



To Explore Street Vending As A Vehicle For High Prevalence Of crime In Zambia: A Case Study Of Three Selected Public Places In Kasama District Of Northern Province Of Zambia

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Abstract- Various factors influence people's choice of trading location. This paper analyses why street vendors despite the provision of formal market infrastructure still decide to trade from the streets. Theories of the informal economy were adopted to get insights into the issues of street vending. Based on survey results the study establishes that for street vendors accessibility of customers is a key consideration and they strategically locate on the streets to avoid formalization costs such as rent, taxes and licences. Whereas for market traders selling from the formal market, a secure and clean environment is important. Therefore, policies of the informal economy should take into account the nuances and heterogeneity of the sector, in that, governments should come up with more inclusive policies that will accommodate all traders according to their practical needs and not perceived needs such as building formal market infrastructure for all. Relevance to Development Studies The informal economy plays a crucial role in the development process of low income countries through the provision of livelihood for the majority of the population. Street vending is one area that many poor people depend on to survive. This study presents a case where street vendors are not recognized by law and are considered a nuisance by the local government who try by all means to get rid of them. However, the study shows that the recognition and appreciation of the role of street vendors in the economy remains important in economies where not many formal jobs have been created. Thus as actors in the economy, street vendors have to be engaged in decisions made by local government concerning their welfare. This study will therefore contribute to the available scanty literature on bringing out the voices of the street vendors that have been suppressed in many countries due to its illegality. Keywords Street Vending, Informal Economy, Local Governance

Besides, with high unemployment and soaring poverty levels, many Zambians live precarious lives. Consequently, street vending, and food vending in particular, is seen by many as a way out of poverty and into sustainable livelihoods. The aim of this study is to make an ethical assessment of street food vending (SFV) in Zambia. SFV has numerous benefits, among them the provision of affordable nutrition to urban



populations while enhancing socio-economic livelihoods of vendors. Yet, it has serious public health risks, especially when poorly regulated. The population of recipients will target 200 looking at the size of coverage. Moreover, The research study will adopt simple random Sampling and purposive sampling techniques to sample its respondents, Based on their willingness to participate in the study, a sample size of 50 will be considered consisting of 30 food vendors and 10 customers. 3 Municipal council officials, 3 officials from Health department, 3 officials from civil society and the District Commissioner DC will be selected into the study sample. Of the 30 food vendors, 15 other stakeholders will be also selected from the areas around public places namely: Shoprite, Full best Supermarket and Chikumanino bus station while 15 will be selected from the streets of the central business district. Purposive sampling will be used to select two key informants, one from the Kasama District Health Management Team (LDHMT) and the other from the Public Health Department of the Council. Methods used involved in-depth interviews and observation for primary data collection and while secondary data will be obtained from published sources through a literature review. Data will be analyzed to identify patterns of emergent themes and an ethical evaluation will be conducted using utilitarianism, human rights and ethics of care. The preliminary findings have revealed that vended foods included fruit, raw vegetables, cooked meats and wild roots eaten for relish. SVF is basically found to be a viable socio-economic activity providing gainful employment to populations with limited education and skills. However, the limited education demonstrated by food vendors implied a corresponding lack of basic skills in food safety and hygiene. This will be confounded by the usually unsanitary vending areas. Government's position is that SFV is illegal and therefore not subject to standardization, a situation which precludes any remedial policies. This study will also establish that children of school going age are involved in street food vending under conditions which constitute child labour. With regard to the ethical assessment, utilitarian evaluation has showed that the overall benefits of street food vending outweighed the risks involved. The rights based evaluation showed that the practice of street food vending is rights enhancing and offers little prospects for abuse of all concerned if properly regulated. Care based evaluation has supported this position and showed that regulation would promote a culture of civility and relationships of responsibility among vendors, consumers and officialdom. Consequently, the ethical assessment concludes that street food vending is justified at present even though there is need to properly regulate the practice. The study will finally make recommendation that government should enact regulation that will allow street food vending to flourish within set guidelines. This study contributed to the empirical literature regarding street food vending in Kasama's central business district. This would significantly diminish the risks associated with street food vending. The study will employ both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The study consists of five chapters. Chapter one provides the introduction of the research problem, background of the problem, objective of the study, research questions and the significance of the study. Chapter two provides literature review. Chapter three gives research methodology and chapter four offers the research finding. Chapter five provide the conclusion and recommendations.



