

Child Labour in Ghana: A Case Study of Fishing at Elmina in the Central Region of Ghana

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Abstract

Child labour has assumed alarming proportion in the world over and most especially in the developing countries. The literature indicates that child labour is the main obstacle of human resource development which is a necessary ingredient of national development. The survey examines child labour in Ghana: A case study of fishing at Elmina in the Central Region of Ghana. The case study method was used in the study because of its relevance in contemporary developmental issues like the child labour. The sample frame covers some of the children in the selected community from which a sample size of 40 was determined through the use of the mathematical formula given by Miller and Brewer (2003). Systematic sampling was then used to select the children who were interviewed. The study relied on data gathered from the secondary sources and primary data from the field to do the analysis. The results of the survey show that all children in ages 5- 17 years at Elmina surveyed in the study area at least do household chores. In addressing the challenges the researcher suggested that government should provide the support for fisher folks such the provision of full complement of input for fishing to reduce child labour. The study recommends that there should be awareness creation, education and advocacy using the media. Also, District Assembly in consultation with the stakeholders should make a bye-law not to allow children to work at the fishing sites.

Keywords: Child labour, Child work, harzadous work, Elmina

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Among the visions of the government of Ghana, is to develop the human resources to help achieve a middle-income status by the year 2020. However, the country, in recent times, is encountering a disturbing human development challenge known as child labour (Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare, 1997).

A child is recognized as a person less than 18 years old unless national laws recognize the age of maturity earlier than that age (Convention on Rights of the Child). In Ghana a person is recognized as an adult at 18 years whereupon the person has voting rights as a citizen. Any person below this age of 18 years is recognized as a child. (Children's Act 1998, Act 560).

Being citizens of tomorrow's world, their survival, protection and development should be the primary goal of every nation to enable them become fully functioning members of their societies. Furthermore, Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) suggests that the child is entitled to special care and assistance and that every child has the right to a standard of living adequate for his/her physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), 2000. This can be effectively achieved through the collaborative efforts of the family, community and the state.

For many children, however, the reality of childhood is different altogether in the world. Each day, there are countless number of children who are denied care, love, and protection, but are rather exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development (UNICEF, 2000). Many suffer as victims of neglect, hunger, cruelty, violence, exploitation and war, and they have to abandon their homes and roots for survival. UNICEF (2000) refers to such children as Children in Exceptionally Difficult Circumstances (CEDC), and they include abused and neglected children, children in armed conflict and disaster, street children and working children.

Child labour is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and dignity that is harmful to physical and mental development. Also, child labour refers to work that: (a) is mentally, physically, socially or normally dangerous and harmful to children and (b) interferes with their schooling (i) by depriving them of their opportunity to attend schools and (ii) by requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work International Labour Organization (ILO, 2004:6).

The number of children working in the world today is larger than most people think. Statistics show that 211 million children aged between 5 and 15 are "economically active", that is, are involved in some form of work. In addition, Ghana Agriculture Workers Union (GAWU) (2001) also reports that about 80 percent of child labour in Ghana occurs in the agricultural and fishing sectors in the rural areas. Again, the Ghana Child Labour Survey 2003 indicates that two in every 5 children aged 5-17 years were engaged in economic activity. Most of rural children and about one fifth of the urban were in economic activity. Of the lot, about 40 percent worked for more than six months in the year. More than half of the children in Greater Accra, Central and Eastern Regions

work for more than six months in the year. The study also revealed that about 57 percent (1,128,072) of the working children were engaged in agriculture/forestry and fishing while 21 percent worked as hawkers and street vendors, selling iced water, food and other items; 11 percent were engaged in general labour such as washing cars, fetching firewood and water, pushing trucks and carrying goods as potters.

Hence, there is the need to investigate the problem and its consequences particularly in fishing communities, hence the study was conducted at Elmina in the Komenda Edina Eguafo Abirem Municipality. The total population of K.E.E.A as at 2010 was 112,437 of which 42.6 percent were under 15 years of age. The gross primary school enrolment rate was about 86 percent (Ghana Statistical Service, 2000, Population and Housing Census). Generally also, there is a high dependency ratio which has various effects on the Municipality since major urban settlements of the district are fishing towns and villages. Therefore Elmina represents a unique picture for the study of the incidence of child labour. Moreover the Ghana Statistical Service (2010) also found that 2.47 million Ghanaian children aged between 5 and 17 were engaged in economic activity. The number represented 40 percent of the estimated 6.36 million children in that age group at that time. About 1.59 million children were working while attending school, and that child labour is prevalent in all the ten Administrative Regions of Ghana.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Despite the efforts made by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and many other countries including Ghana to enforce the minimum age for children's entry into the labour market, child labour is still widespread and a disturbing problem in many parts of the world where poverty and tradition have precluded its elimination (ILO, 1981).

The International Labour Standards prohibit children under the age of 15 years to be employed and due to the existence of International Conventions and Recommendations, some governments and employers are often reluctant to give accurate information with regard to children working in their establishments who are still below the minimum age for admission to employment. Parents, who badly need the proceeds from the work of their children also keep silent, while the Trade Organizations tend to concern themselves exclusively with the material and moral interest of their adult wage-earning members. The result is a conspiracy of silence with children as victims. (ILO, 1981).

In Ghana, the Labour Decree, 1967 (NLCD, 157/1967), section 44(1) provides that no person shall employ a child except where the employment is with the child's own family permission and involves light work of agricultural or domestic character only. Despite this legislation during the 2000 Population Census, it was observed that out of the estimated 55094 children, 81.8% were working. This means that generally, a larger percentage of the children in the country are into child labour. Also a casual visit to the Elmina beach will reveal children working in canoes and others hawking in the sands during the fishing season at school hours even though the Education Act, 1961 (Act 87/1961) provides for compulsory education of every child and any parent who fails to comply commits an offence and is liable for prosecution.

Any person who contravenes this provision commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ₵10million or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both (The Children's Act, 1998 Act 560 p. 29). It is therefore clear that there is adequate legislation to protect children, but the problem is how to enforce it. Indeed, the Labour Decree, 1967 (NLCD 175, 1967) sets out conditions necessary for safeguarding the child's interest but again, these conditions are totally flouted.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study is to explore the child labour phenomenon in fishing activities at Elmina to support national effort in eliminating child labour

The specific objectives are to:

1. To identify the effects of child labour in Elmina
2. Determine the socio-economic circumstances of parents and children involved in fishing activities at Elmina.
3. To recommend on how this challenges can be averted

1.4 Research questions

The following research questions will guide the procedure to attain information on the issue.

1. What are the problems faced by children involved in child labour?
2. To what extent does socio-economic circumstances of parents and children contribute to child labour?
3. What help can be extended to children to cope with the situation?

1.5 Relevance of the Study

It is hoped that the study will add to existing number of case studies on the child labour phenomenon. All efforts

that the government, development partners and NGOs make to eliminate child labour will yield little results if the issue is not researched into. Hence, findings could be used to help in the formulation of new policies to minimize child labour phenomenon. In sum, the outcome of this study would be a contribution to the already existing stock of literature on child labour.

1.6 The scope of the study

It covered children aged 5 – 15 who were either not in school or were irregular at school due largely to their engagement in fishing activities. The study covered the examination of the types, causes and effects or consequences of child labour and possible measures needed to check and prevent child labour. It did not cover child labour in other sectors, but exclusively limited to the fishing communities in Elmina.

1.7 Organization of the study

The study will comprise five main chapters. Chapter one deals with the background to the study, the statement of the problem, objectives of the study. The second chapter contains the review relevant literatures. The third chapter comprises the methodology, that is, the study area, study design, study population, sampling procedure, source of data, data collection techniques, the pilot study and issues from the field of study. The fourth chapter deals with data processing and analysis of findings. The summary, conclusions and recommendations forms the last chapter.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

This section discusses the empirical and theoretical framework that puts the study into perspective. It further look at the historical and current perspective of child labour taking into consideration some definitions and nature of child labour. It also examines the various problems associated with child labour and effects on children and parents.

2.2 Definitions Of Child Labour

According to the ILO's official data, an estimated 218 million children were counted as child laborers as of 2004 (Hagemann, Diallo, Etienne, Meehan, 2006). Just as the problems of child labour have been around long enough to attract attention, so has the term "child labour." Although following the ILO Convention No.182 of Worst Form of Child Labour, the term *child labour* is generally interpreted as "all cases in which children are exposed to harm at work whether or not children are less than 14 years old or less" (UNICEF, 2005, p. 10), the meanings and implications of *child labour* have been highly dependent on its social, cultural, and economic contexts as well as missions, strategies, and objectives of each working organization

UNICEF (2005) which cited ILO's definitions on child labour, the current *official* definitions of child labour among ILO, UNICEF, WB, and other organizations are as follows:

1. **Child work or children's work** is a general term covering the entire spectrum of work and related tasks performed by children
2. **Child labour** refers to a subset of children's work that is injurious to children and that should be targeted for elimination.
3. **Hazardous work** refers to
 - Physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
 - Work that is underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;
 - Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads; and
 - Work in an unhealthy environment which would expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations which might damage their health.

2.3 Problems faced by children who are involved in child labour

There are several problems children encounter when they engage in child labour. Among these problems include dropouts, accommodation problems, the risky nature of jobs they perform and its ability to affect their health (ILO, 2011).

2.4 School dropout

According to a study conducted by ILO (2011), the majority of children into fishing largely have basic education. The study further stated that more than half of working children constituting 52 percent have only primary education, 32 percent have education up to the Junior High School (JHS) level while 11 percent have had education up to the Senior High School (SHS) level. Only one percent has vocational/tertiary education and 3

percent have no education at all. The study shows that children dropped out and started fishing because of the parents were not to cater for the basic needs while some attribute to pressure for the child to supplement family/household income.

2.5 Remuneration for Working Children

Remuneration for working children is a factor of many indicators including willingness to work, work attractions, school dropout, desires of households/families to get children to work and so on (ILO, 2011). A study by ILO (2011) argue that people at the fishing communities do not disclose income and issues around remuneration, data on remuneration was collected from both the perspective of working children, parent, employers and community. Responses across board indicated that a significant number of working children receive one form of wages or the other for the work they do. However, on the issue of regularity of payment of wages, there is a general response that working children are not paid regularly (ILO, 2011). This is because, some of the children work as family members, are in forced labour, are trafficked children or in bonded labour. According to ILO (2011), majority of the children they are paid when the employer/user has money. Besides those receiving some form of wages, are also children who do not receive any wage at all. Fisher folk comprise both children, youth and adults and they are engaged in diverse stages of fishing.

2.6 The nature of work activities by the youth during fishing

The nature of work children get involve in during fishing is dangerous (ILO, 2011). Basically, they are almost involved in all the stages of fishing activities namely production and sale of inputs; fish catch; fish processing; transportation and marketing/distribution and other upstream tasks. The depth of children's involvement in the activities is described as follows by the ILO (2011):

Fish Catch: In actual fish catch, major activities performed by children include canoe paddling, draining canoe of water, casting and pulling fishing nets, launching of boats, diving into water, loading of gears and observing fish movements. Major activities performed by girls include assisting in paddling the canoes; draining the canoes of water; sorting the fish when it arrives on the shore.

Transportation and Marketing/Distribution: In fish transportation and marketing/distribution, children are involved in selling of fish, transporting fish, and in distribution. The gender split in marketing and distribution activities shows boys are mainly responsible for transporting the fish to the market place, distributing the fish to their customers, and sometimes selling of the fish. Girls are responsible sometimes in transporting fish and distributing to customers and but mainly selling the fish in the market place.

Upstream jobs: Upstream task mainly involve all activities that are done to facilitate fishing. In this context, children's involvement is assessed as follows: mending nets, cleaning net and hull, net making, boat repairs and boat building. By gender split, boys are noted for their active involvement in building new boats, repair of damaged boats, net making, among others. The girls mainly help the boys in cleaning the nets. Other subsidiary task performed by children include running errands, cooking for adult fishers and this they do for their masters or for other family members. Boys mainly engage in running errands while girls are mainly involved in cooking for the adults.

These tasks performed by children fall within the broad category of hazardous work, heavy work and light work (ILO, 2011). Thus, they are conscious of the extreme dangers they are exposed to.

