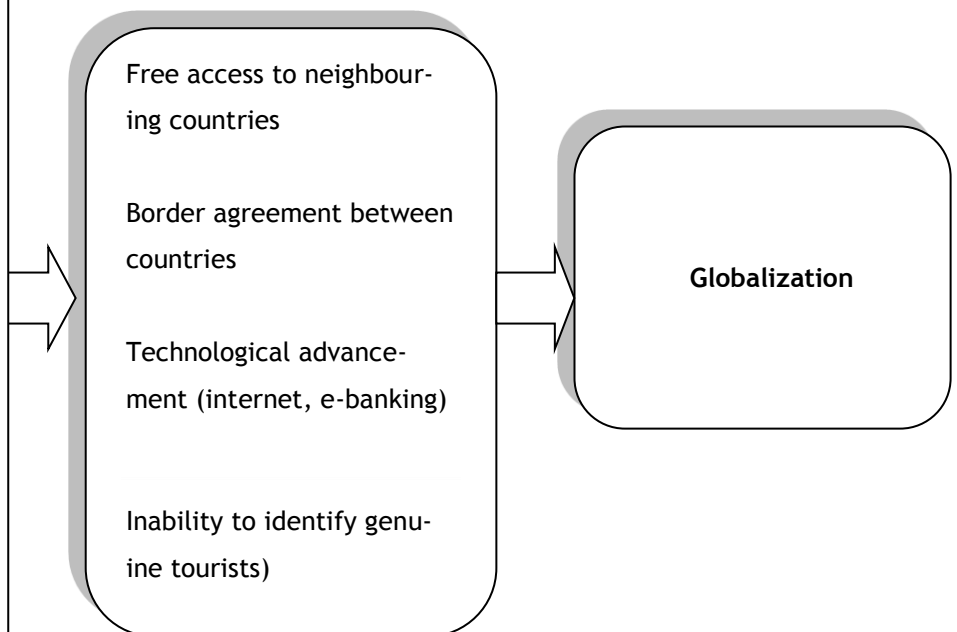


Figure 5: Globalisation as a major challenge of NAPTIP

4 Findings

Numerous challenges exist in the enforcement of anti-trafficking, child labour practice, prevention of trafficking and the protection of victims. Thus, sequels to the methodology used in chapter 4 of this thesis, the following challenges were identified as pointed out in the transcribed interviews. These challenges faced by NAPTIP and her officials in preventing Child Labour and Human Trafficking are discussed as follows:

4.1 Inadequate Funding and Victims attitude

The participants pointed out that the organisation and their staffs were confronted with lack of adequate funds to hire personnel and purchase equipment to conduct surveillance across borders and sustain proactive investigations. Nearly all the respondents complained that their units do not have copies of the new anti-trafficking law and other relevant current legislation because the organisation has no adequate fund to print the legislation in large quantities.

” We are experiencing lack of sufficient funds for our operation for instance for training of staff, campaign, rehabilitation, buying of equipment and so on”

” Imagine our unit has limited copies of the new book on anti-trafficking law and legislation”

The interviewees also complained about shortage of staff in each department the unit. One of the interviews stated that the financial allocation from the Government to NAPTIP for its annual budget is not enough thereby limiting the total number of employed manpower (specialists in social service in particular). This has also denied the agency of the opportunity to access to adequate information on the phenomenon of trafficking. Moreover, the lack of adequate fund has hampered most of the work in human trafficking because the means of information dissemination is limited. That is, the organisation has no adequate fund to gather relevant information on sponsors, traffickers, movement of victims, and other information from the general public as well as from neighbouring countries.

”The government is trying but still we don’t get enough allocation to employ more people”

Lack of the fund to build a central database has also hampered investigations and prosecutions. The lack of adequate funds has limited the ability of NAPTIP to provide adequate care for the victims while they are still in custody and it has also prevented the organization from organizing meaningful and sustainable rehabilitation programme for the victims. In fact, there is a shortage of transit shelters and rehabilitation facilities at the

community level. The lack of adequate fund has also affected the NAPTIP-UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes) project. The project was aimed at creating a training strategy for improved training of NAPTIP staff, and other agencies in the fight against human trafficking. The NAPTIP-UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes) project was also aimed at introducing computer based training and overseas training of staff using a specialised module against human trafficking. The project would also support the implementation of other priorities contained in the National Action Plan against Human Trafficking of 2007 such as increased research and trend analysis of trafficking pattern among others. However, the lack of adequate funding has affected the project and the project is currently on the verge of collapse

” I think we really need sponsor to build a good database for investigation and prosecution of the offenders, execution of international child labour eradication project and building more rehabilitation centers”.

