

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

GHANA INSTITUTE OF JOURNALISM

**EXPLORING EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION
STRATEGIES (TOOLS) TO ADDRESS STREET-CHILDREN PHENOMENON**

IN GHANA:

A CASE OF JAMES TOWN STREET-CHILDREN

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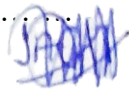
CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation was undertaken by me and under the supervision of Prof. Collins Adu-Bempah Brobbey. Where other people's references are made, full acknowledgement had been given. I wish to state that all omissions and shortfalls in this work are entirely mine. Therefore, I declare that this dissertation is the result of my own original work and that no part of it has been presented for another degree in this institution or elsewhere.

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SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the preparation of this dissertation was supervised by me in accordance with the guidelines of supervision of dissertation laid down by School of Graduate Studies and Research, Ghana Institute of Journalism.



September 28,2020

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Date

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my dear Mother, Vivian Anderson for her consistent support throughout my life. May God bless her abundantly and make her great. I would not have made it this far without her love and support.

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ABSTRACT

Child streetism is a deviation from normal social life in society and proper child growth and development. It is a serious challenge which has been on the ascendancy regardless of uncountable barrier and interventions put forward by past and present governments and development partners like non-governmental agencies. This study identified and explained the causes, negative consequences, and interventions if any, made by the successive governments of Ghana or the Accra Metropolitan Assembly to reform street children into useful citizens of Ghana. This study employed both quantitative and qualitative methods. Questionnaire based, interviews and observations were the main instruments used for the data collection. This study also examined the risk and the features of street children, their activities and sleeping places. It adopted a non-probability sampling technique (purposive and convenient) sampling techniques to solicit information from the street children, their parents and stakeholders at James Town. Findings revealed that divorce and poverty contribute to streetism whiles the increase in the numbers on the street comes from neighbouring rural areas. It concludes that the streetism phenomenon has a severe implication for the street children as a lot of human resources go through the drain, increase in illiteracy, and threat to societal peace as some Streetists grow to be armed robbers, prostitutes and its associated rising level of crime. It recommends that intervention policies should be formulated and implemented to assist in lessening the menace if not totally eradicated it.

Keywords: Child streetism; Normal social life; Proper child growth; Development partners; Accra Metropolitan Assembly

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

1.0 Introduction

The streetism phenomenon is not limited to Africa or Ghana, it is global. The understanding of the nature and scope of streetism is becoming more and more complex as society is becoming more and more complicated due to unprecedented growth and expansion of urbanization with its associated urbanity (Ennew, 1994:15).

Accordingly, volume of literatures attempts at elucidating the comprehensibility of the street children phenomenon to reflect the diverse perspectives and the increasingly complex nature of street children globally of which Ghana is no exception (Ennew, 1994:15; Jacqu-Diouf, 1994; United Nations Report, 1989; Reichert, 2006).

This study, for instance, takes very keen interest in one definition or perspective which was offered by UNICEF Report (cited in Ennew, 1994:15) reflecting the Inter-Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Programme for Street Children and Street Youth in the early 1980s. The UNICEF Report (cited in Ennew, 1994:15) therefore defines street children as “Those for whom the street more than their family has become their home, a situation in which there is no protection, supervision or direction from responsible adults.” By implication, the UNICEF’s perspective of street children phenomenon pre-supposes that there are two (2) main categories viz: Children on the streets and Children of the streets (Ennew, 1994:15). Aptekar (1998), assert that globally, the rights of the child had not only been neglected to bring about streetism but also to the extreme of turning them into soldiers in Democratic Republic of Congo and other Africa countries. Streetism is not only a hurdle to the victim but also to the nation at large as the needed manpower is underutilized.

Emanating vices from this menace are sexual exploitation, stealing, smoking and armed robbery.

The aim of effective communication in the context of development communication is the ability of helping folks at all levels to communicate – empowers them to recognize important issues and find common grounds for action, and builds a sense of identity and participation in order to implement their decisions (Jacques-Diouf, 1994). We live in a communication age, and the full impact of communication on development is just starting to be seen everywhere now and then.

1.1 Statement of Problem

The challenges associated with the streetism phenomenon in Ghana are multi-dimensional and they are characterized by several factors (Shorter, et al; 1999). Accordingly, Shorter, et al (1999) argue that multi-sectoral approaches are therefore required to reverse this canker. Despite tireless efforts and pragmatic interventions by governments and other international bodies, the problem seems to exist in worst forms especially in regional capitals in Ghana. Currently, unknown number of school going children are almost always on the street especially at the market centers and car station, rendering economic service.

As it is to be expected; however, the Municipal Assembly has established fund for school going children in the Municipality, thus, scholarship scheme for students who pass the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) but their parents cannot afford the school fees. Capitation grant, free school uniforms and school feeding programmes are all running at James Town yet the problem appears to swell up. Asare and Adombire, (2008), contend that these victims are most often exposed to bad weather, sexual exploitation leading to spread of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, armed robbery

and its associated social vices. All these put the future at risk. It is often said that the human resource of every nation is the most important asset. If this is true, then it behooves every one of us to ponder why the problem still persists. This is the nagging issue which this study attempts to unravel and academically address.

1.2 Research Objectives

This study intends to achieve two main objectives namely; broad and specific. Broadly speaking this study explores the effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers) in addressing street- Children Phenomenon in Ghana using Jamestown Community, a sub-burb of Greater Accra Region as a case study. The specific objective which under-guides this study is as follows:

1. To assess the effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers etc.) in addressing child streetism in Jamestown community.
2. To examine the socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of Jamestown community.
3. To ascertain the extent to which streetism negatively affect the development of children living on street.

1.3 Research Questions

This study raises a number of empirical questions which intend to help in collecting data on the trajectories and nuances of the street-child phenomenon. Meanwhile, this study poses the following questions:

1. What socio-cultural factors are responsible for child streetism?
2. How can effective communication usage be employed to child streetism?

3. What are the effects of streetism on street children?

1.5 Significance of the Study

The accomplishment of the objectives of the study has multiple relevance to the study community in particular and Ghana at large. A successful diagnosis of the problem would expose the causes of child streetism in James Town Community. This will lead to discovery of the negative effects of the phenomenon on “James Town” alone and on the nation. It will also reveal some attempts made by other bodies such as Accra Metropolitan Assembly to curb the menace. The study will make available suggestion for reformation of street children into useful citizen.

Importantly, the outcome of the study will serve as a guide to policy makers, stakeholders, development agencies, individuals and government for policy formulation. With strategies to reform street children, maximum use of labour force will be realized, since these children could be enrolled into formal education and apprenticeship where necessary to contribute meaningfully to national development in diverse ways. The outcome will serve as a springboard for individual and groups who wish to undertake similar study. Thus, the result will contribute to knowledge.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The research will be limited to street children in Accra, specifically James Town. The study targets parents as well as non-governmental organizations. The latter are institution mandated to regulate, implement, organize and coordinate activities of children in the country. The study will also incorporate and reflect primary role of parents in the cause of streetism in Ghana.

1.7. Broad Narrative of the Study

This study is structured into five chapters. Chapter one deals with introduction, statement of problem, research questions and objectives, scope of the study, significance of the study and Chaptalization of the study. Chapter Two deals with introduction, theoretical foundation, review of related and relevance literature, assumptions, conceptual definitions of terms, operational definitions of concepts, importance of the study and conclusion. Chapter Three provides the Methodology, methods, research design, population, sampling technique and sample frame and size, sources of data collection and data collection instruments, techniques of data analysis and limitations and de-limitations. Chapter Four provides the analysis and discussions of key findings, while Chapter Five summarizes the key findings, draws conclusions and makes some recommendations.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0. Overview

In the previous chapter, the study looked at the overview of Streetism in James Town, historical background as well as the objectives for the study. This Chapter is made up of the theoretical framework guiding the analysis and a review of related literature. It includes definitions of key terms, theoretical framework which seeks to look for theories that can be used to explain the study, and review of related studies which also looks into studies conducted on the topic, their outcome and how they are linked to again, it studies the past related studies, to reflect, compare, and learn from the setbacks. It also provides the research with rich source of data that will enhance and will enrich the study.

The review of the related literature focuses on brief introduction, street children global perspective, emergence of street children in Africa, emergence of street children in Ghana, extent and scope of street children in Ghana, international bodies initiatives to combat street children, Ghana government interventions, NGOs, the extent of streetism at James Town of Ghana and interventions made by the Accra Metropolitan Assembly.

2.1.0 Theoretical Foundation

Theories of Streetism abound and hence the theory deployed by this study dis subsumed under the general or broad rubric of Mass Communication theories but specifically, plying modernization and Dependency theories. These two theories play a significant role in development communication and hence this study considers the apt theoretical foundation to help elucidate the comprehensibility of the challenges associated with the streetism phenomenon in Ghana.

2.1.1. Mass Communication Theories

Mass communication theories are the main providers of theories to support media researches such as the one embarked on by this researcher. A notable theory for this study is known as the **Modernization Theory**. The concept of modernization was characterized in the early period (1950s-1970s) of development communication, holds that wealth and development occur in a poor and/or developing society or receiver.

Development under modernization concept has been also seen as an evolutionary process in which countries, specifically those from the third world, progressed through a known series of stages to be modern. Members of the third world are seen to be traditional and are characterized by their emotional, superstitious, and fatalistic approach to the world. The approach requires that in mind in order to ensure a change in attitude. One explanation given for the ‘underdevelopment’ of the third world is approach to and use of time.