I. Introduction

Street vending is not a new phenomenon in the world over and Zambia in particular. It is known to have been in existence from time in memorial and has always manifested itself in cities, especially in the developing countries. Street vending can be understood as trading without a permit, trading outside formally designated trading locations and non-payment of municipal and national taxes or self-allocation of shelter for trading (Lyons and Snoxell 2005: 1304). This entails that street vending is not backed by the law hence it is an illegal activity which is informally undertaken. In Zambia and Kasama in particular, Street vending seems to have been allowed purportedly due to political, social and economic factors. Besides, the problems that are persistently prevailing between the local authorities and street vendors are not being addressed though they are rife or rather common even in other cities of the developing countries.

Street vending in Zambia is an illegal activity which is perceived as a public nuisance, highly politicized and believed to be one of the major factors that perpetuate crime in Zambia. It is associated with various problems which are stealing, traffic congestion, uncollected garbage and poor sanitation to mention but a few. Nevertheless, in the quest to address the rampant problems of street vending, the Zambian government has been constructing formal market infrastructure across the country so that street vendors can trade in an orderly, safer and good environment. However, street vendors still abandon these structures and trade from the streets such as along Lumumba road where they are believed to perpetuate crime. Therefore, this study will use Lumumba road as a case study to investigate the assertion that street vending is a vehicle for high prevalence of crime in Zambia.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historical background of street vending in Zambia can be traced back to the late 1990s when it became more pronounced. It should be noted that vending was taking place even before this period due to lack of enough modern markets. In trying to address the problem, the Zambian government constructed a new ultra-modern market in the town of Kasama to cater for street vendors. This construction came after the relocation of all vendors who used to sell their merchandise in the place allocated for the new market. In the beginning, the vendors battled to be allocated stores in the new market, but consequently most vendors turned to the streets as the fees for operating in the new privately managed structure were too high for most vendors to afford (Hansen and Vaa 2004). Hence those that could afford to pay occupied the stores and those that could not afford continued to trade in the streets. In 1999 a campaign of removal of street vendors from the central business district of Kasama to occupy established formal markets was initiated by the local government.



It was not until 2002 that the local government with the help of law enforcement agents such as the paramilitary and police personnel managed to get rid of vendors off the streets. As noted by Hansen (2004: 76) the law enforcement officers were stationed in heavily trafficked parts of Kasama for quite a while in order to ensure that vendors did not get back on the streets. This campaign was motivated with the need to create a conducive environment and to promote better health as well as to increase security for the city population and the vendors (Hansen 2004: 68). However, the local government failed to achieve their objective because they did not create enough market places whereas the existing ones became overcrowded and were short of services such as water supply and sanitation, electricity and refuse removal as promised at the onset of the removal operation thus traders went back to the streets (Hansen and Vaa 2004). In 2011 after the Patriotic Front came into power, there was a call on the government by the public to stop street vending as they promised during the campaign. Nonetheless, the government has been reluctant on the matter which has made people to think that the PF government has legalized street vending so as not to lose popularity from the electorates. Finally, street vending in Zambia is likely to persist seeing that the government seems not have a lasting solution. This situation will probably be made worse because of the increase in population as well as the high unemployment levels.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Street vending has led to the high rate of crime in Zambia. Additionally, careless dumping of wastes in the street has made the town dirty.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study was to generate practical information that would help in establishing the link between street vending and crime. Furthermore, the study would serve as an informative tool to policy makers so that they can understand the dynamics of street vending in 21st century.