2.7 Safety of Working Children in fishing

People working in fishing anywhere in the world are exposed to a number of hazards and risk associated with the work (ILO, 2011). Risk assessment is important parameter for identifying and addressing safety and health hazards. It is important to assess what types of activities children engage in and specific tasks that pose risk and require actions to eliminate the risks. Providing safety therefore becomes the cornerstone to ensuring that working children are protected. In many situations, apart from some very few immersion suits, life jackets and swimming jackets that some fisher employers provide, all other safety gears are not provided which exposes children to great dangers.

2.8 Socio-economic consequences on children

One of the major issues in the fishing communities is health maintenance (ILO, 2011). Fishing is one sector associated with diverse occupational health and safety concerns. Health risks that confront working children, parents, community members and child employers/users are malaria or dengue fever as the common health problem faced by boys who are engaged in fishing. Malaria, guinea worm, headache, respiratory problems, stomach disorder, under skin diseases, chest pain and eye problems are common health problems for girls and boys.

A study by Osiruemu (2007) on poverty of parents and child labour in Benin city, Nigeria a preliminary account of its nature and implications. This work starts from the basic premise that poverty, a major problem of

rapid urbanization in developing nations, is a major contributory factor in the growth and exacerbation of child labour. Child labour in Benin City reflect prevalent urban poverty which compel parents to send children of school age to work to boost family income. For many hours a day, children of poor parents are engaged in economic ventures such as street hawking, cart/wheel barrow pushing, bus conducting, plaiting of hair as well as being apprenticed to artisans. By focusing on the linkage between parent poverty and exacerbation of child labour, it is expected that some primary data will be generated that will assist in understanding the root causes and implications of the phenomenon in an urban city like Benin as well as appreciate the burden of these juvenile workers in a developing economy.

2.9 Ways of reducing child labour in Elmina

Although the incidence of child labour globally has decreased by 3 per cent between 2004 and 2008, according to the ILO there is still much to do.

First, there is the need for national implementation and regional collaboration. The ILO Conventions give substantial “homework” to countries on precise issues for the elimination of child labour, including identification of worst forms of child labour (Convention No. 182) and setting of minimum ages (Convention No. 138). Both Conventions Nos 138 and 182 cover the process of developing the list of hazardous work, which should possibly include tasks and conditions relevant to fisheries and aquaculture. In addition, countries need to ensure that the rights of children are protected in accordance with the CRC.

To ensure collaboration and coordination on child labour across different sectors, it is necessary to sensitize officials and establish institutional arrangements between ministries, government agencies and other institutions. Mechanisms and procedures to facilitate collaboration between different actors may be required at both national and local level.

Laws and regulations only become effective when they are implemented and enforced. Governments are responsible for ensuring that appropriate frameworks and measures are in place while, effective implementation tends to be based on incentives. Incentives can be negative, in the form of penalties for non-compliance, or positive, inducing the desired behaviour. Studies show that a combination of different incentives relevant to and based on an understanding of the national and local context is most effective (Tabatabai, 2003).

Addressing the problem of poverty is one key way of solving child labour. Investment in the prevention of child labour is the most cost-effective approach to ending child labour in the long run and should therefore be the primary long-term strategy. It means tackling the root causes of child labour so that children at potential risk never become child labourers in the first place. By addressing poverty and promoting inclusive and sustainable development, children stand a better chance of keeping out of child labour and especially hazardous work.

2.10 Theoretical framework

The theory that was used to explain child labour was the household decision making theory. A generic Becker (1981) type household decision model such as the one articulated by Rosenzweig and Evanson (1977), Pörtner (2001c), or Cignati and Rosato (2000) and summarized by Schultz (1997) assumes that the household acts to maximize utility, which is a function of the number of children, the schooling per child, the leisure time per child, the leisure of the parents, and a composite consumption good. These goods are produced using a composite commodity purchased in the market place and the time of household members.

The time inputs to produce the composite consumption good can be supplied by the mother or by the children. Household income can be earned by selling goods produced in a household enterprise or by working as a wage laborer. Inputs to the production of the household enterprise good include physical assets owned by the family and by parent and child labor.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the research methods that was used in gathering data for the study and how data was analyzed. Specifically the chapter looked at the research design, study area, target population, data sources, data collection instruments, sampling procedures, administration of research instrument, and data analysis procedures.

3.2 Research Design

The study employed the mixed method research design. Specifically, descriptive design was used for the study. Descriptive design aims at collecting data in order to describe the social system, relations and social event of the study area (Sarantakos, 2005:10). Descriptive designs are designed to gain more information about a particular characteristic within a particular field of study. Descriptive research involves gathering data that describe events and then organises, tabulates, depicts and describes the data collected. Creswell (2003) support the use of descriptive design because it helps to describe, explain, and validate findings of studies. This is done by merging

creative exploration and organizing the findings in order to fit them with explanation, and then test or validate those explanations. The method is found to be most appropriate for the study. This is largely due to the fact that the design is considered to be relatively easy to conduct because data are fairly easy to obtain and interpret by the use of sample descriptive statistics (Sarantakos, 2006).

3.3 Study area

The study was conducted at Elmina in the KEEA Municipality in the Central Region. The K.E.E.A Municipality is bordered on the north by Twifo-Hemang-Lower-Denkyira District, on the south by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by the Cape Coast Municipality and on the west by Mpohor West District of the Western Region. The land area is 372.49sq km. the number of settlements in the District are 158. The Municipal Capital is Elmina. During the 2000 Population and Housing Census, the municipal population was estimated to be 112,435 (i.e. 53,755 males and 58,682 females). (2000 Population and Housing Census) .There are four major towns in the Municipality with total population of over four 4000. These are Elmina, Komenda, Agona-Abrem and Kissi. (Municipal Profile).

The municipality is characterized by a youthful population with a substantial segment under 15years of age. The economic dependency ratio is 150 percent or 1:1.5. This means that every economically active person will have 1.5 persons to take care of. Such a high dependency ratio has had various effects on the municipal since the major urban settlements of the district are fishing towns and villages. Elmina is the third largest fishing port in the country after Tema and Secondi. Because of the beaches of the municipality, most women engage in fish business as well as their young ones. Trading and fishing activities employ about 55% of the economically active females. Out of the estimated district population of 112,435, 48.26% are children aged 0-14years (Municipal Profile).

3.4 Target population, Sample and sampling size

The target population was 40 childrens (both male and female aged between 05-17). This age range was chosen because it is the range within which the issue of child labour is widely discussed.

With regards to sampling techniques, a combination of purposive, simple random and snowball sampling were employed. Purposive sampling was targeted at the childrens. Simple random sampling will be used to interview childrens.

3.5 Sources of Data

The primary source of data were obtained from the children through, questionnaires and interview schedules. The use of observation helped to capture useful situations on their natural settings, thereby adding merit of cross checking on the facts that were compiled through other methods. The secondary data were obtained through desk research such as relevant document including student desertations, journals and magazines etc

3.6 Data collection techniques

The aim of the study is to obtain information on the effect of child labour on children at Elmina. Using interview schedules for children gave the researcher the opportunity to clarify and explain complex issues as majority can neither read nor write. This schedule is preferred because of its several advantages including enhancing interviewee-respondents relationship especially in explorative and descriptive studies such as this one. This helped in the systematic collection of the data.

3.7 Method of data analysis

Twumasi (2001) defines data analysis as “a critical examination of material in order to understand its parts and its relationship and to discover its trends” (Twumasi, 2001 pp: 86). The data obtained will be sorted, checked, described and compared. Descriptive statistics such as frequency tables, graphs and charts will be used.

The data collected from the field was cross-checked and edited to ensure that there are no mistakes in the responses and the information given relevant. Then, data from in-depth interview was categorized under specific themes then analysed manually supporting it with pictures where necessary. Data from interview schedule was analysed using the manual method.