Therefore, for these societies to achieve the level of economic development that the first world has achieved there is the need for them to follow the path that has seen the western advanced countries achieve high economic output. The modern societies are seen to have their own values but they are however not enslaved by them, their kinship ties are weakened, and finally they are not fatalistic but forward looking. The means of getting there was clearly delineated. (Moore, 1963). The tools of scientific planning would enable the underdeveloped nations to escape from undesirable status and become fully developed in a few decades. (Turner and Hulme, 1997). The method of adoption of this scientific planning was only possible through diffusion.

Dependency theory on the other hand, school of thought argued that the global economic structure was an exploitative system which generated and maintained ‘the development of underdevelopment’ in nations of the periphery (for example, Frank, 1971; Sweezy, 1982;

Wallerstein, 1979; Amin, 1976). Since the inception of the world economic system in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries enforced equitable domination on the countries of the periphery through means such as, conquest, threat, market restrictions, and industrial protection. These tactics saw to the rise of today's industrialized nations and their consolidated influence over the third world. The third world kowtowing to these pressures from the first world led to the weakening of its institutions and eventually their inability to develop.

Andre Gunder Frank also explained the dependency theory in another way which differs from that offered by classical Marxism. To him the growth of capitalism and industry led to the underdevelopment of the countries whose economic surplus was exploited by the West. The West in an attempt to perpetuate and exploit the south incorporated the elites within these poor countries into this venture. These elites were thus known as the comprador class. Frank argues that there is a 'chain of dependency' running down from the highly advanced centers of the world, a hierarchy of 'metropolises' with their subordinate 'satellites' through which the economic surplus is passed upwards within a nation and then internationally (Frank, 1967).

These comprador elites hoard all the development resources to their own advantage and transfer most of the industrial output to the developed nations to the detriment of the poor working-class people living in the rural areas. The only way to change this is to break the chain of dependency by a working class, employing the socialist revolution.

In summary, this section of the paper discusses the concept of development. Theories of development such as the modernization theory which suggests that the only way of attaining development is through the means adopted and exemplified by contemporary industrialized

capitalist states, while the dependency theory tends to blame the underdevelopment of the third world on their contact with the European and American capitalists.

2.2. Basic Assumption

The guiding hypothesis of this study is that the challenges associated with streetism phenomenon in Ghana is multi-dimensional and hence it requires multi-sectoral approaches therefore to be able to reverse this canker. Despite tireless efforts and pragmatic interventions by governments and other international bodies, the problem seems to exist in worst forms especially in regional capitals in Ghana. Currently, unknown number of schools going children are almost always on the street especially at the market centers and car station, rendering economic service.

In what follows, this section reviews the related and relevant empirical literatures to provide better understanding of the problem under consideration and also to establish the knowledge gap which this study intends to bridge.

2.3. Review of Empirical Related and Relevant Literatures

The review of the literature is to guide the researcher in achieving the two main objectives namely; broad and specific. Broadly speaking the review of the literature would reflect the effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers) in addressing street- Children Phenomenon in Ghana using Jamestown Community, a sub-burb of Greater Accra Region as a case study.

The second section of the review would focus on the following specific sub-themes of the objective which under-guides this study. The effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers etc.) in addressing child streetism in Jamestown community. The socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of

Jamestown community. The Nature and Scope of streetism in the James Town Vicinity. The Negative effect of Streetism on the socio-economic development of children living on street.

2.3.1. The effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers) in addressing street- Children Phenomenon in Ghana using Jamestown Community, a sub-burb of Greater Accra Region as a case study

On 2nd September, 1990 the United Nations Conventions on Rights of Children (UNCRC) were born. This marked the culmination of nearly seventy years (70) of tireless effort to bring to international communities to appreciate the special needs and vulnerability of children (UNICEF, 1997). This was the first time a document of such international recognition and wide-ranging complexities was adopted within a short period of time. Being international document, it took cognizance of different beliefs, values and traditions as well as wide range socio-economic and political realities (UNICEF 1997). The convention is not merely a catalogue of rights of states to perform towards the child. The convention also acknowledged the significant role and authority of parents and guardians over children. This was not without caution as parents must exercise this authority without violating the rights of the child.

2.3.2 Street Children: Global Perspective

Cumming (2007), citing World Health Organization (1998), was of the view that worldwide, there were approximately 100 million children in 1993 that live in city streets without care or shelter. A figure that doubled in three-year period (200 million in 1996). Cumming, (2007) citing Terrel, (1997) Regoli and Hawit (1991), writes that the United States has over two million homeless and runaway (a risk of becoming homeless) youth, 16% of who have run away more than five times.

Cumming, (2007), citing Davis (1993) states that Los Angeles country alone has over 10,000 street youth and Canadian cities with 150,000 homeless youth, many of whom are at risk of AIDS. Cumming, citing Burdekin, (1989), estimated that between fifty thousand and seventy thousand youth were homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. The same citation stressed that homelessness was not merely a condition of being on the street or the threat of homeless, but in addition, having a highly mobile life or otherwise lacking security without dependable caregivers.

Stephen, (1997) writes that growing number of children are being neglected, abused and ignored. Stephen, (1997), again stressed that 15% of 16 to 19 years old are at risk of never reaching their potential and simply becoming lost in society worldwide. It appears from Stephen's research that future generation is at risk of not meeting the challenges of their time since the very future youth are gradually devilled by streetism canker, a phenomenon that seems to work against realization of victims' full potentials as said by Stephen, (1997). Prince (2007 p. 34) writes that street children in all societies inhabit an exceptional high risk environment. Nutritional status and personal hygiene are poor because many are debilities and susceptible to infections. Prince, (2007 p 34) continues that life in the street is an obvious risk factor for injuries and disorders due to exposure, crowded and unsanitary living conditions that present optimal vector for the transmission of infectious and communicable diseases.

Vanderstacy (1992), contended that the largest proportion of the world street children were previously attached to residential families, not homeless ones, and such youth have either been cast out, voluntarily left because of poverty, or have run away from oppressive home conditions, especially violence and abuse.

2.3.4. Emergence of Street Children in Africa

According to Gichohio (1994), the phenomenon of street children has been on the increase in Africa since 1960s from handful of boys who deserted home out of recalcitrant behaviour, their numbers increased in an increasing proportion in the early 1990s and by the close of 1990s expected to escalate to thousands.

Shorter and Ongancha (1999), asserted that street children in Africa more often than not originate from poor families and some are pushed on to the street not because of poverty in their families but also because of politically incited violence, war, harassment and abusive parents.

Cumming (2007), writing on street children in Sierra Leone states that out of 4.6 million estimated populations in 2001, though no official collated street children record, between 1,625 and 3,000 are street children. The study revealed among others that it is virtually impossible without being confronted repeatedly by child beggars. Children as young as two years old will approach both Africans and foreigners, whom they will ask for money or food. Common phenomenon observed by Cumming (2007), were street children moving from drivers' window to passenger's side of the same car in an effort to find sympathetic person, some even tag on the arms of pedestrians to encourage giving while others beg with their young babies at their backs to catch the attention of sympathetic adults to give money. Aptekar (1994), writing on street children in the less developing countries observed that some street children in Africa cities engage in some type of labour for survival for which a large number of boys are "parking boys" who wait on crowded urban streets for cars to approach and assist the drivers to pull the load from the boots of the cars in an anticipation to either tasked to pack for a fee or a "dash", others, overwhelming majority, girls sell

varieties of small items in the informal sector. Yet some few are restaurant and “chop bar” cleaners most of which are girls with their counterparts doing pounding of “fufu” and splitting of firewood.

Sam Zinnah on the plight of Liberian’s street children (2005), stressed that street children in Monrovia do some contracts of fetching water or washing dishes and carrying short distance loads for people, most of them are mentally not stable; they steal and are involved in other forms of hustle. Such children according to Sam Zinnah sleep in unfinished buildings, market stalls and most unfortunately abandon cars. Usually in Monrovia, the adaptation centres for street children are bus stops, train stations, market places as well as places around bars and dilapidated buildings.

A publication on human rights watch of February 2003 disclosed that the public view of street children in many African countries is overwhelmingly negative. The report stressed that the public has often supported efforts to get these children off the street. The report continued that there is an alarming tendency by some law enforcement personnel and civilians, business proprietors and their private security firms to view street children as almost sub-humans.

The Ghana National Commission on Children’s report (2000), contended that some children leave school mainly because of the influence of peers. These cases can be associated with deviant behaviour and children who reject the authority of parents and teachers and opt for the street to live independent lives. State of the World’s Children Report (1997 p. 41) states that “On the street they shine shoes, wash and guard cars, carry luggage, hawk flowers and trinkets, collect re-cycles and find a myriad other ingenious way to make money”.

A study on street children in Addis Ababa and other towns of Ethiopia (1995) by Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare revealed that major urban centres such as Addis Ababa, Dire

Dawa, Harrer Shashaman, Jimma and Adigrat have the largest street children because of highly concentrated economic activities. Poverty, weakness, and instability of family life coupled with absence of family planning constituted major cause of streetism in Ethiopia. Again, practically, the entire sample came from families in the lowest income strata of society. Thus 87% of the parents of these children have a monthly income below 120 Birr, and this is obtained from unreliable and unsustainable sources.