The attitude of the trafficked victim is another challenge faced by NAPTIP in preventing human trafficking. Victims are reluctant to testify in court against the traffickers. This is because the victims are scared of intimidation or threat of physical harm to his or her immediate family. Also, post trauma depression as a result of prolonged exploitation is another challenge. The fear of voodoo is the main factor contributing to unsupportive attitude of the victims. Traffickers can go to any length in order to be protected from prosecution by seeking protection using “African Magic”.

4.2 Slow Judiciary and Inadequate Penalty

The Nigerian Government has long been tackling this problem through various legislation by interacting and cooperating with international protocols on punitive measures to serve as deterrents to offenders. However, much still needs to be done. The National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) need to be duly supported and encouraged through speedy judicial process. The Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003 came into effect since 2003; however, the total number of convicted offenders is still very low compared to the large number of reported cases all over the country. Table 1 below gives an overview of the total number of convicted persons since the introduction of Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003.

As contained on page 49, it can be said that the total number of convicted persons is still very minimal, and the figure need to be increased through speedy judicial process in order to appreciate the contribution of NAPTIP and WOTLEF in the fight against human trafficking. The Trafficking in Persons Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003 as amended in 2005 to

increase penalties for human trafficking offenders prohibits all forms of human trafficking. The law prescribed a penalty of five years' imprisonment, or a fine not exceeding N120, 000 (the equivalent of \$645) or both in lieu of prison term for labour trafficking or attempted trafficking offences. The law prescribes penalties of 10 to 15 years' imprisonment for sex trafficking related offences and a fine of N190, 000 (equivalent of \$1,250) or both. Unfortunately, sentences that include only a fine penalty are not sufficiently stringent.

At the conclusion of the 2013 reporting period, 118 trafficking cases remained pending. Interestingly the challenges are interwoven, and unfortunately NAPTIP's funding level has remained the same over the years. Also, the limited number of prosecuted cases is a negative indication of the unpreparedness of Government in eradicating child labour. Thus, the Government of Nigeria needs to understand the importance of increased funding to NAPTIP and the need to prosecute offenders without delay so as to serve as a form deterrent to other traffickers

4.3 Traditional Relationship, TIP and Child Labour

Nigerians uphold family ties in high esteem and this can either be the nuclear or extended family ties. Therefore, a family (Main Family) can decide to strengthen a family tie with another family (Host Family) by allowing their child to live with the other family. However, the economic condition of the other family determines the faith of the innocent child. If the hosting family is not buoyant enough financially, there is a high tendency that the child could be subjected to what is known as domestic, or international trafficking as the case may be. Domestic trafficking refers to the internal forms of human trafficking in a society or country. While countries differ from one another in terms of culture, size and development, the problems associated with human trafficking in these regions remain the same. The most common examples of domestic trafficking are: cultural trafficking, religious trafficking, child soldiers, pawning and debt bondage, agricultural and forced labour, cultism and forced marriages to mention but a few. Unfortunately, the main family in most cases may not be aware of the condition of the child, and even in cases when there is awareness about the situation of the child, family tie is given consideration above the child's appalling situation. This unhealthy traditional feeling makes it impossible for NAPTIP officials to discern the crime of TIP since the families involve agree to the child's inhuman living with the host family. Religious activities are very conspicuous in the country. There are Muslims, Christians and Traditional worshippers that Nigerians accord high reference in their interactions with the heads of these religious bodies as it is perceived that they are God's vicegerent on earth. Therefore, children are involved in religious activities that are tantamount to TIP, and thus the religious heads should be prosecuted under the law. In Eastern Nigeria for example, parents send their young daughters to fetish priests to atone for their evils in the society.