3.8 Ethical consideration

According to (Sarantakos, 2005:10), it is unethical to collect information without the knowledge of participants in social research. Due to this, the first contact was with the Unit Committee chairman who then introduced the researcher to the chief. The idea was to seek the consent and support of the key personalities in the community. The issue was vigorously explained to them to avoid the fear or the idea that the information gathered was used against them when found to be contrary against the norms of the land. Again, cordial and favourable atmosphere was created at the place.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 RESEACRH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis and discussion on the data gathered from the field. This section has been sub-divided into two sections which include the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents and the awareness of child labour phenomenum at Elmina. Frequency and percentage tables has been provided to aid the analysis of the responses.

4.1 BACKGROUND DATA OF RESPONDENTS

Sex of respondents

Table 1 looks at sex of the respondents. This was included in the interview guide to describe the number of male and female children involved in child labour activities.

Table 1: Sex of respondents

Sex	Frequency	Percentage %
Male	32	80.0
Female	8	20.0
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015.

From the analysis of responses in table 1, 32 (80%) of the respondents are male whiles 8 (20%) are female. This indicates that majority of the children involved in child labour activities at Elmina are males.

Age distribution of respondents

A number of age ranges were included in the interview guide for the respondents. This was done to enable the researcher know the age range of the children involved in child labour at Elmina.

Table 2: Age Distribution of Respondents

Ages	Frequency	Percentage %
05-09	19	47.5
10-17	21	52.5
Total	40	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2015.

From Table 2, it can be seen that 19 (47.5%) of the children are within the range of 05-09, 21 (52.5%) are with the age range of 10 – 17 and above. This shows that many of the children are within the age range of 10-17 years and the age range of 05- 09 years form the minority.

Table 3. Occupation of Father

Occupation of Father	Frequency	Percentage %
Gov't Worker	3	7.5
Businessman	10	25.0
Fisherman	27	67.5
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015.

Table 3 presents the occupation of father. 3 respondents representing 7.5% said their father were government Employees, 10 representing 25% said their parent were Businessman and 27 of the respondent said 67.5% said their parents were Fisherman which shows that majority of their parents are fishermen which have influence over the childrens

Table 4. Occupation of Mother

Occupation of Mother	Frequency	Percentage %
Gov't Worker	3	7.5
Businessman	10	25.0
Fishermonger	27	67.5
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015.

Table 4 presents the occupation of father. 3 respondents representing 7.5% said their father were government Employers, 10 representing 25% said their parent were Businessman and 27 of the respondent said 67.5% said their parents were Fisherman which shows that majority of their parents are fishermen which have

influence over the children's.

4.2 MODULE 1: Knowledge of child labour

1. This question was asked by the researcher to solicit for information whether the children are comfortable with the work they do.

Table 1. Are you comfortable with the kind of work you do?

How comfortable	Frequency	Percentage %
Comfortable	30	70.0
Not comfortable	10	30.0
Total	40	100.0

Source : Field survey,2015.

From the table above, 30(70%) of the respondent said they are comfortable with the work they do. 10(30%) of the respondent said they are not comfortable with the kind of work he/ she does but because they have nothing to do.

2. This question was asked to get information from the children whether they are aware of child labour in Elmina.

Table 2. Awareness of child labour?

Awareness of labour	Frequency	Percentage %
Aware	29	72.5
Not aware	11	27.5
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015

Based on the information given from the table above, 29(72.5%) of the children said they know about child labour while 11(27.5) of them said they don't know about but are working to supplements the family needs

3. This question was asked by the researcher to know whether they have body pains after the day's activities

Table 3. Do you experience body pain?

Body pain	Frequency	Percentage %
Yes	34	85.0
No	6	15.0
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015

From the above table, 34(85%) of the respondents said they feel pains within their body whenever they pull the net, 6(15%) of them said they do not experience body pain because they are use to the work.

4. The researcher asked this question whether their been paid for the work they do

Table 4. How they are rewarded?

How they are paid	Frequency	Percentage %
Money	20	50.0
Given fish	10	25.0
Food	10	25.0
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015.

From the data, 20(50%) of the respondent said they are paid in terms of money, 10 (25%) of the respondent said they are given fish, 10 (25%) said they are given food since they do it to assist their parents who are fishermen.

5. This question was asked to collect information from the respondents as to what motivates them to do the work

Table 5. What motivate them to do the work?