Aptekar, (1988) indicated that policies aimed at rehabilitating street child must begin by understanding the magnitude of the problem, its dimensions and the main factors responsible. It is also important to solve the problem from its very roots, rather than curing the symptoms.

2.3.5 Emergence of Street Children in Ghana

According to Nnakwe (2007), cited in Cumming (2007), writes that in the past, it was literally forbidden for children to loiter about or even grow up without proper adult supervision. Society had in-built mechanism that regulated the behaviours of its member and maintained the status quo. Nobody questioned the system and those who fell short, especially children loitering on the street were swiftly reunited with the family. Children were not permitted to leave home and stay on their own elsewhere without the consent of their parents. Paradoxically, all these valuable traditional legacies seem to have broken down and thrown to the wind. Rapid social transformation and rampant incidence of wider spread of pandemic poverty have destabilized and weakened social fabric.

According to Ghana's Children Report (2000 p. 29), cited in Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare report, out of 281 children who engage themselves in economic activities, 19.2% are selling or hawking with their counterparts (girls) 70.2 %. In the same report (p.53)

1079 children representing 22.8% of the study population were not in school. These according to the report were children who had either terminated school or have never had the opportunity to be enrolled in school. The reasons included lack of parental support, lack of interest by parents, lack of educational facilities in their communities and inability of their parents to pay school fees. The report concluded that cultural factors including the extended family system, the desire for large families in some areas and child fostering determine the composition of households. This was evident that one in five children lives with relatives other than their parents and only one in six children have the benefit of living with both parents (p. 56). In the report, (p.57) indicated that some children from poor homes absent themselves from school in order to do paid work and earn money to care for their basic needs. It called for review of District Assemblies scholarship scheme and Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF) to include supporting parents to finance the education of their children.

Thirty-nine percent (39%) of estimated 6.39 million children are engaged in economic activities. Out of this number, 5.9% are self-employed. As many as 1.59 million children are working while attending school. (GSS, MMYE, 2006). There is also a broad consensus that some worst forms of child labour are prevalent within major towns in Ghana. These include "Kayayo" (head porters and galamsey), small scale mining while significant numbers are found in transportation, "chop bars" (traditional restaurant) with street children becoming increasingly visible phenomenon (MMYE, 2006).

According to Shorter and Ongancha (1994), most families are now under the throes of hunger, dissatisfaction and maladjustment. People are now experiencing grief of unemployment, underemployment and general resource insufficiency. Consequently, many children nowadays have lost the privilege and opportunity of proper parental care.

Unfortunately, many of them are left to their fate to fend for themselves. This remotely informs the reasons why some children are trafficked and many others are roaming aimlessly on the streets of major cities peddling, trading and loitering. Shorter, et al (1994), again stated that under normal circumstances it is expected that children between the ages 5 to 17 years should be in school during school hours. Unfortunately, both the children who attend school and those who do not are found on the street these days transacting one source of business to other. The Ghana Child Labour Survey (G CLS, 2009) of the Ghana Statistical Service, stated that most street children are victims of rural urban drift and at the bottom of this trend is a factor of poverty.

In 2009, a study carried out by Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), revealed that there were about 2,314 street children throughout the country, most of whom lived in the urban areas of Accra and Ashanti and had migrated from the Northern rural areas. Of those surveyed, 45% had never attended school, and 98.1% were engaged in economic activities within the last twelve months. The deduction from the survey was that poverty was underlying cause of the problem.

Asare and Adombire (2008), studying the challenges of combating streetism in Upper West revealed that single parenthood was chief contributor to streetism because a single parent cannot take absolute control over children. The phenomenon according to the researchers was common among Moslem children because of their dominance in Upper West and the practice of polygamy. According to the writers 95% of the study population indicated that financial challenges arising from single parenthood force them to the street. The researchers continue that even though, poverty seems to reoccur in most of the literature, certain adjunct factors contributed to the proliferation of the phenomenon, which include disowned children born out of illicit love affairs or rape, handicap children rejected by their families

and large family size with single parent and some children who just left home on adventure to explore the fortunes talked about by their peers who have been out of the cities and returned to display flashy belongings.

2.3.6. The Nature and Scope of Street Children in Ghana

The specific number of street children in Ghana still remains a guess to many researchers.

The

Department of Social Welfare estimated the number to be 14,380 as of 2009. Surely this figure might have changed with the sharp rising numbers of unemployment. In the year 2000, Accra Catholic Action for Street Children (Catholic Mission) gave the estimation to be 17,000, while Youth Development Foundation, a local based NGO, in Kumasi indicated that there were approximately 10,000 street children in Kumasi, 15,000 in Accra and 8,000 in the Northern Regions of Ghana.

According to Kangsangbata (2008), boys as young as six are forced to sell on the streets of towns, others are also asked to dive to disentangle nets caught on tree stumps below Lake Volta, while girls are forced to cook and sell fish into the night at Volta Region. The major activities of the working children in Upper West Region were in agriculture, forestry and hunting (86.9%), distantly followed by private household service (7.2%), retail trade (3.0%) and manufacturing (2.9%). (Kangsangbata, 2008).

The children's Act, 1998 (Act 560), stipulates that child exploitation is prohibited. It further explains that labour is exploitative if it deprives the child of his or her right to education, health or general development. Selling on the street is by schooling going age children is not only on offence in itself and dangerous to children, but defeats the purpose for which Ghana signed the convention on the Rights of children. Ofei-Aboagye, (2000), cited in

Kangsangbata (2008), writes that women's lower economic and social status, multiple roles and lack of time all limit their access to formal employment, social services and general advancement. With comparatively little education, poorer state of health and greater food insecurity, women, especially in the Northern part of Ghana are the most vulnerable. This obviously affects their potentials to raise responsible children.

Morrison (2002), writes that streetism threatens the children's future development because the children who would have gone to school to become responsible citizens only end up in a street. It added that to ensure responsible children for the future the state should provide more jobs to enable parents take care of their children while the state provides more schools with well-equipped teachers at the rural areas because most of these children are out migrants from rural areas. Asare et al (2008), support that in addition to expansion in education there should be provision of training centres to train interested street children in areas of their interest such as carpentry, dressmaking, masonry and blacksmithing.

As of 2010, Youth Alive, an NGO in the Upper West had 320 street children who were undergoing various forms of training ranging from formal education to apprenticeship (Youth Alive 2010). The Upper West Regional Co-ordinating Council within the same period had recorded 376 street children beside what the NGO takes care of. (Upper West Municipal Assembly, 2008 cited in Asare *et al* (2008). Dormaa Municipal Assembly (2009), was silent on the total number of street children in the Municipality as there is currently no record on them but admitted the presence of street children in the Municipality

2.3.7. The United Nations Children's Fund Initiatives

The organization has a cardinal objective of providing framework for international cooperation to assist in the survival development of the children. The agency instituted a

yearly publication titled “the state of the world’s children” which started in 1981 and later “The progress of nations’ these publications reflected the conscious strategy of stimulating further debate on interest of children. With time, the debate landed on conviction that children equally have the same full spectrum of adults: civil and social, political, cultural and economic rights. (UNICEF, 1997). This conviction culminated in the document called the convention on the rights of the child. The document metamorphosed into a law on 2nd September, 1990. These are laudable initiatives to storm the tide of streetism, (UNICEF, 1997).

2.3.8. The International Labour Organization (ILO) Initiatives

According to Ghana Statistical Service (1996) the International Labour Organization (ILO) is an agency of United Nations with its operational arm International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPECL) seeks to climb down and eliminate child labour globally in all its ramifications. As an effort, the agency proposed a convention tagged “Worst Form of Child Labour” (WFCL) in 1999 as a bold practical step to combating the menace of all forms of child labour. For instance, the preamble for the convention on worst form of child labour set the tone that the effective elimination of the Worst Form of Child Labour requires immediate and sufficient comprehensive action, taking cognizance of the relevance of free basic education and the need to disassociate the children concerned from all forms of such work and to their rehabilitation and social integration while addressing the needs of their families. From the above, the solution to this canker lies on the shoulders of government to create enabling atmospheres for parents to be gainfully employed so that they can respond swiftly to their parental responsibilities well.

Non-Governmental Organization Initiatives in Ghana

The plight of street children attracts the sympathy of well-known non-governmental agencies that deliberately go into rescuing them from such circumstances. Such organizations include; Catholic Action for Street Children, (Catholic Mission, 1999), Street Children Development Foundation, and Youth Alive. For instance, Youth Alive was established with the mission of “Northern Region without street children by 2020” (Youth Alive, 2008). The organization has built drop-in-centre within their catchments areas such as Tamale, Navrongo and Wa, where street children identified are kept for re-integration into formal education or an apprenticeship.

The inmates are kept at the centre for at least two months while their needs are catered for. When the necessary social integration is realized, those within school age are enrolled into formal education and their counterparts recruited into apprenticeship of their choice. All these efforts aimed at reducing street children in Ghana. The package for those who enter into formal education enjoy up to tertiary level while their counterpart is given capital to start their business after completion of apprenticeship (Youth Alive, 2008). All these are geared towards removing such children from the street.

2.3.9. Government of Ghana Initiatives

In Ghana, the children’s Act, 1998 (ACT 560), was primarily established for children related issues. A cardinal portion of the document states that the best interest of the child shall be paramount in any matters concerning a child.