HYPOTHESIS

Street vending has contributed to the high rate of crime in Zambia.

RATIONALE

The justification of this study is to find solutions of street vending in Zambia in order to reduce the rate of crime and poor sanitation in trading areas.

AIM

This study aimed at investigating the extent to which street vending contributes to high prevalence of crime in Zambia.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

General Objective

To establish the correlation between street vending and high prevalence rates of crime in Zambia.

Specific Objectives

1. To find out about the causes of street vending in Zambia.
2. To explore if there are any tangible benefits tied with street vending.



3. To find out the effects of street vending.
4. To provide policy makers with information about the extent to which street vending contributes to the increase of crime in Zambia.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Does street vending contribute to high prevalence of crime in Zambia?
2. What causes street vending in Zambia?
3. What tangible benefits are there in street vending, if any?
4. What are the effects of street vending?

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

It is hoped that the findings of this study will bring forth solutions to street vending and help generate information that will act as a guideline when coming up with measures to address issues of crime in Zambia. The study will also assist the local authorities and the public become aware of the harmful effects of street vending. It is also hoped that the findings of this study will contribute to the already existing literature on street vending.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study encountered difficulties in terms of collecting data from street vendors because most of the respondents were illiterates and were very busy with their business. The researchers found it hard to convince the respondents on their safety because they were too suspicious. Some street vendors refused to cooperate or answer questions until they were paid a small amount of money which limited researchers on the number of street vendors to interview.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

- **Street Vending:** Trading without a permit, trading outside formally designated trading locations or self-allocation of shelter for trading
- **Eagle-Eagle:** Street vendors who are mobile
- **Cargo Carrier:** These are individuals in streets who carry cargos from one place to another
- **Crime:** An action prohibited by law
- **Prevalence:** Wide spread of something in a particular area or at a particular time
- **Correlation:** A relationship in which two or more things are mutual or one thing is caused by the other.
- **Pick Pocketing:** Deeping of fingers into a person's pocket and remove money or phones
- **Unscrupulous:** Not restrained by moral or ethical principles
- **Formal Market:** An official building or structure where trading takes place
- **FINCA:** A financial lending institution which gives loans to street vendors



II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The lack of gainful employment coupled with poverty in rural areas has pulled women and men out of their villages into cities in search for employment. These migrants usually do not possess the education and skills to enable them find well paid and secure employment in the formal sector thus compelling them to settle for work in the informal sector. As a result, quite a number of them have resorted into what is known as street vending to meet their daily needs for a substantial living (Charmes,1998). In as much as street vending enables people to generate income and meet the needs of the day, it is an illegal activity which results into unnecessary vices such as crime.

The academic literature on street vending commonly treats street vendors broadly as those who sell goods or services in public space. This encompasses the full range of goods and services traded on a wholesale or retail basis, in streets and other kinds of related public spaces including sidewalks, alleyways, and medians. Street vendors may have fixed stalls such as kiosks, semi-fixed stalls like folding tables; they may operate from crates, collapsible stands, or wheeled pushcarts that are moved and stored overnight. Other vendors sell from fixed locations without a stall structure, displaying their merchandise on cloth/plastic sheets; mobile vendors walk or bicycle through the streets as they sell (International Labour Organization 2002).

What should be noted therefore is that street vending does not take place only in third world countries or African cities, but in almost all the cities of the world. For instance, there is a substantial increase in the number of street vendors in major Asian cities as well as in India where the national constitute policy approximately 2 percent of the population of a metropolis with the total number estimated at 10 million(International Labour Organization 2002). Not only do we find uneducated people on the street but the educated ones are also engaged in this activity due to factors that have affected them such as loss of their formal jobs which has made them improvise in order to make a living. Street vending survives not merely because it is an important source of employment but because of the services it provides to the urban population.

According to Lund, et.al (2000) local governments have failed to control the manner in which street vending is being run in cities. It is important to note that the ultimate responsibility for promoting and controlling street vending lies with local government. