

**THE IMPACT OF CHILD SPONSORSHIP ON THE WELFARE OF SPONSORED
CHILDREN: The case study of Compassion International Bweyogerere, Wakiso Uganda**

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**UGANDA CHRISTIAN
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Declaration

I Nsamba Elvis certify that this report does not incorporate without acknowledgement, any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any university, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person, except when due reference is.

Sign..... Date

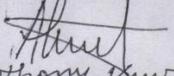
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Approval

This Project Report has been submitted with my approval as the University supervisor

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Dedication

This work is dedicated to my fellow ministers at NewLife church Kireka, to my parents, my brothers, my sponsor: Pr Arthur kiwala, and finally my God father Dr Richmond Wandera.

Acknowledgement

First of all, I am grateful to the Almighty God, who graces us, and without blessing from whom, we couldn't make it this far and make all studies and the research as desired. I also extend my gratitude to my supervisor for his guidance and advice throughout the project research. Thanks, as well to my colleagues in this course and friends with whom I had a resourceful exchange of ideas

Table of Contents

Declaration.....	ii
Approval	iii
Dedication.....	iv
Acknowledgement.....	v
Table of Contents.....	vi
List of Tables	ix
List of Figures.....	x
Abbreviations and Acronyms	xi
Definition of Key Terms	xii
Abstract.....	xiii
CHAPTER ONE	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background to the study	1
Table 1.1 Leading International Child Sponsorship Programs.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	2
1.3 Purpose of the study.....	2
1.4 Research Objectives.....	3
1.5 Research Questions.....	3
1.6 Significance of the Study	3
1.7 Justification of the Study.....	4
1.8 Limitations of the Study	4
1.9 Basic Assumptions of the study.....	4
CHAPTER TWO	5
LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.1 Introduction.....	5
2.1 Empirical literature	5
2.1.1 Child sponsorship.....	5

2.1.2	Child sponsorship models.....	5
2.1.3	The compassion international child sponsorship model.....	6
2.2	The Impact of Child Sponsorship in Facilitating Access to Formal Education	7
2.3	The impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries	8
2.4	The impact of child sponsorship on the protection of the beneficiary children's rights	8
2.5	Theoretical literature.....	8
2.6	The Conceptual framework	9
2.8	Research Gaps.....	10
CHAPTER THREE.....		11
METHODOLOGY		11
3.1	Introduction.....	11
3.2	Research Design	11
3.3	Target population.....	11
Table 3.1 The Target Population		11
3.4	Sample size and Sampling Procedure	12
Table 3.2 Sample design		12
3.4.1	Sampling Procedure.....	12
3.5	Data Collection Instruments	12
3.5.1	Validity of the Instruments	14
3.5.2	Reliability of instruments	14
3.6	Data collection Procedure	14
3.7	Data processing and analysis	15
3.8	Ethical Considerations.....	15
CHAPTER FOUR.....		16
DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATIONS		16
4.1	Introduction.....	16
4.2	Response Rate.....	16
4.3	Demographics.....	16
4.3.1	Gender of respondents.....	16
Table 4.1: Gender of respondents.....		16

4.3.2 Ages of Respondents	17
Table 4.2: Age of respondents.....	17
4.3.3 Level of education	17
Table 4.3 Levels of education.....	17
4.4 The Impact of Child Sponsorship in Facilitating Access to Formal Education	17
Table 4.5: Facilitating access to formal education.....	18
4.5 Thematic analysis in respect of access to formal education	19
4.6 The impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries	21
Table 4.6 impact on social welfare.....	22
4.7 Thematic analysis with respect to social welfare.....	22
4.8 The impact of child sponsorship in facilitating protection of beneficiary children's rights ..	24
CHAPTER FIVE	25
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	25
5.1 Overview	25
5.2 Summary of Study Findings.....	25
5.3 Conclusion	26
5.4 Recommendations	27
5.5 Suggestion for Further Study.....	27
REFERENCES.....	28
Appendix I: Questionnaire for Project Beneficiaries and Stakeholders	29
Appendix III: Interview Guide for Continuing Students in the Project	34
Appendix IV: Interview Guide for Project Alumni	35

List of Tables

Table 1.1:	Leading International Child Sponsorship Programs	1
Table 3.1:	The Target Population	11
Table 3.2:	Sample design.....	12
Table 4.1:	Gender of respondents	16
Table 4.2:	Age of respondents	17
Table 4.3:	Levels of education.....	17
Table 4.5:	Facilitating access to formal education.....	18
Table 4.6:	Impact on social welfare	22

List of Figures

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework 10

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CI – U	Compassion International - Uganda
CI-Kenya	Compassion International - Kenya
CSP	Child Sponsorship Program
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ToC	Theory of Change
UK	United Kingdom
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USA	United States of America

Definition of Key Terms

The following terms have been used in the study as follows:

Access: To allow the beneficiaries of compassion international CSP an opportunity to reach out to formal education, healthcare and food services.

Beneficiary: Any student who is currently enrolled in, or has exited from compassion international Bweyogerere.

Child Sponsorship: A fundraising in which a charitable organization associates a donor sponsor with a particular beneficiary.

Community development: A process in which community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to their common problems.

Orphan: A child whose father/mother or both have died who is a beneficiary of compassion international CSP.

Welfare: To access formal education, healthcare and food by the beneficiaries of the compassion international Child Sponsorship Program.

Abstract

Child sponsorship programs are initiatives run by various non-profit organizations and charities to support and improve the lives of children in need. These programs aim to provide financial assistance and essential resources to children living in poverty or difficult circumstances, typically in developing countries. While the available literature might be limited to only the benefits of Child sponsorship programs on host communities as a form of community development, there is little literature on the role played by child sponsorship projects on the welfare of beneficiaries. Specifically, no such study has been conducted on compassion international in Bweyogerere. Consequently, this research sought to examine the impact of compassion international child sponsorship on the welfare of beneficiaries sponsored under the program. The specific objectives pursued were three: To investigate the impact of child sponsorship on the beneficiaries' access to formal education, to explore the impact of child sponsorship on the protection of the beneficiary children's rights in Bweyogerere and to investigate the impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries in Bweyogerere. A sample of 200 respondents was purposively selected from a population of 500 project beneficiaries, composed of project ongoing students and alumni. Structured questionnaires, document review, beneficiary and key informant interviews and field-based observation were used to collect data. Validity was ensured through expert reviews while reliability analysis was carried out using Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Quantitative data was analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics while qualitative data was transcribed, analyzed and reported. The study concluded that prior to the project many children within the project area of operation did not have access to formal education, their rights were not protected and their social welfare was poor. However, upon being enrolled into compassion international child sponsorship program, the beneficiaries were able to get access to formal education, their rights were protected and their social welfare improved. The study concluded that the compassion international child sponsorship program played a critical role in the welfare of the beneficiaries. The research therefore recommended that compassion international child sponsorship program should improve more on their objectives in order to ensure more effectiveness in accessing formal education, healthcare and food by enrolled beneficiaries.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Child sponsorship can be defined as a fundraising in which a charitable organization associates a donor sponsor with a particular child beneficiary (Wydick et al., 2017). According to (Watson, 2015), some of the features of child sponsorship include regular payments by sponsors and exchange of personal information about specific children in the form of letters, cards, school reports, or updates.