According to Kenneth (1999), cited in Asare *et al* (2008), in 1996, government of Ghana successfully trained thirty young social workers in its school of social workers in Accra to basic level of diploma. However, none of these trained social workers was employed

because of International Monetary Fund (IMF) regulations concerning public sector employment according to the rules of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) that was in operation.

This rendered the government powerless. It is therefore as a result of overdependence on foreign aid that has hesitated the government attempts to implement relevant policies to arrest such social problem. It continues that in 1995, a document was prepared called “Street Children in Ghana Policy Framework” and presented to the government of Ghana through the department of social welfare but was never implemented. Asare, et al (2008) contends that as of 2008 June the document was still called a bill which has no teeth and remains in a theatre of dreams.

The reluctant nature of the government in passing relevant bill into law to rehabilitate street children to classroom also militates against efforts of individuals and non –governmental organizations. Ennew (1996), hinted that the African Network for Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect project targeted children aged five to seventeen who were already involved in working in various sections of the economy. The project was the withdrawal of the street children and re-integrating them into school and supporting them to remain in schools.

The Governments of Ghana have taken various measures to harmonize national laws and policies within the UN convention on Rights of children. For instance, Ghanaian children have been guaranteed some rights and freedom in the 1992 constitution of Ghana. Article 28(1) provides for the right of every Ghanaian child to maintenance and assistance necessary for his or her development from parents (Kangsangbata, 2008). Again, every child has the

right to be protected from engaging in work that constitutes a threat to his or her health, education or development (Morrison, 2002).

Furthermore, a 5-year National Programme of Action called the “Child Cannot Wait” was prepared between 1993 and 1997 for the well-being of Ghanaian children. The major goals include the following:

- a. Expansion in primary school enrolment to 80% of relevant age group (6-11 years) and completion of primary school by at least 60% of this age group.
- b. Reduction in the proportion of children in especially difficult situation which include street children.
- c. Wide spread acceptance and observance of the convention on the Rights of the child (Morrison, 2002).

Kangsangbata (2008) writes that the general perception in Ghana is that children require a defined social structure that will enable them grow in peace. Unfortunately, these structures are either poorly developed or non-existing in extreme cases.

Apusigah (2007) writes that some specific interventions of Ghana government have been at the national level, governmental level and establishment of policies and structures that support child rights. According to the writer some important structures created include the Ghana National Commission of children (GNCC), which apart from the national office, has office in all the ten regions of Ghana whose main functions includes supporting policy making at both national and international levels as well as implementation at the local government. Its flagship initiative, the Status of Child Report, is conducted periodically to highlight the conditions of children in the specific geographical locations in Ghana (Apusigah, 2007). Unfortunately, Dormaa Ahenkro, has not benefited from the GNCC

effort to combating child streetism; it is for this reason the research aims drawing attention of relevant institution.

Another important intervention relating to the structure is the establishment of the Women and Juveniles Unit of the Ghana Police Service, which has been renamed the Domestic and Victims Support unit which also has offices at all the ten regions within the police administration (Kangsangbata, 2008).

2.3.10 Current Interventions by Ghana Government

1. Provision of educational facilities; these mostly are supported by development partners in the form of construction of additional classrooms, an increase in supply of teaching and learning materials and rehabilitation of old classrooms (Gov't Report, 2010).
2. The Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) scheme which allows the very poor to also send their wards to school.
3. The capitation grant which makes basic education virtually free.
4. The school feeding programme which is gradually making for increasing enrolment at the selected areas.
5. The provision of free school uniforms to selected deprived areas.
6. The observance of World Day against Child Labour and Child Trafficking
7. Ministry of women and children affairs was created to deal with women and children related issues (Gov't Report, 2010).
8. The establishment of Children Welfare Departments at some districts, juvenile court in the judiciary and Child Labour Departments.

The foregoing current interventions pointedly indicate government commitment level to rooting out all forms of child neglect.

However, these are not without challenges as most of the interventions are on piloting basis and do not tackle the problem in a holistic approach. Strict conditions on international loan, lack of national policy for successive governments to follow rigidly, who takes the final credit perception by politicians equally among others thwart the fight against social vices in general and streetism in particular in Africa.

2.4. Conceptual Framework

2.4.1. The Nature of Streetism at James Town Ghana

Streetism is a major problem in James Town, suburb in Accra. According to Asare et al (2008), the Accra Metropolitan Assembly as of 2008 had 297 street children whose age were between eight and seventeen years (8-17) who engage in economic activities similar to their counterparts at other cities and most of these children were school drop-outs who migrated from the rural Northern parts of Ghana. Most of these wait patiently for an approaching commercial vehicle and competitively rush to the boots of these cars to check if there are loads to unload and bargain to carry for a fee. These streetists re-locate to the Tuesday market to work until the market dies off and move to other job attracting centres until the next market day (Asare et al, 2008).

According to Frimpong (2011) the forms of street children economic activities have gone through a gradual modernization. From the initial carrying of heavy loads like bags of rice and flour at either their backs or on their heads to the recent use of wheelbarrows. This is very common at major towns in Accra like Aayalolo, Arena, Agbogbloshie, Mallam Atta Market, Korle Gonno and James Town. Frimpong (2011) contends that in Agbogbloshie alone, out of 160 respondents, 128 uses the wheelbarrow to carry loads whiles 23 use pans or baskets and 9 without either of the two means. According to him, most of the respondents

render accounts to the owners of the wheelbarrows (79, 1%) on either daily basis or weekly. It continues that the use of wheelbarrows is a reserve for the boys whose age falls between thirteen and eighteen of the target population. It was the expectation of the writer that in few years to come, street children may be asked to license their wheelbarrows as in the case of trucks by the Accra Metropolitan Assembly. The question that possess doubt is, will the licensing be age selective? Thus, will it consider the minors as unqualified to be registered? If no age limitation is placed against the licensing of the wheelbarrows users, then, it stands to reason that the Accra Metropolitan Assembly is either not aware of the government and individual fight to root out child streetism menace or considers deriving revenue as more important than rehabilitating street children into useful citizens.

Apusigah (2007), cited in Kangsangbata (2008), was of the view that some drivers of street children deem it necessary evil because no amount of free education would make them stop sending children to the street since it would mean cutting off the source daily food supplies. He contends that it is high time realistic and pragmatic policies like giving exclusive attention to females, enforcing the law on child labour, removing socio-cultural hindrances that make it almost impossible for women to determine manageable numbers of children are formulated in addition to effort to reducing poverty.

Osei (2009), discovers in his study at Wenchi in the Brong Ahafo region of Ghana that some children take to streetism because they find it convenient since their families of orientation have not been able to provide the needed comfort. The study suggests that best and effective option would be to rehabilitate them and their homes so that they can feel welcomed, comfortable and enjoy been part of it.

Appiah (2000), concludes that there is the need for government and NGOs who are into rehabilitating street children to recognize the valuable contribution that can be made by

research in revealing the causes as well as solutions to the problems affecting children, especially quantitative and qualitative data has to be continuously collected and processed for the preparation and execution of programmes for children.

2.5. Operational Definition of Terms

2.5.1 Streetism

The act of a child neglecting his or home for one reason or the other to sleep on the street

2.5.2 Street Children

The most common definition of a street child or youth is “any girl or boy who has not reached adulthood, for whom the street (in the broadest sense of the word, including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland, etc.) has become her or his habitual abode and/or sources of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults” (Inter-NGO, 1985).

5.3. Broken Homes

A family in which the parents are divorced or separated.

5.5.4 Children

People below the ages of 18 in Ghana are classified as children. Hence, the study focused on children below the aforementioned age at the streets in James Town

2.5..5. Streetism

In this study the term “street children” is used to refer to children who work and/or sleep on the streets of James Town

2.5.6 Development

Development is defined as the capacity of a state to increase its human resource with the aim of achieving higher outcome of production for the satisfaction of the basic needs of majority of its citizens and empowering them to make demands on the government (THE WORLD BANK, 2010).

2.6. Relevance of the Study

The outcome of the study can serve as a road map for practically tackling the problem of streetism. The quest of the researcher to delve deep into pressing issues of streetism clearly shows that there will be an effective strategy or template that can be of good use by anyone who is willing to help solve the problem of streetism. This chapter spells out the solution and the issues people have identified in the fight against streetism.

2.7. Conclusion

As indicated earlier in this chapter, the sole purpose in this chapter was to find out what has been done as far as studies concerning streetism are concerned. The outcome of such studies and the gaps identified in those studies. It also took into consideration the operationalization of words within the context of the study being conducted. Identification of the gaps is very important just so that those gaps can be tackled in this studies. In summary, the chapter looked at what has been done, the gaps in what has been done and what the researcher want to add to it.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter explains the methodology that was implemented for the entire study. Diverse methodological issues ranging from research approach, research paradigm and logic, research design, research population, sample size and sampling techniques, data collection instruments, administration of the instrument, method of data analysis will be discussed in this chapter.

3.1 Methods

Specifically, the researcher employed the following methods in the collection of data, storage and handling of data to help answer the research objectives of this study. Since the study concerns the streetist in James Town, data collected focused on the children in James Town. James Town is one of the densely populated areas with high rate of streetism in Ghana.

3.2 Research Design

According to Bryman (2008) research design is a general orientation to the conduct of social Research. There are three main research methods; quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods. For the purpose of this study, the researcher employed the quantitative research method in which

a survey was conducted. The reason for choosing the quantitative research method is because it focuses on the collection, collation and analysis of numerical or quantifiable data which best suits this study.

3.2.1 Study Area

The target population or catchment area for this study will be the entire Jamestown community and other non-profit-organizations in the country.

3.2.2 Population

As stated above, the target population for this study will be the entire Jamestown community. The study population will also include other significant not-for-profit organisations such as Save a Street Child Foundation, Care International, Operation Smile, and UNICEF. Other people from non-formal organisations who provided services to street children and parents were also included.

3.2.3 Sample Size

Five (5) qualitative interactive interview will be conducted and twenty-five (30) participants for quantitative survey questionnaires. Swetnam (2000: 42) postulates that a sample is, therefore, the subset of a population selected to participate in a research study. In all thirty-five (35) respondents will be used for the study. This will help , considering the fact that the research is a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches(Mixed method).

3.2.4 Sampling Techniques

Non-probability sampling will be employed by the researcher in sampling the research. The research will use three types of non-probability sampling techniques; namely, snow balling, reliance on available subjects and purposive sampling. In sampling the street children for the research, snow balling will be employed. ‘This procedure of sampling’, according to

Babbie (2005) 'is appropriate when the members of a special population are difficult to locate, such as homelessness...' In view of this, street children that were selected and interviewed were located by the suggestion of other subjects. In sampling key informants for the research, purposive sampling will be employed. Also known as judgmental sampling, research units observed will be based on the researcher's judgement as to which units will be most useful representatives (Babbie, 2005). In line with this, key people occupying certain positions in above-mentioned organisations will be selected as key informants.

3.2.5. Data Collection Procedure and Instrument

Hammond et al, (2018) defined a questionnaire as research instrument consisting series of questions and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents. Questionnaires collect appropriate data, make data comparable and amendable to analyse, and minimize bias in formulating and asking questions, and to make questions engaging and varied. The interview guide is a list of questions you will ask your participants during the interview (Hammond & Hammond, 2018). The order of the questions and the level of degree to which you diverge from your set defined list of questions will vary based on the type of interview you choose to conduct. A questionnaire and interview guide will be chosen as the major tools to collect data for this study. The questionnaire will be divided into five sections.

The first section entailed the demographic data of the respondents while the remaining three sections revolved around the research objectives of the study. The interview guide was designed for management members of the institute for first-hand information. Self-administered questionnaire format was used. Here, the questionnaire was delivered to the respondents by hand and collected after completion. The entire questionnaire administered

was collected back successfully. In relations to the interview guide, interactive or qualitative interview approach will be employed where the data will be gathered through audio recording using modern audio-recorder and note-taking. On the interview guide, the voices of the interviews conducted will be transcribed and interpreted based on the exact information given by respondents.

3.2.6 Techniques of Data Analysis

Hammond, et al, (2018) defined data analysis as describing and interpreting data gathered on issues, situations or problems, situations or problems. Hammond et al further explained that, mostly, data analysis involves the processes of treating huge data or a mass of data to summarize, simplify and interpret them. Data analysis is very necessary because data do not make any meaning until they are scientifically processed and analysed, (Hammond et al 2018).

There are two types of data analysis: quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Quantitative data analysis is the analysis of quantifiable data or data which have numerical values. The analysis involves quantifiable or measurable descriptions and interpretations of the phenomenon under investigation, (Hammond et al 2017).

There are two basic types of quantitative data analysis: descriptive and inferential analysis. In quantitative method, the study will employ descriptive analysis, which will involve the use of descriptive statistics that will take the form of tabulation such as frequency and percentage distribution tables. It would also use graphical representation like histogram, pie chart and bar graph. The quantitative data collected will be analysed using quantitative research techniques. That is, the data will be analysed and presented using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency distribution tables and charts. Statistical Package for

Social Sciences (SPSS) software tools will be used to represent the data to simplify analysis and understanding of the data.

Berg, B.L, Lune, H (2004) refers to qualitative data analysis as the processes and procedures that are used to analyse data and provide some level of explanation, understanding, or interpretation. They argue that, qualitative data analysis typically occurs simultaneously with the data collection; therefore, meaning and understanding often develop slowly over time in non-linear fashion as the project progresses. In relations to qualitative method, open-ended interview guide will be developed and interviews would be thoughtfully conducted using the target sample-size. The data gathered will be transcribed and interpreted using narrative report approach and presented on thematic outlining.

3.3. Sources of Data

The study mainly data will be a primary data including secondary data from sources such as journals, research books and the internet.

3.4 Challenges and Ethical Issues

Because the target population are children, the researcher needs ethical clearing before she can undertake the research. Though the researcher had an ethical clearance from the school, parents whose children are on the street needed money and permission before their children were allowed to be interviewed. This caused the researcher lots of stress and also wasted his time and money on the town folks.

3.5. Limitations and Delimitations

The researcher would have loved to interview lots of the children and the non-profit organization. However, the novel Covid-19 pandemic has been a hindrance in the data

collation process. Hence, need to stick to the information that she got. This I believe will hinder some information that could have helped in making the researcher more complete. However, the researcher has proven his worth by getting information available to make this research a success.

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS OF EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES (TOOLS) TO ADDRESS STREET-CHILDREN PHENOMENON IN GHANA USING JAMES TOWN STREET-CHILDREN AS A CASE STUDY.

4.0 Introduction

The previous chapters looked at the background of the study, theoretical framework and related literature as well as the methodology used for the study.

This chapter presents findings of data collected from sampled Non-governmental institutions in Accra, Ghana who's aim is to see to the welfare of children.

The chapter consists of data presentation, analysis and findings of data collected for the study. It also includes discussions on results. The analysis begins with a presentation of demographic information, background information of respondents and some factors that brings about streetism as well as their consequences.

4.1. Analysis of Key Findings

Table 4.1. 1. Sex

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	24	80
Female	6	20
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Table 1 above represents the sex distribution of the target population. A total of 30 participants were reached as indicated earlier in Chapter Three of this project work. Out of

the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 24 of them were male and the remaining 6 were females. The 24 males represented 80% of the total population and the 6 respondents represented 20% of the population. The high number of males to females is a true representation of the data collected and does not reflect the researcher interest in more male than female

Table4. 1. 2: Age

Age	Frequency	Percentage
15-20	14	47
21-25	10	33
26-30	5	17
31 and above	1	3
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table above shows the age distribution of the street children. Respondents within the age group of 31 and above recorded the lowest with just 1 person selecting that strand. This represents 3% of the total population. However, Children between the age range of 15-20 recorded the highest number of ages with 47% representing 14 of the respondents. The age range between 21-25 also recorded the second highest with 10 of the children selecting that strand, which represent a percentage of 33. The remaining 17% of the respondents constituted the remaining 5 people who selected the age range of 26-30. Clearly, majority of this children are young and vividly reflects in the ae range they selected. This re-echoes the assertions raised in the literature review of this project that children constitute the highest number of people on the streets of James Town.

Table4. 3: Frequency Distribution of Participants religion

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Christian	22	73
Islamic	6	20
Traditional	2	7
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

When asked about their religion, 22 of the respondents representing 73% of the total population were Christians, 6 of the respondents representing 20% of the population forms part of the Islamic religion. Whiles the remaining 2 respondents constituting 7% of the population selected the Traditional religion. The high rate of Christians is a reflection of the religious status of the nation. Again, looking at a Community like James which is a Ga dominated community not Islamic, it is highly likely that's Christians will be more than the Muslim. Which in turns is reflected in the table above.

Table 4. 4: Frequency distribution of the Educational Level of participants

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage
Basic	29	97
Secondary	1	3
Professional	0	0
Diploma/ Degree	0	0
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table above shows the educational level of respondents. Out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 97% had basic education representing 29 of the respondents. This reiterates the very reason why they are on the street. 3% had secondary education representing 1 of the respondents.

Table 4.5: Frequency Distribution of “Which of the institution do you belong to”?

Which of the institution do you belong to?	Frequency	Percentage
Save a street Child foundation	7	23
Care International	12	40
Operation Smile	9	30
UNICEF	2	7
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

From the table above, 30 participants were contacted and out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, about 40% belong to the Care International which represents 12 participants. 23% belong to Save a Street Child Foundation representing 7 participants. 30% are from Operation Smile representing 9 participants and about 7% work with UNICEF which represents 2 participants.

SECTION B: Examining the socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of Jamestown community.

Table 4.6: Frequency Distribution of “Peer Pressure”

Peer Pressure	Frequenc y	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	4	13
Disagree	3	10
Neutral	0	0
Agree	8	27
Strongly Agree	15	50
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table shows that 13% making 4 participants strongly disagreed to the questions, while 10% representing 3 respondents disagreed. 0% were neutral. 27% making 8 participants agreed while 50% out of 15 participants strongly agreed. This shows that peer pressure is the most factor that is leading children to the street.

Table 4.7: Frequency Distribution on “Father-Mother Conflict”

<i>Father-Mother conflict</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Neutral</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Agree</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100</i>

Source: Field Data (2020)

Responding to their Father- Mother conflict, 43% making 13 participants strongly agreed whereas 10% with respondents of 3 disagreed. 7% from 2 participants agreed and 3% representing 1 respondent were neutral. This indicates that Father-Mother conflicts also contribute to the menace of streetism.

Table 4. 7: Frequency Distribution of “Hate of their step mother”

Hate of their step mother	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	15	50
Disagree	1	3
Neutral	5	17
Agree	6	20
Strongly Agree	3	10
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Table 7 above represents the frequency distribution of hate for their step mother. A total of 30 participants were reached and out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 50% of

them were 15 participants who strongly disagreed while 20% made up of 6 participants agreed. 17% making 5 participants were neutral. Those who strongly agreed were 10% making 3 participants.

This a true representation that the hatred step mother was not a major cause for streetism

Table 4.8: Frequency Distribution of “Hate of their step Father”

Hate of their step father	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	10	33
Disagree	2	7
Neutral	1	3
Agree	2	7
Strongly Agree	15	50
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table 7 above represents the frequency distribution of hate for their stepfather. A total of 30 participants were reached and out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 50% of them were 15 participants who strongly agreed whereas 33% made up of 10 participants strongly disagreed. 7% making 2 participants disagreed whereas 7% with 2 participants agreed. Only 3% to 1 participant was neutral.

This is a true representation that the hatred step father had a quite percentage to streetism.

Table 4.9: Frequency Distribution of “Escape”

Escape of parental punishment	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	8	27
Disagree	4	13
Neutral	2	7
Agree	1	3
Strongly Agree	15	50
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Table 9 above represents the frequency distribution of “escape”. A total of 30 participants were reached and out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 50% of them were 15 participants who strongly agreed while 27% made up of 8 participants strongly disagreed. 13% making 4 participants disagreed. Those who were neutral are 7% making 2 participants.

Table 4.10: Frequency Distribution of “No food to at home”

No food to eat at home (Child Neglect)	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	3	10
Disagree	2	7
Neutral	0	0
Agree	4	13
Strongly Agree	21	70
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

A lot a time, certain situations compel children to leave home and run to the street. One of such situations is the neglect of the child exposing him or her to hunger. The above table sort to find out if “Child Neglect” is a reason for the running of children from home. Out of the 30 participants, 21 of them representing 70% of the total population “strongly agree” that child neglect is a one of the cankers that leads to streetism. 4 of the participants who also represents 13% of the total population were in agreement to this assertion raised. Hence, selected “Agree”. 3 of the participants representing 10% strongly disagreed whiles the remaining 7% also disagreed to the assertion raised.

Table 4.11: Frequency Distribution of “Streetism by birth”

Streetism by birth	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	10	33
Disagree	2	7
Neutral	1	3
Agree	2	7
Strongly Agree	15	50
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

In Ghana, they usually hold the believe that streetism is by birth, however, in the researcher’s quest to know if this wide held assertion is true or plays a role in the number of Children we have on the street it turned out that majority of the respondents representing 50% of the respondent strongly agreed to this whiles 10 participants representing 33% also had a contrary view. Therefore, selected” strongly disagree”. 1 person was undecided and

such selected Neutral whiles 2 people each representing 7% of the total population “selected agreed and disagree” respectively.

Table 4.12: Frequency Distribution of “By force marriage at a tender age”

By force marriage at a tender age	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	3
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	3	10
Strongly Agree	26	86
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table 12 above shows the frequency distribution of by force marriage at a tender age of the street children. In all about, 30 respondents filled the questionnaire. About 86% of them making 26 respondents strongly agreed while 10% making 3 respondents agreed. About 3% making 1 respondent strongly disagreed. This shows that by force marriage at a tender is a one major factor that leads to streetism.

Economic Factors

Table 4. 13: Frequency distribution of “Family Poverty”

Family Poverty	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	2	7
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	3	10
Strongly Agree	25	83
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table 13 above represents the frequency distribution of Family Poverty. A total of 30 participants were contacted. Out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, 83% of them making 25 participants responded strongly agree whereas 10% making 3 respondents agreed while 7% making 2 participants strongly disagreed. This means that a high percentage of the population were from families where there is poverty.

Table 4.14: Frequency distribution “Poor Economic condition of a country (GDP, Per Capita income)”

Poor Economic condition of a country (GDP, Per Capita income)	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	2	7
Neutral	10	33

Agree	3	10
Strongly Agree	15	50
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The above table represents the economic position of street children. Here, the intention is to find out if activities of the economy has a cardinal bearing on streetism. A total of 30 participants filled the questionnaire, out of these 50% representing majority of the participants were of the view that streetism is cause by the economic situation. 10 were undecided whiles 3 participants agreed and disagreed respectively.

Table 4.15: Frequency distribution “Poor health of children”

Poor health of children	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	4	13
Strongly Agree	26	87
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table above shows the frequency distribution of one of the consequences of streetism. When asked if streetism can lead to “Poor health of Children” 26 of the participants who represents 87% of the population strongly agree that streetism leads to poor health of children, this was supported the remaining 4 participants who also agreed to the assertion. Those who selected “Agree” constitute 13% of the research population.

Table 4.16: Frequency distribution “Teenage Pregnancy”

Teenage Pregnancy	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	1	3
Strongly Agree	29	97
Total	100	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire a majority 29 respondents representing 97% of the research population” Strongly Agree” that one of the major consequences of streetism is teenage pregnancy. The high number of people who selected Strongly Agree is a prove to the risk that these children expose themselves to. 3 % of the respondents also “Agree” that streetism can lead to teenage pregnancy.

Table 4. 17: Frequency distribution “Increase in social vices (e.g.: armed robbery)”

Increase in social vices (e.g.: armed robbery)	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	0	0
Strongly Agree	30	100
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Again, respondents were asked if streetism has something to do with the increase in social vices, such as armed robbery, prostitution to mention just a few. It turned out that all respondents strongly agreed that streetism is the cause of the aforementioned vices. The 30 respondents representing 100 % responded “Strongly Agree” or strongly agreed to the issue raised.

Table 4.18: Frequency distribution “Victimization”

Victimization	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	4	13
Strongly Agree	26	87
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

Often than not, street children are victimized by some people in the society. Out of the total of 30 that filled the questionnaire, 26 of them representing 87% strongly agree whiles the remaining 4 respondents representing 13% were also in support of the assertion raised. Hence, they also selected “Agree”.

Table 4. 19: Frequency distribution “High Possibility of these children contracting communicable disease”

High possibility of these children contracting communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, measles, cholera and sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDS) such as HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea and syphilis.	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	0	0
Strongly Agree	30	100
Total	100	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

As explained in table 18, once these children find themselves on the street it is highly likely the crime rate in the country is going to increase. Similarly, these children are highly exposed to certain diseases and the possibility of they getting this disease is very high. Communicable disease like Tuberculosis. Cholera are easily contracted by children and when care is not taken it can lead to massive spread of the disease. When asked if there is a possibility of children contracting diseases while they spend their lives outside their homes, respondents were quick to “strongly agree” to the assertion raised. All the 30 respondents representing 100% of the research population were in support of the assertion raised.

Table 4.12: Frequency distribution “a serious threat to continuous increase in illiteracy rate”

A serious threat to continuous increase in illiteracy rate	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	3
Disagree	0	0
Neutral	0	0
Agree	0	0
Strongly Agree	29	97
Total	30	100

Source: Field Data (2020)

The table above shows the frequency distribution for a serious threat to continuous increase in illiteracy rate. A total of 30 participants were reached and out of the 30 people that filled the questionnaire, the percentage of those who strongly agreed are 97% which represents 29 participants. The remaining 3% representing 1 participant strongly disagreed.

4.2. Discussions

The review of the literatures is to guide the researcher in achieving the two main objectives namely; broad and specific. Broadly speaking the review of the literature would reflect the effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers) in addressing street- Children Phenomenon in Ghana using Jamestown Community, a sub-burb of Greater Accra Region as a case study.

The second section of the review would focus on the following specific sub-themes of the objective which under-guides this study: **The effective use of communication materials**

(such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers etc.) in addressing child streetism in Jamestown community; The socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of Jamestown community and The Nature and Scope of streetism in the James Town Vicinity.

4.2. 1 The effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers) in addressing street- Children Phenomenon in Ghana using Jamestown Community, a sub -burb of Greater Accra Region as a case study

This section presents results of the study. The results are presented under various headings based on the themes that emerged from data analysis. In the previous chapters, i.e. chapters 1,2 and 3, this study diagnosed the research problem by providing the general overview and background to the study including statement of problem, research objectives and questions, scope of the study, justification of the study as well as the broad narrative of the study. It also examined the existing empirical literatures with the intention of establishing the knowledge gaps. It provided methodological rigor, setting out the research design including methods, population and sample size and sampling techniques. However, in this section, it is important to do some discussions in the light of the objectives.

1. To assess the effective use of communication materials (such as billboards, flipcharts, fliers etc.) in addressing child streetism in Jamestown community.
2. To examine the socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of Jamestown community.
3. To ascertain the extent to which streetism negatively affect the development of children living on street.

4.2.2 Abusive Homes

In trying to find out the reasons underlying the street children's decision to live on the streets

of James Town, Abusive Homes emerged as a push factor responsible for child streetism. The study revealed that many children on the streets of James Town were forced to move out of their homes because they shared common shelters with guardians who subjected them to frequent abuses.

The commonly mentioned abusers were step-mothers, step sisters and aunties. For instance, a street girl shortly narrated her story as: *'My step mother always maltreated me, so, I one day decided to run away from home to Accra after school'*. Many of these abuses were physical and emotional. The children professed that they were subjected to severe punishments such as slaps on their faces, punches with fists, forced to sleep outside homes, whipped with electric wires, and denied food any time they offended their guardians. In a boy's account, he narrated: *'My step mother refused to give me food, as usual, so I stole her cell phone, sold it and used part to buy food and used the remaining part of the money to pay for transportation fare to Accra'*.

Aside physical abuse, some of the children reported emotional abuses. A 16-year-old girl for instance, narrated how her aunt insulted her and called her witch and the killer of her parents. Further investigation reveals that such children did not have people they could report to or complain to who could put their abusive guardians to order. This is partly due to the fact that the children and their abusers live far away from external family members of the child, and there is virtually no means by which the children can communicate with them. In most cases, people around them who try advising the abusive guardians on how

they relate with the child rather provoke the guardians to worsen the abusive situations they subject the children on the grounds that the children gossip about them to people. In most cases, a girl narrated, *'the best help I[they] get is the advice that I[they] should endure because no situation is permanent'*.

4.2.3 Child Neglect

Family neglect showed up in the data analysis as a contributing factor of child streetism in Accra. Many of the street children claimed to have been abandoned by their parents. A 17years old boy for instance narrated his story as: *"My father and mother divorce. My father went to marry another woman. My mother send me go give my father. My father say he no go accept me. My mother too says she too does not like me because she goes to marry another man so I follow my friends come Accra"*.

From the boy's account, it is clear that his parents refused to take responsibility of taking care of him after they divorced. A 15 years old girl I interviewed at Aayalolo, a suburb in James Town in Accra shared with me that:

My father and mother are divorced. My father lives in Obuasi. My mother is married to another man who does not want me in his home. So my mother sent me to my maternal grandmother who lives in Madina. But my grandmother is very poor. she is not able to pay my school fees, my clothing; as well as, feed me and my siblings so I decided to leave and make some money on the street and go back to her.

4.2.4 Family Poverty

In line with family neglect is family poverty. In trying to know why some families abandon their wards, it became clear that large family size against very limited resources available to families put the families in situations that make the families incapable of providing for the child. To expatiate, many of the street children were found to have come from large nuclear but poor families. Since the available support resources to their families are limited, the parents are not able not provide for the need of all their children. In attempt to provide for their needs, many of the children who felt neglected resorted to satisfying those needs on the streets of Accra. This point was underscored by an official in social welfare when he said, *“we have identified that even those street children who have parents; their parents are unemployed and therefore caring for them becomes very difficult; hence, forcing the children onto the street”*.

In the same vein, a mother who has her children on the streets of Accra was of the view that: *“Ever since my husband died, I found things very difficult...I could not cater for their school fees, neither could I provide for their needs. I send my four children to sell ice water in order to support the family. The boys felt embarrassed anytime I tell them to go and sell so they left home.... but they show up from time to time”*. In terms of possible sources of aid for the immediate family of the street children, it was found out that the guardians of the children live far from their extended families or they are at logger heads with their extended family members or neighbours who could have come to their aid in times of need. Again, such parents also do not have strong networks of people who can come to their aid or they are restricted from reaching out for help because of their self- pride. In cases where the children conceived that their parents cannot provide their means of survival, they move to the street to seek for their means of survival there.

4.2.5 Peer Pressure

Another major factor underlying child streetism as detected in the data is Peer Pressure. Perusing the data collected shows that many of the children followed their friends to the streets. Most of the reasons given were that they wanted to be free from controlling parents and they wanted to buy nice things (such as shirts and phones) like their friends on the streets. A 16 years old girl for instance who hails and lived at Aburi in the Eastern Region with her parents narrated her story as:

“I lived with my mother at Aburi. I don’t know my father. My friends who dropped out of school and lived at Kaneshie on the streets came to share their nice experiences with me. They shared with me how they sold items and carried luggage for people in order to raise money to buy nice dresses. So I one day decided to follow them so that I could also raise enough money and return home”. A field worker at Street Girls’ Aid added that;

Many of the girls who ended up on the streets followed friends who were older than them to Accra. Most of the time, the older friends promised them better living conditions in Accra. When they arrived in Accra, the older girls connected them to men to send them on errands for money; the men later started engaging the girls in sexual activities for money and protection.

4.2.6 Streetism by birth (2nd Generation)

Another striking cause of child streetism in Accra is birth. The data revealed that some of the children on the streets were born onto the streets by parents who were by themselves living on the streets. Most of their parents are in their middle twenties. Their living conditions are similar to those children who did not have their parents on the streets. This is in line with Boakye-Boaten’s (2008) findings when he conducted a research in Accra to find out the

complexities of child streetism in Accra. He called this phenomenon ‘2nd Generation Street Children’.

4.2.7 The Effects of Streetism on Street Children Safety and Sexual Abuse

As indicated earlier, street children; especially street girls, are often faced with sexual abuses. Many of the girls just as opined by Selassie, Street Invest coordinator, sleep in public places such a Kantamanto Market, Train stations, disused trains, public washrooms and in front of shops. In line with where they sleep’, a 15 years old boy said, *‘I sleep anywhere I get. When I get a cardboard, I just spread it out and sleep on it’*. Such sleeping places make the street children vulnerable to social deviants such as thieves, serial killers and rapists. Many of the girls, in this vein, have admitted being attacked and defiled. Of the many, few of the street girls have admitted being defiled by bigger boys and men with the threat of killing them when they try to scream or shout or report. In course of collecting the data for this research for instance, I interviewed a girl in Railways Station who explained to me how she stopped sleeping on stalls in the Kantamanto Market and started sleeping in the public washroom adjacent the railways station. She narrates, *“when you sleep there (Kantamanto Market), the older guys come to cut your dress and strip you naked and forcefully try to have sex with you. Some also would further want to steal the little money you saved...there is no one to report to so I stopped sleeping there”*.

A girl I met in the Street Girls Aid (S.AID) admitted that she is a victim of defilement but she is fortunate that the boy who impregnated her has claimed paternity of her unborn child but she added that she knows some girls who could not locate those who forcefully slept and impregnated them. Perhaps, the most threatening to girls is a fear of rape by street boys that is frequently realised in practice (Kilbride, Suda, and Njeru, 2000).

In the midst of the insecurities, the street children have devised mechanisms to protect themselves. For the street girl, the best protection is to be in relationship with a strong boy. For the street boy, the best protection is to form alliance with other street children or pay bigger boys for protection. In line with this, a 17 years of girl explains: *'If you have a boyfriend, it is much safer because he will protect you from other boys. You sleep with him at night and during the day. When he makes money, he gives you some. The girls who do not have boyfriends or anybody to protect them are those who get raped and beaten for sex at night. I have a boyfriend; he is the father of my child and he gives me money every day'*.

4.2.8 Poor Health

A striking thematic effect of streetism on street children in Accra is poor health. This is as result of the environment and circumstances they find themselves in, coupled with the choice of activities they engage in order to survive. I gathered earlier information from S.Aid fieldworkers about Tuobodom, in Circle, before going there. From the information I received, it suggested to me that Tuobodom is not a friendly place for visitors and researchers. In view of this, I scheduled and went to the field with one of the fieldworkers called Mr. Issah. As soon as we got there, we met a 16-year-old girl who happens to be a street girl sitting under a dilapidated kiosk. In the course of exchanging pleasantries with her, another 17 years old girl hugged me from behind and kissed my cheek. She quickly exclaimed, *"brother! you are handsome papa! Take us with you, sleep with us and give us 20 cedis each"*. Wow! I retorted. I took the opportunity to further ask the 17 years old girl who hails from Salt Pond in the Central Region about her background and how they survive on the street. This is how she narrated how she and her female friends survive on the street:

We started by selling ice-water for a woman but the money we made from her business did not suffice our rent and feeding needs; so, we stopped and started engaging in commercial sex...when you sleep with us..., we have the short round and long round. The short round ranges from 5 minutes to 30 minutes' sex. For the long round, we will be with you for the entire night. The short round ranges from 5 Cedis to 7 Cedis, depending on your stature. The long round ranges from 35 Cedis to 40 Cedis, depending on your stature. To know whether they protect themselves against Sexually transmitted diseases, she narrated the following:

We are aware that HIV/AIDS and gonorrhoea are real that is why we use condoms. But if you insist that you won't use condom, we will charge you 100 Cedis. ...by looking at the person, we can tell whether he has Aids or not. As for you (the researcher), you don't have Aids because you conduct yourself well and you are too handsome to get Aids.

To know whether they protect themselves against unwanted pregnancies, she narrated the following: *"I have never been pregnant because I am smart and I know when it is safe for me to have sex. When I know it is not safe. I insist on using condoms"*. In another interview with an 18 years old girl who hails from Bolgatanga in Upper East, she narrated to me how they handle unwanted pregnancies:

"Anytime I get pregnant, I use 'Chokor bomb' to destroy the unborn baby.... don't you know 'chokor bombs' and how they work? Hahahaha! They are mixture of certain traditional herbs that have been blended and rolled into balls. When you are pregnant, you just have to buy one, wet it with water and insert it into your private part and wait for it to explode the baby. After which you can visit toilet and then pullout parts of the baby and then wash your private part".

On the parts of the boys, most of them admitted that they have girlfriends. And they also reported that they have had sex prior this interview without condoms before. Veering from street children's sexual health, I formed a focus group discussion of 6 street children at Railways in Accra Central. It shows that, street children hardly bath since they are required to pay 20 to 50 pesewas anytime they bath in public washrooms. They hardly clean their teeth with toothbrush and toothpaste since they do not have the money to buy tooth brush and tooth paste; instead, most of them use only chewing stick. They hardly eat food cooked under hygienic conditions since buying food cooked under hygienic conditions, to them, is very expensive and luxurious. Some of the children sleep in disused buildings, public washrooms and public resting places often without mosquito nets. Lastly, the children do not visit health centers to seek for medical care and do not have National Health Insurance as well.

4.3. Conclusion

Incontrovertible, aforementioned problems are major issues leading to streetism in different part of our country. An attempt to overlook such pressing issues can cause severe economic, social and political issues to the country. Therefore, the need for the various state holders to join hands together in fighting against streetism and it adverse effect on the various sectors of our economy.

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the study conducted. It will include the purpose of the study, research questions, and discussions of results obtained, conclusions, and recommendations for further studies.

5.1 Summary of Key Findings

According to 1998 Children's Act of 560, children under fifteen (15) years are not to work for money while the Republican Constitution of Ghana (1992), prohibit children under eighteen years to work for money. However, from all indications from the research findings, these two statutory instruments are just like "paper lions" or "old toothless dogs" with no effect.

1. The sample population (30 street children) has been on the street from one month to more than two years.
2. Again, for the past five years attempt to halt the phenomenon has proved ineffective.
3. The study discovered that the highest proportion of the sample fell between eleven and fifteen (11-15) years for the girls and sixteen to nineteen (16-19) years for the boys.
4. It was noticed from the findings that more Christian children are on the street than any other religious sect.
5. The study indicated that most street children from the sample ended their formal education at lower primary, now basic 1-3 but at least everybody within the sample has been to school before.

6. Poverty (financial constraints) was discovered to be the single most important factor that drives most children on to the street. Other factors included single parenthood arising from broken homes, peer influence, truancy, and the desire to be independent and harsh treatment at some homes.
7. It also revealed that the Accra Metropolitan Assembly has made effort to bring to minimal the phenomenon but the scholarship scheme has taken political dimension.
8. The study revealed that street children friends spend the night mostly with their friends.
9. It was observed from the study that most street boys wish to go back to school whilst their counterpart girls prefer to learn an apprenticeship.
10. The effects identified from the study included:
11. The possibility that some of these children, especially, the boys becoming thieves and armed robbers to threaten society is very high.
12. A serious threat to continuous increase in illiteracy rate which defeat Education. For All (EFA) by 2015 and increase in dropout rate.
13. High possibility of these children contracting communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, measles, cholera and sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDS) such as HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea and syphilis.
14. There is the likelihood of these children learning smoking, drinking of alcohol and consequently becoming addicted. These children mostly are used as land guards and body guards who frequently disturb public peace.
15. Significant, proportion of human resources go through the drain because the activities of street children and its resultant effects have little or no benefit to larger society.

5.2 Conclusions

The future of this country is strongly dependent on the youth of the country. As indicated in the analysis, most of this street children also forms part of the youth of the country.

However, if people who are tagged as the hope of the country or the future generation of the country finds themselves on the major streets of Accra, then the question is what future are we building as a country?

Obviously, there is no hope of a future if the situation or the issue of streetism is along to linger. Just as the analysis of this study pointed out, if care is not taken, majority of this children who grow to increase the social vices like armed robbery, prostitution to mention just a few.

We can only boast of a good future when we support these children to leave the street of James Town and /or Accra. The lives of this little ones are impoverished by the activities of their parents, society and to a greater extent those in authorities.

Child streetism is not irreversible phenomenon and for that reason, if pragmatic interventions highlighted are executed strictly, it will reform those on the street and place barriers against future occurrences in James Town in particular and Ghana in general

It should be stated that the application of the prescriptive interventions should not be a mere stop-gap endeavours but a continuous cohesion process.

Child streetism is a discontinuity of normal social life in society and there is striking need to reform them effectively to return the afflicted children back to normal social life. Emphasis should be placed on re-establishment of necessary social, economic and psychological frame suitable for continuity of normal social life for street children will give more meaning. This will break the tendency of cyclical cause-effect of child streetism. It is

therefore imperative and incumbent on all stakeholders, individuals and Government to join hands in crusade against child streetism since “one man’s hand cannot embrace the baobab tree”.

5.3. Recommendations

This study explored the effective communication Strategies to address street-children phenomenon in Ghana using James Town street children as a case study.

Making inference from the analysis arising so far from the study, certain loopholes exist in the administration of the previous prescriptions to curb the phenomenon. Firstly, scourge of poverty is still biting deeper into the social fiber. Secondly, rural communities are still lagging behind in terms of infrastructural development which pushes the youth to the cities. Further, most of the interventions, especially government ones are on pilot basis whilst some are tied to rigid conditions such as “brilliant but needy” issues and political affiliations. While some interventions tackle part of it, others treat only the symptoms leaving the root causes untouched.

It is the positive conviction of the researcher that the following recommendations will appropriately forestall child streetism in James Town if diligently and strictly applied.

Ultimately, the answer to the child streetism phenomenon in James Town and Ghana in general, lies in the economic empowerment of rural communities through the reduction of high prevalence of unemployment, especially, the urgent need of the Government to take a bold step to bridge the worsening infrastructural gap between the urban and the rural communities. Thus there is the need to institute Development Projects are to be made to empower parents financially to boost their ability to cater for their wards. This will equally

provide jobs for the youth and engage them so as to halt the tendency to migrate in search of jobs.

Extension of social amenities to the rural settings will not only provide entertainment to sustain the youth interest in the rural areas but as push factor to investors to open up businesses. Non-governmental organizations who are into education should target the rural areas where these children migrate from rather than in cities so that barrier will be placed against further migration.

If all citizens are to contribute meaningfully to economic development of Ghana, then, policies that seek to treat streetism must be extended to well-known areas with incidence of child streetism. For instance, scholarship should not cover the “brilliant but needy” only but also those who cannot cope with academic work to pursue apprenticeship. Also there should be mentorship programmes for these children that will help to encourage them to pursue their goals instead of being on the streets.

There should be a non-partisan committee to determine who qualifies for the scholarship scheme while intensive publicity should be made to catch the attention of needy families.

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APPENDIX I

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH, GHANA INSTITUTE OF

SEMI-INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR STREET CHILDREN AT JAMES TOWN

JOURNALISM

Introduction

My name is Janet Abena Quainoo, a Master of Arts in Development Communication student of the Ghana Institute of Journalism. The subject of my research is: “Exploring Effective Development Communication Strategies (Tools) To Address Street-Children Phenomenon in Ghana.” Information provided for the purposes of this research will be treated confidentially. Kindly note that this is an interview guide and the questions are open ended; therefore, follow-up questions may be asked in the process of the interview.

Date:.....Time.....Venue.....Code.....

1. Can you kindly tell me about yourself?
2. Can you share with me the reasons why you moved to the streets of Accra?
3. Can you share with me how you survive on the streets of Accra?
4. Can you share with me the difficulties you face on the streets?
5. In your opinion, what can be done to help people like you?

APPENDIX II

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR RESIDENTS OF JAMES TOWN

My name is Janet Abena Quainoo, a Master of Arts in Development Communication student of the Ghana Institute of Journalism. The subject of my research is: “Exploring Effective Development Communication Strategies (Tools) To Address Street-Children Phenomenon in Ghana.” Information provided for the purposes of this research will be treated confidentially. Kindly note that this is an interview guide and the questions are open ended; therefore, follow-up questions may be asked in the process of the interview Thank you.

BIODATA

- I. Sex: male () female ()
- II. Age: 20-25 () 26-35 () 36-45 () 46 and above ()
- III. Religion: Christian () Muslim () Traditional ()
- IV. Educational Level
Basic () Secondary () Professional () Diploma () Degree () Others
- V. Which of the institution do you belong to?
Save a street Child foundation ()
Care International ()
Operation Smile ()
UNICEF ()

SECTION B: Examining the socio-economic factors that compels the children to live on the streets of Jamestown community.

Kindly indicate your view on the subsequent questions. Where SD= Strongly Disagree, D= Disagree, N=Neutral, A=Agree, SA=Strongly Agree

	STATEMENT					SD
A	FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE STREETISM					
	Peer Pressure					
	Father-Mother conflict					
	Hate of their step mother					
	Hate of their step father					
	Escape of parental punishment					
	No food to eat at home (Child Neglect)					
	Streetism by birth					
	By force marriage at a tender age					
	ECONOMIC FACTORS					

	Family Poverty					
	Poor Economic condition of a country (GDP, Per Capita income)					

SECTION C: The extent to which streetism negatively affect the development of children living on street.

NO	STATEMENT					SD
B	EFFECT OF STREETISM					
11	Poor health of children					
12	Teenage Pregnancy					
13	Increase in social vices (e.g.: armed robbery)					
14	Victimization					
15	High possibility of these children contracting communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, measles, cholera and sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDS) such as HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea and syphilis.					
16	A serious threat to continuous increase in illiteracy rate					

17. What knowledge do you have about street children at James Town

.....
.....

18. What government policies do you know of that seek to arrest child streetism

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19. What are some of the negative effects of child streetism?

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20. Suggest measures to reform street children into useful citizens

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