These girls of less than 25 years of age live and serve the priest. And in some cases, these young ladies have been raped by priests resulting in unwanted pregnancies. This has no basis in the contemporary society, and it violates the fundamental human rights and freedom of the victims. Sadly too, young girls of between the ages of 4-18 are inhumanly beaten in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria by some Christian priests in what they claim to be 'holy cleansing' to purge the victims of 'evil spirits'. Some victims suffer varying degree of injuries, including even death in some cases. Efforts made by NAPTIP officials to check the occurrence of such practices have been abortive as parents gave reasons that the children are sent to know more about the religion.

In Northern Nigeria, for example, the Qadirriyah and Tijjaniyyah Muslim sects in sub-Saharan Africa experience parents sending their male children far away out of home called 'Almajiris' for religious and training purposes for years. The children are obliged to live with the Islamic cleric, however, these clerics are not paid for feeding and basic up-keep of the children; hence the children are subjected to various forms of child abuse activities approved and at times profited from by the clerics. Usually, the children are sometimes made to beg on the streets, used as child labours as directed by the clerics, including even having the children trafficked and they are mostly used as cannon folders to ignite incessant brutal unrests in the region.

The traditional relationship and fostering the concept in Nigeria is very strong, and families lend each other money without any written documentation. Interestingly, children are sometimes used as collateral and in case the parents are unable to pay, the children who as collateral would work as directed till when the work could equals the money lend by the parents. This is called pawning or debt bondage. This practice made it difficult for NAPTIP officials as the parents are unwilling to divulge what transpired between the families, and the children are also completely unaware of the transaction between both families. Victims are made to pay off debt by working for a debtor in various forms. This practice is common in Northern Nigerian, and the secrecy involved has made it almost impossible for NAPTIP officials to intervene, thus, traditional relationships has proven to be a considerable challenge to NAPTIP operations.

4.4 Globalization

Globalization is a major challenge faced by NAPTIP officials in combating child Labour and child trafficking. Although, globalization has many advantages, however, child labour and human trafficking could be regarded as one of the dark side of globalization. This is because the crime of human trafficking could not be committed in isolation as the case with other crimes such as child labour, money laundering, corruption and illicit drug trafficking, to

mention but a few. Trafficking in persons is a crime committed in conjunction with other traffickers who can be in the same country or mostly in foreign countries. Globalization has affected trafficking in persons with both push and pull factors. Over-population, unemployment, poverty, greed, ignorance and impoverishment in the supply countries is a push factors that forces people to seek ways to improve their economic situation, thereby engaging in trafficking in persons.

Conversely, the victims begin their ordeals with the expectation of reasonable livelihood and respectable employment, thus, a pull factor. The breakdown of Soviet Union,; creation of small unstable European countries and introduction of Schengen Visa programme have facilitated the process of trafficking persons from Nigeria to various European countries. Therefore, globalization through Schengen Visa programme has ensured that victims can be trafficked from Nigeria to different European countries with ease. Also, the ECOWAS visa-free programme amongst West African States has ensured easy trafficking within the sub-region, which have porous borders and are more easily accessed and traffickers have capitalized on this for their nefarious trade. Similarly, the ease and convenience with which funds are transferred globally through globalization campaign of cash less society has become a big challenge for combating child labour and trafficking.

Virtually all banks now operate e-transfer of fund with little or no checks on those transferring the funds. Thus, traffickers remit their ill-gotten funds back to their home country with ease. Also, globalization through Information and Communication Technology has made the job of traffickers easy especially the improved internet availability in Nigeria. The internet has made the traffickers operate anonymously. Tourism is another aspect of globalization affecting the operation of NAPTIP officials. Various tourism companies have pressurized Nigerian Government on the need to ease tourism visa procedures. However, the ease granted to tourism companies on Visa issuance and border control has facilitated the operation of traffickers. When these become lax, then, it is far easier to move people from one country to another. Once the victims are abducted, it becomes all too easy for the traffickers to move the victims around as a result of easy border control. NAPTIP officials are more often than not at the borders surrounding the countries, but less can be done by the NAPTIP officials as a result of relaxed border control. The NAPTIP officials interviewed in the course of this study revealed the difficulties involved at the border in differentiating between genuine tourists and the tourism that involve trafficking in persons.

5 Discussion

5.1 Ethical Consideration

Research can have a powerful impact on people's lives; hence a researcher ought to ensure that no harm comes to the subject of the research, or society in general. Ethics is seen as a systematic attempt to understand moral conceptions. It consists of moral rules and principles, virtues and values. Ethical issues in qualitative research are often more delicate than issues in quantitative research, since qualitative research usually involves long-term and close personal contact (McNeil 1990).

In this thesis therefore, the researcher kept the oath of confidentiality in accordance to the legislation of Finland and Nigeria. The researcher as well holds on to Laurea Code of Research Ethics that no information is released without the prior knowledge and informed consent of NAPTIP and NAPTIP officials (participants). Also, participation in this research was solely voluntary and adequate information about were given prior to participation. The researcher will be honest and faithful in reporting and evaluating the data, and ensures that the research ensured no harm was done to the participants, the project environment or the society in general.

A study of this kind can have a powerful impact on people's lives. Therefore, ethical principles of beneficence autonomy and justice were followed in planning and implementing this study. Ethics are moral rules and principles, virtues and values which are seen as a systematic attempt to understand moral conceptions. Ethical issues in the qualitative study are often more delicate than issues in the quantitative study since qualitative study usually involves long-term and close personal contact. The benefits of this study to the participants were maximized. Justice principle of this study is ensured as this study maintained privacy and used fair procedures in the selection of informants. The procedure adopted in the implementation of this study makes the benefits to the participants outweigh the risks (McNeil 1990, 12-14).

In doing the interviews, this thesis made sure of the confidentiality of the people being interviewed. Participation for interviewing was on a voluntary basis. The interview questions were formulated in a simple and understandable way. The participants were told that, it was possible to withdraw at any point during the interview. The researcher assured to keep every personal information confidential. The oath of confidentiality is also valid after the thesis is completed. In presenting the findings of this study, the actual names of informants are not used. This is to make sure that the data given in this study remain anonymous.

Appropriate method has been used in this study in coming out with valid data. The validity of this study is evidenced on the similarity of the theoretical framework of this study and existing social experiences in relation to the informants' responses to the questions presented to them during the interviews. Validity addresses the extent to which research methods and data are considered to be accurate, honest and on target. It examines whether a research explains or measures what it is intended to measure, or explains how truthful a research data is interpreted (McNeil 1990, 10). In an attempt to come out with a true reflection of the respondent's experiences, this bachelor thesis used well planned measures to ensure that informants get sufficient and clear information about the research problem and questions.

The processes of this study were open to the participants, and they had a voice in the entire study process. All the interviewees could speak English language, so interviews were entirely conducted in English. Maximum attention was taken to ensure that the information given in this study was not misinterpreted. Transcription of the recorded interview data was soon after interviewing in order to get valid data. The transcribed interview data was reported to the informants before being included in the research report. This was made in an attempt to increase the validity of this study. Interviewees were given permission to contact the student-researcher if they are worried about the information they gave. This permission procedure was implemented because good research practice means using practices that respect the principle of openness in order to get a valid and credible data. The validity of this research could be attested to from the fact that respondents' responses to the interview questions followed a pattern of similarity (Hammersley & Atkinson, 1995).

Structure interviews were used to collect a detailed and rich data for this study. Semi-structured questions were used for the interviews; a method that made it possible for the informants to express themselves in a more detailed manner. The interviews were conducted on different days, with the different respondents. This was to ensure that the instruments used in this study are natural in their effect, and would measure the same findings when applied to the same respondents on different occasions. This process credits this study of its reliability (Decomber 2003, 273).

5.2 Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness implies the information of a research is based on critical argument. Trustworthiness in a qualitative research implies a research report should reflect factual accuracy of the data as reported by the qualitative researcher; the researcher's sincerity and accurate understanding and reporting of the participants' viewpoints, thoughts, intentions, and experiences; and the researcher's accurate use of theory or theoretical explanation developed from a research study should fit the data (McNeil 1990, 9). According to Patton (2001), the criteria

for trustworthiness in the qualitative study are dependent on the factors of its validity and reliability.

During the course of the interview, the interviewers were clearly informed of the purpose for the research work. The questions were also designed with the purpose of the study clearly written as part of the contents of the questioner. Hence the essence of the interview is basically for research work and not for the consumption or use of the general public and this is exactly what the collected information was used for.

Confidentiality of information is one of the ingredients for observing trustworthiness. A researcher is expected to keep not just the information obtained from the interviewer but also the identity. In the course of this interview; the identity of the interviewer were kept as unknown. This is just to ensure that the information obtained is free from bias or fear of confidentiality on the part of the interviewers.

For any research work to be successful and its conclusion to be valid and useful; the collected data used for the research must reliable and credible. Reliability and credibility of a data simply refers to the degree of confidence in the fact that is present in the collected data. The issue of validity and reliability is transformed into question "how can a researcher persuade his or her audiences that the research findings are worth paying attention to?". In the following texts, the trustworthiness of this study has been examined in relation to these criteria. The researcher can also employ the use of other methods of data collection in order to ensure the completeness and correctness of the data collected. With certainty, I can categorically say that this research work is truthful and reliable.

5.3 Discussion of Findings

Child labour has a negative effect on the victims and it has constituted a major hurdle in ensuring free, quality education for all children as stated in the survey on Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances (CEDC) (Oloko, 1992) . The interviewees also noted the sharp decline in the number of skilled workers as a result of child labour. This point as it is been pointed out by the interviewees is also in conformation with the opinion of Swarminathan 1997 and Gabi 1997 that child labour will not only damage the future of the concerned child, it will also inhibit emergence of a skilled workforce and subsequently constituting negative effect on national development. Without doubt, Government and various organisations have identified the need to put an end to the issue of child labour, therefore, laws and policies are in place towards minimising and eradicating the occurrence of child labour. However, the stringent implementation of these laws and policies ti the latter remains a major concern according to James and James 2004. Nigeria is also not an exception based on the findings of this thesis.

The findings showed that despite child trafficking, the child labour laws and educational enforcement provisions that are in force in Nigeria are still been violated with impunity by many Nigerians. Since the enactment of the law, the labour inspections that had resulted in fines, penalties, or convictions is considerably insignificant considering the number of reported cases yearly. Slow judicial process and seeming inadequate knowledge of child labour and human trafficking both by the bar and the bench has hindered the prosecution process. Therefore, there is a need for the government to draft legislation that would restrict the ability of judges to offer fines in lieu of prison term when pronouncing sentences; and child labour and trafficking unit should be constituted within the Nigerian Police nationwide to ease the difficulty in identifying victims.

In the 2013 reports of the US Secretary of State, John Kerry, the report pointed to the slight increase in Nigeria's efforts to curb child labour and human trafficking. Although, the report published by ILO 2006, suggested a significance reduction in the occurrence of child labour. The results published by ILO was contested by Liebel 2007 based on the result of his research. The findings of this thesis agree with both the results of ILO and Liebel 2007, but it supports the findings of Liebel 2007 more because the noticed reduction is not as significant as it was touted it to be in the report of ILO 2006. The workers said that there was a proportional increase in funding of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) in the year 2012. Unfortunately, the fund allocated was still quite inadequate considering the numerous programmes of NAPTIP to reduce and eradicate child labour and human trafficking. ILO 2006 also stated that the success achieved in Latin America towards the decline in Child labour was due to the availability of sufficient funds. Thus, the Nigerian government has not done enough as stated in the report and from the reaction to this study by NAPTIP officials. Interestingly, the Ministry of Labour did not make any new efforts to address child labour/ trafficking in the reporting period despite the identification of a significant number of child labour trafficking victims. Hence, the commitment of the Nigerian government to tackle child labour and trafficking is questionable. NAPTIP and its officials have been faced with challenges in preventing and eradicating child labour, however, most of these challenges could be tackled with adequate allocation of sufficient fund by the Nigeria government and other donor agencies. Private sponsorship has helped in promoting Nigeria to Tier 1 in terms of compliance hierarchy by the US standard to child labour and trafficking. Tier 1 position signifies countries that have been assessed as fully complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of severe forms of trafficking. Although, the organisation has received sponsorship (820,000 euros) from Finland in 2009 to cover the NAPTIP-UNODC projects from 2009-2011 (NAPTIP News, 2010). The project was aimed at equipping and educating the NAPTIP staff to fight child labour and human trafficking. However, the continuation of the project has been affected in 2012, because the fund from the Finnish Government only covers 2009-2011.

Also, the Switzerland government in the same year supported NAPTIP with 4.5 million euros to facilitate the implementation of child's right in Nigeria. Other non monetary supports have been received from countries such as Netherland, Italy, Norway, Britain, France, Saudi Arabia, United States of America and Spain; international organizations such as United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Organisation for Immigrants (IOM), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organisation (ILO), United State Agency for International Development (USAID), United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), to mention but a few. Yet, the prevention process has not been at the optimal level because of lack of continuous availability of adequate funds from the Nigerian government itself. Sufficient funds would allow NAPTIP to take proactive measures to investigate and prosecute government officials suspected of trafficking-related corruption and complicity in trafficking offences. In the same vein fund would consistently be required to train police and immigration officials to identify trafficked victims. With the availability of adequate funds, NAPTIP will be able to embark on meaningful preventive measures on child labour.

Prevention in every crime is the most important. Although the workers also acknowledged that the target of the agency is to minimize the incidence to the bearest minumum as zero-level to child labour can sometimes be unrealistic. This view is also supported by the result of the research carried out by Liebel, 2004. The agency continually ensures that the children are not trafficked. In carrying out this assignment, NAPTIP has departments that are responsible for different functions in preventing human trafficking and child labour. One of such is the Public Enlightenment Department, which has been saddled with the task of sensitizing the public on the danger of child labour and human trafficking. The major function of this department is to handle enlightenment of the public and handle advocacy tasks, For example, through this department, NAPTIP collaborated with one of the most vibrant producer in the film industry in Nigeria called Wale Adenuga Production (WAP) on a television series titled "Itohan". This soap opera was televised on the national carrier, the 'Nigeria Television Authourity' (NTA) to expose the behest of inhumanity that every step of child trafficking entails. Furthermore, schools, National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) camp, religious gatherings and market places are visited by this department in order to educate the people on the evils of human trafficking. This department as well created vanguard brigades composed of youths in these institutions. It must be understood that human trafficking is a transnational organized and syndicated crime. It is not a crime carried out in the open, but through a secret operation and recruitment network. So, the department of public enlightenment has the ability to get the vulnerables acquainted before the traffickers get on them. Several methods are employed to disseminate messages by the agency, which prevent child labour and child trafficking. Some of the methods employed include the use of bill boards and print media.

However, human trafficking and child labour cases involve investigation, monitoring of cross-border movements and prosecution in courts of law. In their analysis of crimes committed through the traffickers, participants in this study described the difficulties faced in arresting and prosecuting the traffickers. The difficulty is caused by many factors and one of such is the confusion of the meaning of childhood as defined in most laws and policies. Most laws and policies defined childhood as been weak, helpless, need of protection state (Wood and Montgomery, 2003) while International labour standard defined accepted working stage as been a stage above the helpless stage. The policies are confusing and not favourable. This view was also supported by Myers (1999, 2001) and Boyden et al., (1998). Stage above helpless stage in most developing countries differs greatly from the developed countries. For instance, ages 11-15 years is considered to be above helpless stage in developing countries and thus allowed to work based on international labour standard. This age is however considered to be unacceptable age in developed countries thereby revealing the fault in the policies and laws.

The NAPTIP official faces different forms of attacks in the process of arresting the traffickers and child labour's employers. The respondents also submitted that it is difficult to get evidence against the traffickers as the victims are always afraid of telling the investigators the true story of their movement. It is difficult to genuinely distinguish traditional relationships and fostering in Nigeria cultures. For the reason that at the beginning of the trafficking process, the victims are intimidated, threatened, physically roughed up and expected to take oath of secrecy, which they believe in its potency. Consequently, this oath consequently makes prosecution impossible because victims are always not ready to testify against the traffickers in the law court. In some instances, judges and lawyers do not have proper understanding of the variables surrounding trafficking in persons which frequently characterize the cases taken to the law courts by NAPTIP.