Motivation	Frequency	Percentage %
Influence by parent	25	62.5
Money	10	25.0
Single parenthood	5	12.5
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015.

From the above table(5), 25(62.5%) of the respondents said they are motivated by their parents to do this work, 10(25%) of the respondent said the motivation was monetary reward which helps them to buy their personal needs and 5 (12.5%) said due to single parenthood, they are motivated to do this work to support the family.

6. These questions were asked to describe the kind of work the respondents do in terms of fishing.

Table 6. Description of the job they do ?

Job	Frequency	Percentage %
Net pulling	28	70.0
Net fixing	6	15.0
Off-load fish	6	15.0
Total	40	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2015

From table 6 above, 28 (70%) of the respondent said their main job it the pulling of fishing net, 6 (15%) of the respondents describe the job they do as fixing of net on the sea, 6(15%) stated that they off load fish at the bank of the sea shore.

7. This question was asked by the researcher to get primary information from the respondents if they have/had any health problems as a result of the work they do.

Table 7. Health problems associated to the work?

Health problem	Frequency	Percentage %
Backaches	30	70.0
Headache	5	15.0
Body pain	5	15.0
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015

From the above table 7, 30 (70%) of the respondent said they backache as a result of pulling of the net to the sea shore, 5 (15%) said they have headaches due to working under the sun the whole day and 5 (15%) experience body pains as a result of pulling of the nets.

8. This question was asked to get information on how often they visit the hospital

Table 8. How often they visit the hospital /clinic?

Hospital attendance	Frequency	Percentage %
Once a week	14	35.0
Once a month	13	32.5
Once every 3month	13	32.5
Total	40	100.0

Source. Field survey, 2015

From table 8 above, 14(35%) of the respondent said they often visit the hospital once a week, 13(32.5%) of the respondents said they visit the hospital once a month and 13 (32.5%) said they visit the hospital once every three months.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

The section deals with the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study. It particularly discusses the findings of the study and the provide the appropriate recommendations to stakeholders to reduce child labour at Elmina.

5.1 Summary

Among the visions of the government of Ghana, is to develop the human resources of the country to help achieve a middle-income status by the year 2020. However, the country, in recent times, is encountering a disturbing human development challenge: child labour (Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare, 1997). It has therefore become imperative to conduct a study that examines child labour in relation to fishing at Elmina.

The study specifically sought to examine the problems children face when fishing as well as the socio-economic lives of the people at Elmina. The target population for the entire study was 40 respondents. Snowball and purposive sampling techniques were employed to select these respondents for the study. The study was conducted within a framework of descriptive survey design and primary data was collected using interview and questionnaires.

The findings of the study indicate that the major problems children faced were poor remuneration for working children. Furthermore, respondents argued that there were no safety measures to protect children. In a similar vein, the study concludes that the fishing activity is very risky.

In the second objective, the study also revealed that the children argue that there should be a provision of materials that is one of the social means of luring children back to school is lacking in the community. Again, it concludes that measures should be put in place for easy access to hospital facilities there should be other job opportunities by the government apart from their regular traditional fishing activity the personality of the individual changes.

Again, the provision of affordable schools for children and improve the education at the community to motivate children to attend school.

5.2 Conclusions

1. Respondents' main problem was that they are aware of the child labour issues in Elmina but said they were doing this work to make a living.
2. Respondents identified that they were been motivated by their parent help them work to support the family.
3. The respondent admit that their main jobs are pulling of net, joining the canoe to fix the net and also off-loading the fish at the bank of the sea / river.
4. Government should support fisher folk with modern technology fishing instrument to prevent employers from overusing children in fishing.

5.3 Recommendations

Per the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:

- The NGOs operating in the districts should carry out institutional strengthening and capacity building programmes. They should support the government with the needed support and motivation (logistics, funds and allowances) to operate effectively.
- The Ghana Education Service in collaboration with the government should support and improvement in education by making it attractive for children at Elmina (in terms of available infrastructure, materials/school supplies, learning and teaching aids). This is crucial in getting children to show interest in schooling.
- The chief fisherman of Elmina in consultation with the Municipal assembly should make a bye-law with regards to children below the ages of 18 year to be employed or seen to be working within the catchment area.

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