Child sponsorship, especially the type that links a sponsor directly to the child-beneficiary has played a critical role in alleviating suffering and improving the living standards of beneficiaries. The bond between the sponsor and the beneficiary makes sponsorship an unusually lengthy and stable source of NGO income; and the sponsorship provides the sponsors with a window into the lives of people in a developing country (Eekelen, 2013).

Child sponsorship programs have been in existence since the 1930s, and they have grown to the extent that today 3.5 million children in developing countries are being sponsored through the eight largest child sponsorship programs (see Table 1.1).

Table 1.1 Leading International Child Sponsorship Programs

Organization	Year Established	Number of Children Sponsored Per Year (,000)	Number of Countries
World Vision Int	1950	43,000	100
Compassion International	1952	50,000	27
Plan International	1937	25,000	80
Save The Children	1919	40,000	118
Children International	1936	1,000	10
Food For The Hungry	1971	35,000	20
Christian Children's Fund	1938	16,000	31
Total			

Not much of the reviewed literature has explored the impact of such projects on the individual welfare of the beneficiaries involved at the village level in the context of Uganda. Hence my

study will focus on measuring the impacts of these sponsorships to the life of beneficiaries and to add to the global empirical findings of the effects of the Compassion International child sponsorship program. Previous studies of former sponsored Compassion International children revealed positive and significant effects on their education, probability of employment and occupational choice (Wydick, Glewwe, & Rutledge, 2011). Moreover, a follow up study in Kenya on adult life outcomes disclosed that sponsored children, when compared with their non-sponsored siblings, scored higher on an adapted Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (Ross & Wydick, 2011). These empirical results seem to align with teachings found in Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it” (New International Version).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There exists, across the globe, many projects that are aimed at enhancing child sponsorship. These projects have invariably had tremendous impact on the lives of beneficiary communities (Boon et al., 2013; Smith, 2008; World Bank, 2015). Never the less, not much of the reviewed literature has explored the impact of such projects on the welfare of the beneficiaries involved at the village level in the context of Uganda. Quite a number of studies about child sponsorship in the USA, Europe and Asia exist such as Bruce et al.'s (2013) study on child sponsorship covering Europe and Asia. However, such studies have not been done on child sponsorship in Uganda especially in the urban context. In Bweyogerere, various challenges have adversely affected children in terms of nutrition, health, formal education and their general welfare, which has resulted into hopelessness for the affected children. Compassion International – Uganda is one of the NGOs that have attempted to address these challenges in Bweyogerere. Nevertheless, in-spite of this effort by Compassion international to the sponsored children, the impact of the sponsorship to the beneficiaries is not known. Thus, this study sought to examine the impact of child sponsorship on the welfare of the beneficiaries in Bweyogerere.

1.3 Purpose of the study

The main objective of this study was to examine the impact of child sponsorship programs on the welfare of children sponsored in Bweyogerere.

1.4 Research Objectives

Based on the aforementioned main objective, this research will be guided by the following specific objectives:

- i) To investigate the impact of child sponsorship on the beneficiaries' access to formal education
- ii) To explore the impact of child sponsorship on the protection of the beneficiary children's rights in Bweyogerere
- iii) To investigate the impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries in Bweyogerere

1.5 Research Questions

- i) What is the impact of child sponsorship in helping beneficiaries in Bweyogerere access formal education?
- ii) What is the impact of child sponsorship in facilitating protection of beneficiary children's rights in Bweyogerere?
- iii) What is the impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of beneficiaries in Bweyogerere?

1.6 Significance of the Study

This study will be significant to Compassion International Uganda for it is crucial for evidence-based policy-making, program improvement, and ensuring the well-being and development of sponsored children and their communities. It helps to create more effective, equitable, and sustainable interventions to support more vulnerable children.

This study will as well be significant for it will document the contribution of child sponsorship programs to the beneficiaries' overall welfare on formal education, children's rights protection, social welfare and psychological welfare. As such, it will enable the sponsoring agencies to focus on the areas that need more attention in future.

This study will also be vital to the Government of Uganda and the local authorities of Bweyogerere when it comes to planning. This will in turn guide policy formulation, especially about areas of intervention for NGOs which are operating within the country.

1.7 Justification of the Study

This study was conducted on the compassion international child sponsorship program in Bweyogerere, Wakiso district. This was because the program deals with children from poor families in the area and no study has been done on the compassion international child sponsorship program to evaluate its impact on individual beneficiary's welfare and in an urban setup area like Bweyogerere.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

Some of the respondents were not willing to give information to the researcher and it was hard to convince them that the information gathered was specifically for research purposes only and that it wouldn't be exposed to any other party

The other limitation to the research was time as there was little time provided to carry out all document's reviews, beneficiary interviews and questionnaires and data analysis.

The sponsorship study flagged the risk of respondents' bias in the survey responses, in that children or adults responding on their behalf could offer answers that they think Plan International would wish to hear. The research team uncovered a large bias in the supplementary questionnaire arising from adults replying on children's behalf about their wellbeing. However, for the analysis, the research team chose to rely only on a subset of data where children replied to.

Some questionnaires given to beneficiaries were not correctly filled and hence they couldn't be considered among the sample.

1.9 Basic Assumptions of the study

The assumptions adopted by this study was that the beneficiaries and alumni selected as the sample size were to provide accurate and enough information to aid in drawing conclusions and findings of the study. The other assumption was that the beneficiaries were cooperative and will be willing to share the required information.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section will review theoretical and empirical literature. The literature will focus on child sponsorship projects and their role on the individual project beneficiaries. The review will be done as per the objectives of the study.

2.1 Empirical literature

2.1.1 Child sponsorship

Child sponsorship involves monthly remittance sent from sponsors, through NGO's such as compassion international, World Vision, and Save the Children to children sponsored in Uganda. According to *Eekelen (2013)*, child sponsorship model has grown ever since an American journalist witnessed the plight of Korean orphans, established World Vision, and introduced a sponsorship program in 1953.

Various studies have been carried out on child sponsorship programs and access to various services to improve access to Formal Education. Studies by (*Eekelen, 2013*) have made a comparison of sponsorship programs of 30 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the UK, USA, Belgium, Germany and France in the one-to-one child sponsorship programs, but failed to evaluate their impact on access to healthcare, nutrition and formal education of the beneficiaries

2.1.2 Child sponsorship models

There are three basic models, although some organizations combine two or more of the basic sponsorship models to carry out their mission.

- i) Community Projects Model - Some child sponsorship organizations pool the funds from individual sponsors to help support larger community projects like the development of new schools or hospitals. These organizations also might distribute general goods like food or clothing to entire communities.
- ii) Direct Support Model - Organizations such as Compassion International connect individual sponsors with children in need, providing them and their families with resources such as food, education, health-care, vocational training and micro-loans.

- iii) Third-Party Support Model - A few organizations use the sponsorship dollars they collect to support local groups or organizations that already provide resources for people living in poverty, including schools, churches, shelters and food banks (Marketwire,2011)

2.1.3 The compassion international child sponsorship model

Compassion International is a child sponsorship program that has been providing support and assistance to children in need since 1952.

Wydick, Glewwe and Rutledge (2013) have studied child sponsorship through Compassion International in six countries in Europe and Asia and found it to have had a big (positive) impact on adult life outcomes - Such studies have also been done in some African countries. In Uganda, Compassion International - Uganda (CI - U) has been running child sponsorship projects across many Districts, yet there are no studies that have been conducted to ascertain the impact of such projects on the welfare of the beneficiaries.

Here's an overview of the Compassion International child sponsorship program model:

1. Child Selection: Compassion International partners with local churches in developing countries to identify children in need of support. These children often come from vulnerable backgrounds, facing challenges such as poverty, and lack of access to education, healthcare, and proper nutrition.
2. Individual Child Sponsorship: The heart of the Compassion International program lies in individual child sponsorship. Donors from around the world can choose to sponsor a specific child by making monthly contributions. Sponsors are encouraged to develop a personal relationship with their sponsored child through letters and updates, offering encouragement and support.
3. Holistic Development: The sponsorship program aims to address the holistic needs of the child. Each sponsored child gains access to education, medical care, nutritious meals, and life-skills training. The focus is on empowering children to break free from the cycle of poverty and become responsible, self-sufficient adults.
4. Local Church Involvement: Compassion International partners with local churches, believing that they are best positioned to understand and respond to the specific needs of their communities. The sponsored children usually participate in development programs organized by these churches, which fosters a sense of community and belonging.

5. Regular Updates: Sponsors receive regular updates on the progress and well-being of their sponsored child. Compassion International facilitates communication between sponsors and children through letters, photos, and even the possibility of in-person visits if the sponsor chooses to visit the child's country.

7. Graduation Program: Compassion International's goal is to see the sponsored children grow into self-sustaining, responsible adults. Once a sponsored child reaches a certain age and completes their education, they are eligible to participate in the "Graduation Program." This program helps young adults transition into independence by providing additional support and guidance.

These and other studies also did not empirically establish the association between child sponsorship and beneficiary welfare. It is with this concern that the research seeks to examine the impact of child sponsorship programs on the welfare of beneficiaries

2.2 The Impact of Child Sponsorship in Facilitating Access to Formal Education

Bruce et al. (2013) studied child sponsorship by Compassion International in six countries in Europe and Asia and found the sponsorship to have had a positive impact on adult life outcomes. Thus, there is evidence that child sponsorship projects actually improve beneficiaries' access to education.

A study by Eekelen (2013) has made a comparison of sponsorship programs of thirty non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the UK, USA, Belgium, Germany, and France in the one-to-one child sponsorship programs. One-to-one child sponsorship programs are defined as programs in which individual sponsors make periodic payments that organizations transfer to the foster parents of particularly disadvantaged children.

The initial model provided direct support to children in orphanages. The model was replicated and modified, and over time, these sponsorship programs grew in number, size and diversity across the world according to (UNESCO, 2015).

The study by Kremer et al (2003), who used a randomized experiment to analyze the impacts of a Dutch child sponsorship program that funded new classroom construction and provided students a \$6 uniform and \$3.44 worth of textbooks. They found that even these relatively low-cost interventions induced student beneficiaries to attend school a half year longer and to advance a third of a grade further in formal education.

Various studies have been carried out on child sponsorship programs and access to various services to improve access to Formal Education. Studies by (Eekelen, 2013) have made a comparison of sponsorship programs of 30 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the UK, USA, Belgium, Germany and France but failed to evaluate their impact on protection of beneficiary children's rights and other studies also did not empirically establish the association between program sponsorship and access to formal education. It was with this concern that the current study sought to examine the impact of sponsorship program on access to formal education by the CI-CSP beneficiaries.

2.3 The impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries

(Van IJzendoorn et al., 2011) propose that children exposed to institutional care can suffer from what they call 'structural neglect' which combines environmental challenges such as minimum physical resources, challenging staffing patterns and inadequacy in caregiver-child interactions all of which can impact child development.

The studies above did not empirically establish the association between program sponsorship and social welfare. It was with this concern that the current study sought to evaluate the effect of sponsorship program on social welfare of the beneficiaries of Bweyogerere.

2.4 The impact of child sponsorship on the protection of the beneficiary children's rights

A group of large-scale studies identified children to be exposed to physical maltreatment by caregivers (Attar-Schwartz et al., 2013), both physical and verbal victimization by peers (Attar-Schwartz & Khoury-Kassabri, 2015) as well as sexual victimization by peers (Attar-Schwartz, (2014). Younger children and particularly children with greater levels of adjustment difficulties were found to be particularly vulnerable within these settings (Attar-Schwartz et al., 2015).

2.5 Theoretical literature

The research will be guided by the theory of change and its components that is; Inputs, activities, Outputs, Outcomes and impact

According to Dale and Sorensen (1975), theory of change (ToC) was formulated by Lewin (1947) as a framework to investigate conditions in the successful application of management science. Since then, it has been widely used in management to implement change.

On critical analysis (Anheier et al, 2005) sees the theory of change as an approach that represents beliefs about what is needed by the target population and what strategies will enable them to meet those needs. In essence, it establishes a context for considering the connection between a system's mission, strategies and actual outcomes, while creating links between who is being served, the strategies or activities that are being implemented, and the desired outcomes.

In my research I intent to base on the three components of the theory that is input (the children selected for sponsorship), Activities (programs and resources introduced to these children) and outcome/impact (impact of these programs and resources to the welfare of the beneficiary).

In a nutshell, the theory of change is a useful tool for the management of projects or programs since projects or programs endeavor to cause positive change in peoples' lives. The theory gives a technique of progressing from project problem, through strategies and resources to be applied, to eventual outcomes. The theory of change will help me to evaluate how the child sponsorship programs impact the beneficiaries' lives in my study area.

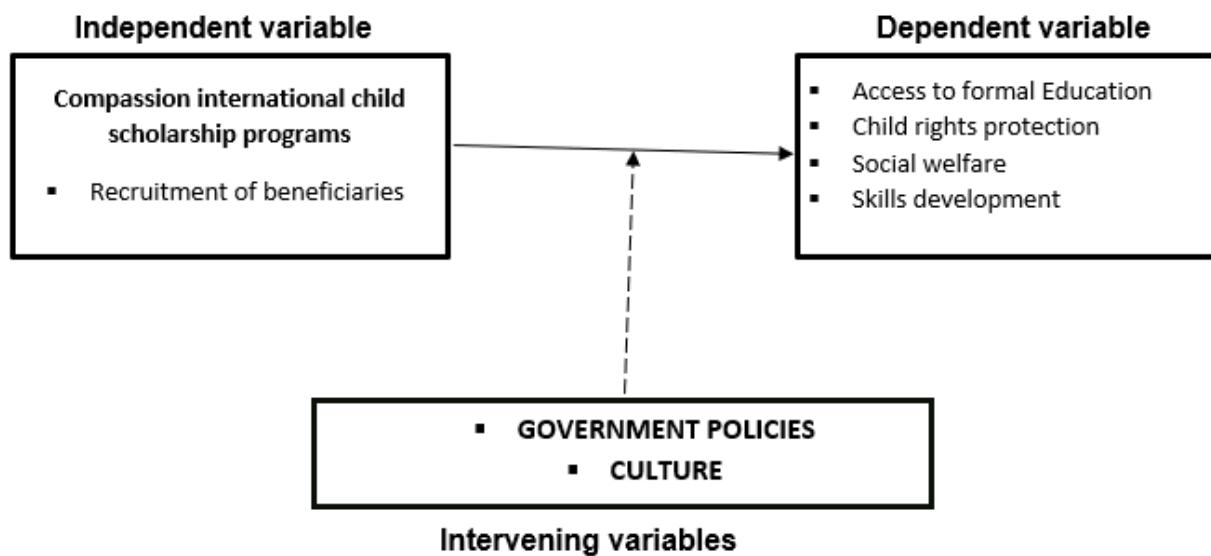
2.6 The Conceptual framework

According to Anheier et al. (2005), Theory of Change has two broad components. The first one is the conceptualizing and operationalizing the three core frames of the theory which define the populations (who you are serving), the strategies (what strategies you believe will accomplish desired outcomes) and the outcomes (what you intend to accomplish). In this case in relation to our conceptual framework the three core frames are: beneficiaries (population), providing access to formal education, food and healthcare (strategies) and finally improved wellbeing of the beneficiaries (outcome). The second component of the theory of change involves building an understanding of the relationships among the three core elements and expressing those relationships clearly. This is because the theory of change is defined by the three core elements and the relationship that exists between them just as shown in figure 1 where the relationship between the Project and the Welfare of the Beneficiaries is illustrated by the conceptual framework.

In my research the independent variable was the child sponsorship which recruits the beneficiaries into the program and does the administration and management of the sponsorship program. The research project objectives interrogated the impact of the program to the beneficiaries and these impacts are the dependent variables

The intervening variables (government policy and culture) are factors which may impact the sponsored child as well but, in this case, they were not part of the study

Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework



2.8 Research Gaps

The reviewed literature shows that studies have been conducted on the subject of child sponsorship. However, little research had been conducted on the impact of these child sponsorship programs on individual beneficiary welfare more especially how impactful is the program to the protection of the beneficiary's welfare and the impact of the programme on the social welfare of the beneficiary, making it difficult to assess the net worth of the interventions on the beneficiaries. Locally, the outcome of compassion international CSP in Bweyogerere has not been studied and thus, it is difficult to know the worth of this project to the beneficiaries in the area.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter the research design, study area, study population, sample size, sampling techniques, data collection methods, tools, analysis methods, instrument validation and reliability test, and the ethical considerations considered are all described.

3.2 Research Design

The research applied case study approach, descriptive survey and correlation research designs.

A case study is an in-depth examination of a single phenomenon such as a person, a family, an institution, an event, a process or a project (Yin, 2009). This design was appropriate for it helped to yield in-depth data about the impact of the compassion international CSP on the beneficiaries.

Descriptive survey research was adopted as well. Orodho, (2003) states that descriptive survey is a method of collecting information by interviews or administering a questionnaire to a sample of individuals to determine research statistics of a problem and justify current situation or condition. Correlation design was used in measuring the association between the study variables; that's to study whether an increase or decrease in the sponsorship would have an effect on the variables.

3.3 Target population

A study population is the total number of subjects over which study findings can be generalized (Kothari, 2005). In this study, the population consisted of 300 program beneficiaries comprising of 244 on-going beneficiaries, and 56 program alumni who have so far benefited from the program. The 244 on-going students are those enrolled in various primary and secondary schools as well as tertiary institutions and universities.

Table 3.1 The Target Population

Category	Population
Program Alumni	56
Primary School Beneficiaries	116
Secondary School Beneficiaries	100
University Beneficiaries	84
Total	300

3.4 Sample size and Sampling Procedure

From the above population of the study that entailed 300 project beneficiaries, a sample of 200 was therefore drawn from the population of the study. The result for sampling frame is presented in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2 Sample design

Beneficiary Category	N (Target population)	n (Sample size)	%
Program Alumni	56	27	48.21
Primary School Beneficiaries	116	63	54.31
Secondary School Beneficiaries	100	74	74.0
University Beneficiaries	84	36	42.86
Total	300	200	66.67

Source: Field data

From Table 3.2 as shown above, a total sample size of 200 respondents was achieved, which was 66.67% of the total number of beneficiaries. According to Mugenda (1999), a sample size of 30% of the total population is considered sufficient for a research and hence this research adopted 200(66.7% of 300) as the sample size

3.4.1 Sampling Procedure

From Table 3.1, a total sample size of 337 respondents was achieved, which was 82.9% of the total number of beneficiaries. Each category of the respondents was scientifically sampled using Krejcie and Morgan (1970) revised formula as shown in Appendix VII.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

This study applied both primary and secondary data and the following were the data collection instruments; structured questionnaires, document review, key informant interviews, and field-based observation.

i. Structured Questionnaires

A questionnaire is a written instruction(s) addressed to a study participant/respondent in search of information. It consists of items that a respondent should react to in writing. A questionnaire gathers information from a large group within a short period of time. The questionnaire used in this study comprised of questions that targeted the project

beneficiaries (ongoing and alumni) to get their views concerning the dependant variables; access to formal education, child rights protection and social welfare (*see appendix 1*). The five-point type Likert scale was used to help the respondents to easily choose an option that supported their opinion from the statements or questions that they were to respond to. The scale measured their attitude by measuring the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with these statements or questions. The findings were then analyzed using descriptive statistics mainly Mean and Standard Deviations.

ii. Document review

This method was used to gather information from documents at the compassion international- CSP centre including the project admission records, student medical records and student class progress records. These documents provided the relevant data about the beneficiaries regarding the role of the project on their welfare. The document review checklist was the tool that was used in this data collection method.

iii. Interviews

An interview is a form of communication verbally where one person or group of persons ask the other group questions to gather information or opinions about an issue. Key-informant interviews were conducted on the beneficiaries and other stakeholders who include caregivers, project staff, church leaders, local leaders and teachers. The purpose of using interviews was to collect detailed information which would otherwise not be possible to collect using other methods. The data that was collected focused on the background history of beneficiaries before being enrolled into the program, how they got enrolled in the Program, their experiences and challenges while in the program, among other questions

iv. Observation

An observation is a data collection method by which one gathers knowledge of the researched phenomenon through making observations of the phenomena as and when it occurs. This method was used to triangulate the data obtained through the other methods namely document review, questionnaires and interviews. In other words, it was used to confirm the information collected via these methods since it involves physically verifying information already collected. The tool that was used alongside the

observation method was the observation schedule. Using this observation schedule, the researcher listed issues which were then marked as having been observed or not observed in the field.

3.5.1 Validity of the Instruments

Validity passé is the degree to which results obtained from the analysis of the data actually represent the phenomenon under study. Validity explains how well the collected data covers the actual area of investigation (Ghauri and Gronhaug, 2005). Content validity was ensured by constructing the tools for the study to cover all the aspects on compassion international Child Sponsorship Program that adequately address the research objectives and giving them to expert reviewers to ascertain this. This way, the researcher ensured that the tools measured what they were intended to measure.

3.5.2 Reliability of instruments

Reliability is a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results or data after repeated trials Mugenda and Mugenda (2003). Reliability in research is influenced by random error, as random errors increase, reliability decreases. Errors may arise from inaccurate coding and ambiguous instructions to the respondents. The researcher subjected the questionnaire and interview guide to expert opinion to ensure that they are capable of yielding consistent data every time they are applied. Pilot-testing was then done by subjecting the questionnaire and interview guide to the beneficiaries of compassion international CSP in other districts, a similar project to compassion international CSP in Bweyogerere to assess the applicability and acceptability of the research tools.

3.6 Data collection Procedure

The researcher wrote letters to local authorities and seeking authorization to carry out interviews in the area which were granted and then he got research assistants to help him in the interviews and questionaries. There was a pre-visit to compassion international offices in Bweyogerere seeking permission and access for data review and interviewing the students on the ongoing program, questionaries were drafted and distributed to the sample population and physical and virtual meetings were arranged with the program alumni because some of them had busy work schedules. The researcher also with the help of research assistants carried out observations of some data as necessitated by the research.

3.7 Data processing and analysis

For quantitative data, SPSS package was used. The data was collected and analyzed as per the objectives of the study. Frequency counts, percentages, means and standard deviations were sought as descriptive statistics. Pearson product moment correlation was used to establish the associations among the variables of interest. For qualitative data, the initial steps of data analysis involved data crosschecking for accuracy and completeness then thematic analysis method was used to analyze it. Thematic analysis helped in identifying themes and patterns emerging from the qualitative data that were important as collected from interviews. The emergent themes were then used to arrive at various conclusions about the study objectives.

3.8 Ethical Considerations

Before this study, the researcher sought permission from all concerned authorities and also maintained confidentiality at all times and did not reveal the identity of other subjects used in the study or their information to parties not related to the study. In this case, names of the respondents were not referred to; instead, they were given identification numbers for confidentiality reasons. Respondents participated voluntarily and their informed consent was sought before involving them in the study. Another aspect of ethics that was considered was the privacy of the respondents. Information that is considered confidential was processed carefully including non-disclosure of individual comments and opinions.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis and findings with regard to the objectives of the research and a case study of compassion international Bweyogerere and an in-depth discussion of these results. Descriptive statistics specifically means standard deviations together with correlation were used as statistical tools for quantitative data. For qualitative data, themes were derived from interviewees' responses, analyzed and presented as quotes. The respondents were mainly the program beneficiaries which included all male and female. The findings are presented in tables as detailed subsequently starting with response return rate, demographic characteristics of respondents, and finally findings as per the objectives of the study.

4.2 Response Rate

Out of the 200 questionnaires given out to various program beneficiaries and alumni by the researcher and his team, none was returned unfilled and data was recovered from all the 200 just that unfortunately 20 did not adequately fill the questionnaires and this kind of questionnaires were not considered.

4.3 Demographics

The respondents' demographic characteristics included: gender, age and educational level. And are discussed below with help of tables.

4.3.1 Gender of respondents

Information regarding the gender of respondents is recorded in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Gender of respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	94	47%
Female	106	53%

From Table 4.1 majority of respondents (53%) were females and there was an appreciable number of males (47%).

4.3.2 Ages of Respondents

The age brackets of the respondents are as given in the following Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Age of respondents

Age (years)	Frequency	Percentage(%)
12-18	69	34.5
19-25	58	29.0
26-32	37	18.5
33-39	29	14.5
40 & Above	7	3.5
Total	200	100.0

From Table 4.2 the most respondents were ongoing program beneficiaries who are children and youth in the age brackets of (12-18) and (19-25). Followed by respondents of age 26-32 years, then bracket of (33-39) and finally respondents of age above 40 years.

4.3.3 Level of education

The Table 4.3 shows the levels of education of respondents from university being the highest level to primary level being the lowest.

Table 4.3 Levels of education

Highest Level	Frequency	percentage (%)
University Degree	28	14.0
Diploma	19	9.5
Tertiary institution	24	12.0
Secondary school	48	24
Primary Level	65	32.5
Drop outs	16	8.0
Total	200	100.0

4.4 The Impact of Child Sponsorship in Facilitating Access to Formal Education

The first objective of the study sought to examine the impact of child sponsorship on access to formal education by beneficiaries of compassion international in Bweyogerere. The attributes

that were looked at included: criteria for recruiting beneficiaries to the project, beneficiaries' provision of school materials, payment of school fees and school absenteeism. In order to achieve the objective, respondents gave their feedback on a five-point Likert scale on attributes of formal education. The scale was reverse coded so that Strongly Disagree (SD) represented a score of 1, Disagree (D)-2, Neutral (N)-3, Agree (A)-4 and Strongly Agree (SA) a score of 5 *see appendix I section II.*

Statements on access on Access to Formal education	Strongly		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly			
	Disagree (1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		Agree (5)		Total	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
The project pays fees for all beneficiaries	05	2.78	28	15.56	24	13.3	77	42.78	46	25.56	180	100
No school absenteeism upon joining the project.	15	8.33	26	14.44	34	18.9	68	37.78	37	20.56	180	100
provision of school materials	09	5.00	36	20.00	42	23.3	44	24.44	49	27.22	180	100

Table 4.5: Facilitating access to formal education

The findings in table 4.5 above show various indicators of access to formal education as revealed by the respondents and from the findings , 46(25.56%) strongly agree and 77(42.78%) agree that the compassion international scholarship program pays fees for beneficiaries and 37(20.56%) Strongly agree and 68(37.78%) agree that when admitted to the program the beneficiaries absenteeism reduces all which portray a positive impact of the sponsorship program on the beneficiaries' access to formal education

Findings from the qualitative analysis were also presented. Various findings were made with regard to the impact of child sponsorship in facilitating access to formal education by beneficiaries of compassion international Bweyogerere child sponsorship Project. The main objective that drives the formal education component of the project is to provide funding for fees

and other school levies to enable children from poor families access formal education. The project also aims at imparting spiritual and moral knowledge as well as life skills that should help in molding an all-round person. Findings from the interviews with respondents however revealed some challenges of access to formal education by beneficiaries prior to joining the project, the interventions that are being undertaken to address the challenges, and the role of compassion international Bweyogerere CSP in facilitating access to formal education by beneficiaries as detailed hereafter.

The study found out that the beneficiaries of compassion international Bweyogerere CSP came from family backgrounds where it was difficult to get the basic necessities of life and the aforementioned challenges compounded the problem and made it difficult for most of the children from poor families to access formal education.

4.5 Thematic analysis in respect of access to formal education

In this section, the data the researcher collected from respondents was sieved into themes which were analyzed and presented below in form of quotes. The presentations provide respondents background information on their worst situation before joining the sponsorship program and the positive changes they realized after being enrolled in the project.

i. Fees payment

Children in this project reported that due to their poor home background, it was difficult for their school fees to be paid because their parents didn't have employment, had no crops or animals to sell to get money for their fees. This made it hard for them to be kept in school to pursue formal education. The quotes below explain it all.

The project has been the biggest motivation platform in my education life. My fees is paid termly and within the stipulated time frame. This has made me enjoy life in boarding school. Their reward system for the children who perform better has really improved my performance because I have been yearning for the best so as to be recognized and be rewarded handsomely (*Interviewee 2*).

My achievement so far has been motivated by being regular in school due to timely fee payment by the compassion international CSP. The project has provided enough books and writing materials which I utilize maximumly Today, I am a first-year student at UCU University pursuing Bachelor of Education (English & Literature). I

have always been appreciative to the project for transforming my life. This would not have been possible if the chance to join the project had not come my way.
(Interviewee 8)

ii. Writing materials

Prior to joining the project, children did not have the required materials such as text books, exercise books and pens to use in school hence learning was difficult. It was found that most children could go to school without writing materials. The quotes below support this analysis.

The project supplies beneficiaries with both text books and exercise books, pens and other writing materials to be used while in school to make learning comfortable. These materials enhance beneficiaries' school attendance. **(Project Director)**

Am happy am now settled in school from the time the project started supporting me with school requirements like books, pens and Mathematical sets that have enabled me remain in school up to where I am now. **(Interviewee 3)**

iii. School absenteeism

Most children reported they could not attend school regularly because of being sent home due to non-payment of school dues. The area had not been receiving any form of help in terms of bursaries from the government which resulted in many children being absent from school most of the time. This is proved by the narrative below:-

I commend the project for sponsoring the respondents' access education which has improved the list of university graduates from Ivola sub-location to eight. Due to poverty and bias in the distribution of constituency bursaries the area did not benefit much hence the low number of University graduates from the area. **(Area Chief)**

Other than the formal education component, students participate in age graded games/sports and activities which include rope skipping, marbles, football, darts, volleyball, mentorship, health screening, discipleship programs, motivational speaking, children rights, HIV/AIDS education and life skills. These were found to be complementing academic achievement by enabling the learners to be mentally, spiritually, emotionally and physically fit to take their studies.

In conclusion, the above themes from respondents demonstrate the fact that before these beneficiaries joined the Ivola project it was difficult for them to access formal education. When they were enrolled in the project, they are supported and now the situation has improved for the better and now they are able to access formal education with ease.

4.6 The impact of child sponsorship on the social welfare of the beneficiaries

The respondents were asked about how compassion international child sponsorship program has impacted their social well-being and, in our interviews, and questionnaires, The attributes that were looked at included: Beneficiary's access to food, Beneficiary's access to medical care, employment after the program, housing among others. In order to achieve the objective, respondents gave their feedback on a five-point Likert scale on attributes of social welfare. There was a range of one to five which were; Strongly Disagree (SD) representing a score of 1, Disagree (D)-2, Neutral (N)-3, Agree (A)-4 and Strongly Agree (SA) a score of 5 the results are

Statements on impact on social welfare	Strongly Disagree (1)		Disagree (2)		Neutral (3)		Agree (4)		Strongly Agree (5)		Total	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Beneficiaries access food relief	21	11.67	19	10.56	47	26.11	63	35.00	30	16.67	180	100
Beneficiaries access medical care/treatment	06	3.33	24	13.33	32	17.78	84	46.67	34	18.89	180	100
Beneficiaries access employment opportunities	17	9.44	26	14.44	44	24.44	52	28.89	41	22.78	180	100
Beneficiaries engage in social voluntary activities	15	8.33	27	15.00	33	18.33	50	27.78	55	30.56	180	100

shown in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 impact on social welfare

4.7 Thematic analysis with respect to social welfare

This section presents quotes from interviewed respondents which were arrived at after analyzing raw data into themes. The beneficiaries' responses were checked to derive relevant themes for analysis by the researcher. The analysis provides information on healthcare situation of the beneficiaries before enrolling into the project and after being enrolled. The details of the narrations show how the beneficiaries had difficulties in accessing food before joining the project and how life changed for the better when they were enrolled in the project and started accessing food through the effort of the project. The beneficiaries further demonstrate in their quoted responses how the project has helped them become better citizens after finishing education and get formal jobs that helped them change their lives and their community at large sensitization.

Medical treatment

Prior to the project, whenever the children in this area were attacked by various diseases or whenever they got sick, it was not easy for them because their parents could not afford to take them to hospitals for treatment. So, most of them relied on concoctions or bought pain relieving tablets. This kind of approach did not address their healthcare needs and therefore they suffered from ill-health most of the time. This analysis is supported by the quote below:-

The project became a savior in my life upon admission into the sponsorship. Whenever I fell sick I was taken for treatment in good hospitals and bills were paid by the project as opposed to what the situation was before i was recruited, to this I appreciate Ivola CSP so much (*Interviewee 7*).

The project conducted health screening sessions and my mother and I were discovered to be HIV+. Since then, the project urgently intervened by providing counseling sessions to us to accept the situation and live positively. The project staff referred us to selected hospitals where great care clinics are found. I was immediately started on drugs and the project does follow up of my progress. All my medical bills are paid for and I live with no worry because I am medically insured. (*Interviewee 5*)

The project has helped the respondent and the mother to survive because before that, they were always attacked by opportunistic diseases. Worst of all, the mother had no income to facilitate their treatment. (*Area Chief*)

The conclusion drawn from the above presentations by respondents and analysis on access to healthcare is that the Ivola Child Sponsorship has played a major role in facilitating beneficiaries' access to better healthcare through the various interventions they provided to them. It is so concluded because the testimonies the beneficiaries gave on how poor their medical care was before joining the project and what the situation is at the moment, there is no doubt the project has improved their healthcare greatly.

Access to food

The children in the area were malnourished and starved because their parents do not grow food on their small pieces of land which could support their families. Most parents are causal workers and they could not afford a balanced diet. In some cases, some families were so large to the extend feeding them adequately was a problem. The children reported they had one meal, two or none per day.

Before the children were admitted in the project, they looked malnourished and were also easily attacked by common ailments like stomach worms, ringworms, and constant diarrhea. This was an indication that the immune system of the children was weak due to lack of good diet. (*Caregiver 2*)

Employment after the program

I find myself more privileged to have the luck of benefiting from this project. Today, I am an Accountant courtesy of prompt fees payment by compassion international child Sponsorship program. (*Interviewee 12*)

The project has managed to enable many of our beneficiaries to acquire formal education and transform their lives. Today many have their own careers by which they make a living. Some of them are teachers, Information Technology experts, accountants, social workers, farmers, hoteliers, economists among others. (*Project Teacher*)

4.8 The impact of child sponsorship in facilitating protection of beneficiary children's rights

Respondents were finally asked to state to what extent the enrollment into compassion international child sponsorship program in Bweyogerere has facilitated in the protection of beneficiaries' rights.

The responses are recorded on Table 4.7.

Statements on impact in protecting beneficiary children's rights	Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree (5)		Total	
	Disagree (2)		(3)		(4)							
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Beneficiaries access food relief	21	11.67	19	10.56	47	26.11	63	35.00	30	16.67	180	100
Beneficiary exposure to child labor	67	37.22	53	29.44	42	23.33	12	6.67	06	3.33	180	100
Beneficiaries' discrimination	54	30.00	49	27.22	35	19.44	23	12.78	19	10.56	180	100
Beneficiaries access to protection	11	6.11	17	9.44	60	33.33	58	32.22	34	18.89	180	100

The findings in table 4.7 above show various indicators of how compassion international CSP ids in protection of the beneficiary children's rights access as revealed by the respondents and from the findings , 67(37.22%) strongly disagree and 53(29.44%) disagree that a beneficiary of the child sponsorship program can be exploited in form of child labor and 54(30.00%) Strongly disagree and 49(27.22%) disagree that the beneficiaries oof compassion international CSP in Bweyogerere are being discriminated in the society. Due to the limited time, only results with the greater percentage were considered to reach a verdict for the research objective.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Overview

This chapter addresses the summary, conclusions and recommendations concerning the study findings. Suggestions for further study have also been made.

5.2 Summary of Study Findings

This study sought to achieve three main objectives as follows: to examine the impact of the compassion international Child Sponsorship Program in Bweyogerere on beneficiaries' access to formal education; to evaluate the impact of the program on beneficiaries' social welfare and to assess the impact of the program in protection of beneficiary children's rights in Bweyogerere.

On demographic information, the study found out that the females dominated the ranks (106 female respondents) and (94 male). The highest number of respondents were in the age bracket of (12-18) years. Followed by 19-25 years, then 26-32 years, then 33-39 years and finally 40 years and above. Education wise, most of the respondents were still students in primary and secondary level and few had attained university degrees and some had dropped out.

The study established that all the beneficiaries' families were in a financial crisis before being enrolled for sponsorship. This was revealed by the beneficiaries from their testimonies. Due to the poverty-stricken conditions of the beneficiaries before admission into the project, their access to formal education was severely hindered. According to the respondents, this was due to frequent absenteeism from school because of non-payment of fees, school levies and lack of other school requirements, for some of the respondents, there was no opportunity to join school at all.

However, after joining the project, the study found out that there came benefits to the respondents and their families in terms of provision of school fees and other requirements that were contingent to access to formal education by the project beneficiaries; a situation that kept them in school throughout.

The study established that before joining the project, the beneficiaries were malnourished and did not have the means to access quality health-care, their future was bound to casual job and they were destined to a chain of poverty. However, after joining the project, various health-care services were at the disposal of the beneficiaries. The children were taken to hospital whenever they fell ill, the beneficiaries got access to food whenever at the compassion center and those who managed to complete education got formal jobs that helped them change their lives and their communities

The intervention of Compassion International in Bweyogerere demonstrates its determination to improve welfare of children in developing countries; especially by helping them have access to good education (formal), healthcare and food. As (Byrant and White, 1992) recommend, development in the Third World Countries will be achieved only when strong organizations intervene in a positive and decisive way with the objective of creating change.

The study also established that before the enrollment of beneficiaries into compassion international child sponsorship program in Bweyogerere their children's rights were unchecked and most of them were violated however the course of things changed after enrollment into the sponsorship program to the best of the beneficiaries

5.3 Conclusion

On the basis of the afore-stated findings, this study concluded that compassion international CSP has improved access to formal education by most of the beneficiaries in Bweyogerere. the project had made a lasting impact in the lives of the beneficiaries as revealed by their own accounts. However, the project should not just ignore the beneficiaries who drop-out. A mechanism ought to be in place to follow up on those cases with a view of helping them complete their studies.

The study also concluded that the project plays a major role in improving beneficiaries' social welfare. This is done by availing medical treatment, medical check-up services to the beneficiaries, as well as food and a balanced diet and enabling beneficiaries complete their education and get good casual jobs that help them transform their communities

The study finally concluded that the enrollment in compassion has helped in the protection of beneficiary children's rights as presented in the findings

5.4 Recommendations

Based on the study conclusions, several recommendations have been made. They included among others include;

Based on the success that has been registered by the compassion international CSP in Bweyogerere, the Government of Uganda should formulate a policy that gives incentives to non-governmental organizations to design projects that improve the living standards of beneficiaries within their target communities. Such policies should include the government giving NGOs free land to encourage them start many such projects in all parts of the country. This will help to alleviate suffering for most of families which are in similar circumstances and have no one to help, hence easy to meet their objectives.

Compassion International should come up with a policy of making a follow up on the beneficiaries who dropped out of project in order to understand why that happened and take remedial measures. The measures should include ways of solving the challenges that the beneficiaries go through both at home, in school and whenever at the project centre in order to eliminate project drop out cases. The project should also drop the requirement that the beneficiaries must be of Christian faith only because it is discriminatory.

5.5 Suggestion for Further Study

This study was carried out on one project that is run by CI-Kenya, yet it runs many other similar projects in Kenya. There is need to undertake studies on such other projects in order to establish their impact on the beneficiaries that they serve. This way, the full impact of such interventions can be understood. The project should also find a way of eliminating reasons that make some of the children to drop out of the project. This will enhance retention of the children in the project. Lastly, this was primarily an explorative study. There is need for a more quantitative study design to help isolate and measure more precisely some of the attributes and variables identified here so that firmer recommendations can be made to improve project success, not just on Ivola but also in other Compassion International projects elsewhere.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Questionnaire for Project Beneficiaries and Stakeholders

Introduction

Introduction

Dear respondent,

I am a student pursuing a bachelor's degree of social works and social administration at Uganda Christian University, Mukono. The purpose of this questionnaire is to get your views on the role of child sponsorship projects on the welfare of beneficiaries: the case compassion international Bweyogerere, Please read the statements carefully and tick responses that best represent your opinion. The information that you will give will be treated with utmost confidence and will not be used for any purpose other than for this research. Your frank opinion will however be of crucial importance to this research. To maintain this strict confidence, your name and that of your school shall not appear anywhere in this questionnaire.

Thank you for your co-operation

This questionnaire has four parts I, II, III and IV. Please fill in all the parts.

SECTION 1: Biographical and Contextual Data.

Please respond to each by ticking (✓) against the appropriate information that applies to you:-

1. Gender

Male

Female

2. How old are you? Indicate your age in years

10-15 years

16-20 years

21-25 years

26-30 years

Over 31 years

3. Indicate your Education Level

- Primary Level
Secondary Level
College Level
University Level
Others

4. Which year did you join the project?

- Between 1998-2003
Between 2004-2009
Between 2010-2015
Between 2016-2020

5. How many years have you been in the project?

- Between 1-5
Between 5-10
Between 10-15
Between 15-20

6. Which faith do you belong to? Christian Muslim

7. Did you have enough money at home before you joined? Yes No

8. How do you find life after joining the project? Good Bad

9. Do you get any problems from the time you joined the project? Yes No

10. Does the project pay your school fees, buy you books and school uniform?

Yes No

11. How were you recruited in the project? Interviewed Selected by pastor

12. Are you given food when you visit the project center on weekends? Yes No

13. Does the project pay your medical bills when you are sick? Yes No

14. Are you taught other activities when go to the project center? Yes No

15. Are your parents still alive? Yes No

SECTION II: ACCESS TO FORMAL EDUCATION

Using the following scales, circle the number which best describes access to formal education.

1=Strongly Disagree 2= Disagree 3= Neutral 4= Agree 5= Strongly Agree

Appendix II: Document Review Checklist

The following checklist was used to verify the documents that the researcher reviewed for purposes of data collection.

1. Admission records
2. Class registers
3. Medical records
4. Personal student files
5. Project alumni records
6. Student progress records

Appendix III: Interview Guide for Continuing Students in the Project

1. What is your name?
 - a. When did you join the project?
2. How did you find a place in the project?
3. Are you related to any project staff or the person who helped you to get into the project?
4. In which class did you join the project?
5. In which class are you now?
6. Describe your family set up at the time that you joined the project including number of children, size of land, source of income, kind of house, type and number of meals per day, pairs of shoes per child, means of transport etc.
7. How did you find a place in the project?
8. How was your situation before you joined the project regarding:
9. Your formal education and fees payment
10. Your academic achievement
11. Your siblings' formal education and fees payment
12. Your access to medical care payment of medical bills
13. Your siblings' access to medical care and payment of medical bills
14. How has the project enabled your:
15. Access to formal education?
16. Payment of fees and other school levies?
17. Access to medical care?
18. Access to balanced diet?
19. What are the disadvantages of participating in this project?

Thank you for taking your time to participate in this interview

Appendix IV: Interview Guide for Project Alumni

1. What is your name?
2. When did you join the project?
3. How did you find a place in the project?
4. Are you related to any project staff or the person who helped you to get into the project?
5. In which class did you join the project?
6. In which class did you exit the project?
7. Describe your family set up at the time that you joined the project including number of children, size of land, source of income, kind of house, type and number of meals per day, pairs of shoes per child, means of transport etc.
8. How was your situation before you joined the project regarding:
9. Your formal education and fees payment
10. Your academic achievement
11. Your sibling's formal education and fees payment
12. Your access to medical care payment of medical bills
13. Your sibling's access to medical care and payment of medical bills
14. How did the project enabled your:
15. Access to formal education?
16. Payment of fees and other school levies?
17. Access to medical care?
18. Access to balanced diet?

Thank you for taking your time to participate in this interview