Protection involves comprehensive activities geared towards the successful rehabilitation of and integration of victims into the society. Rehabilitation process has been identified as an important process in minimising child labour. This is because the researches of Boyden (1997) and International Working group on child labour (1998) revealed that forceful removal of children from the industry can lead them into another more dangerous form of child labour. Hence, priority is given to rehabilitation programme by the agency. After counselling, the victim's family is traced; the victim is empowered and made ready to be integrated into the society. The officials of NAPTIP stated the challenges they confront in the protection and rehabilitation of the victims of child labour and human trafficking. The process of rehabilitation, counselling, sheltering, empowerment, among other activities, requires large sum of money which the officials lamented has been grossly inadequate and in fact, the agency's biggest challenge. NAPTIP has been unable to identify large numbers of forced labour victims. The level of commitments of States and Local governments, as well as public sector support is

low in controlling the menace of child labour and human trafficking. A NAPTIP official commented thus:

It is important to note that National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP) cannot do it alone, therefore, the agency is in partnership with international and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, media organizations within the country and abroad. In its effort to effectively control and reduce or eradicate the menace of child trafficking and child labour, the agency (NAPTIP) is in partnership with other government agencies such as the Nigeria Police, Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Ministry of labour, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), National Drug law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). The agency also partners with the local non-governmental organizations such as Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), Committee for the Support of the Dignity of Women, Lift above Poverty Organization, Young Girls Foundation, and so on. The agency is also in collaboration with religious organizations, rural communities and traditional rulers in controlling the problems of child trafficking and child labour.

In the study of Gamlin et al., (2006) boarder crossing has contributed to the increase in the cases of child trafficking in developing countries. Therefore, the agency is in partnership with most African countries such as Ghana, Mali, Benin Republic in order to facilitate a bilateral relationship to control the menace of child trafficking and child labour. The relationship has been centred on immigration and border control so as to reduce or eradicate child labour and child trafficking.

5.4 Conclusion and Recommendation

There is no gainsaying that child labour and human trafficking occur in different dimensions far more than it is been reported in Nigeria. Even though it is reported that generally child labour and human trafficking is on the decline globally, but the practice is assuming quite novel and different forms in Nigeria because there is unwarranted growing poverty trends. As a result, present attempt to confront this dual headed wicked practice is more or less like a scratch, or something just evolving. There is therefore the urgent need to give NAPTIP and such corresponding agencies the needed bite so as to wage serious war on the ever-emerging multifarious implications of child labour and human trafficking, which has continually constitute a cog in the wheel of Nigeria's developmental attempt. If the needful drastic steps are not taken to immediately eliminate child labour and human trafficking like other societal ills, the privilege few whose children are not victims may suffer trepidations consistently as the

case at the moment in Nigeria of kidnapping, armed robbery, terrorism, corruption, official ineptitude among very many others.

Deriving from the findings of this study, the following recommendations are hereby suggested:

- I. Adequate budgetary provision should be made by the Nigeria government to enable NAPTIP efficiently carry out its mandate of monitoring, rehabilitating victims, prosecuting perpetrators and counselling the society on the menace that child labour and human trafficking constitute to national development.
- II. Development partners, corporate bodies and Non Governmental Organizations should be further challenged to take very active roles in funding NAPTIP and be inspired by the activities of WOTLEF. This is particularly necessary since the perpetrators are mostly elites who have the clout and links; a crusade against this inhuman practice popular among elites and the well-to-do would easily lead to drastic reduction of child labour and human trafficking.
- III. The judiciary should be alive to its responsibility of being the last hope of the common man and a major criterion for measuring the extent of the development of any nation is the pedigree of the judiciary (in terms of impartiality and independence). Quick judicial dispensation and sufficient punitive measures that can deter likely subsequent perpetuation of child labour and human trafficking are global expectations of the Nigeria's judiciary in eliminating the ugly menace.
- IV. Practicable free equal educational policy should be put in place by the Nigeria government to attain sufficiently educated populace. In the same vein, Nigeria been a religious nation, religious institutions should educate their adherence to live by these religions' tenets of believe in the absolute omnipotent God. These understandings would transform attitudes of victims of child labour and human trafficking, when victims' reasoning have no fear nor regard for voodoo and become very cooperative by

providing useful evidence that can facilitate prosecution of perpetrators of human trafficking and child labour.

- V. It would be antithetical to condemn the existing traditional communal practice; however, every effort should be made to confront existing biting poverty in Nigeria. This will regulate and instil reasonability in the practice of foster parenthood.
- VI. Nigeria's government should ensure a true practice of the rule of law by ensuring application of relevant sections of the nation's constitution and adhere to charters, treaties and conventions on curbing child labour and human trafficking. It is only when this adherence is strictly attained that indeed Nigerians would benefit from globalization.

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Figures



Figure 1: Child Labour in Action

Tables

City	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL
Abuja	1	4	3	1	1	3	1	1		1	16
Lagos	-	-	1	1	3	6	-	8	9	3	31
Kano	-	-	-	-	5	3	14	9	4	9	44
Uyo	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	4		8
Benin	-	-	-	3	-	2	7	22	2		36
Sokoto	-	-	-	-	11	10	4	6	1	2	34
Enugu	-	-	-	2	2	-	2		1		7
Maiduguri	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2		7
Total	1	4	4	7	23	26	30	50	23	15	183

Table 1 : The summary of convictions 2003- 2013

Appendices

Consent for collection of Data for the study

Hanafi Oba Zubair
Rantaharju 10F 174,
02230, Espoo, Finland
6th September, 2012

The NAPTIP Lagos Zonal Commander,
165, Oba Ladejobi Street,
G.R.A Ikeja, Lagos State,
Nigeria

LETTER OF REQUEST

Dear/Ma,

My name is Hanafi Oba Zubair, a Nigerian international student at Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Otaniemi, Finland studying a degree program in Social Services. An integral part of the course is the completion of a research thesis program as a major in the course. I have presented my ideas (Topic) in looking at the Challenges of government agency Control of child Labour in Surulere, Lagos, Nigeria: National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP), Lagos.

I would like to request the permission and support of your agency as a means of gathering necessary information. Data collection would be through interviews and to provide available and already existing case studies in a bid to make my final thesis research a success. A letter of introduction from the school and the thesis overview (Thesis contract) is attached with this letter and if the request is granted an official thesis overview will be signed by the agency for official purpose.

I would be hopefully waiting to read a positive consideration from you as reply soonest.

Thanks in Anticipation
Hanafi Oba Zubair
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Espoo, Finland
+358442099309

Questionnaire

Questionnaire for interview on the Challenges of NAPTIP official in combating Child Labour and Human Trafficking in Lagos State, Nigeria

The questionnaire has been designed with the intention of obtaining relevant information from the staff of NAPTIP in respect to the challenges being faced at combating child labour and human trafficking in Lagos, Nigeria. This will invariably help the researcher to form an opinion about these challenges and proffer necessary and relevant solutions. We hope you will spare us a few minutes of your time.

Thanks for your co-operation.

.....

1. Can I meet you sir? (Your name, post, working experience and so on)
2. Can you tell me something about your work in your organization?
3. Does your organization look into child labour and trafficking issues in Lagos State?
4. What are your views on child labour and trafficking both domestically and internationally?
5. Does the definition include at when and what kind of work they can perform?
6. Is child labour and trafficking popular in Lagos State? If yes, Why do you think there are (more) children working in Lagos State?
7. Have you been to places where children work? Where?
8. How do you feel about the treatment the children get at their work places?
9. Do you know if Lagos State has a legal definition of age of minor?
10. What kinds of work do children in Lagos State do?
11. Are children allowed to work legally in Lagos as domestic maids?
12. When you see children working, do you think it could affect their future life? How?

13. What do you think happens to a child when s/he begins to work at an early age?
14. How do you explain the relationship between child trafficking and child labour?
15. Do you think that these children can still go to a school?
16. How effective do you think is Nigeria Labour Act in curbing child labour and child trafficking?
17. How does your agency support/guide the government to reduce/fight child labour?
18. Can you mention some projects/programmes that the government has taken to address child labour in collaboration with your organization?
19. Do you have collaboration with international agency in curbing child labour and trafficking? If yes please mention.
20. How do you tackle child labour and child trafficking?
21. What is the program the rehabilitation program put in place by the agency?
22. How many suspects has been arrested and prosecuted by your agency?
23. Do you think that child labour is a serious issue in Lagos State?
24. Do you receive any complaints from child labourers about their employers or their parents?
25. What are the methods your organization is using in curbing child labour and trafficking?
26. What is the awareness of general public on child labour issues?
27. What has been the role of media in creating awareness on child labour issues? Or the Labour Act?
28. What happens if an adult is found to have flouted those rules?
29. Does the state monitor that the rules of work by children are adhered to?

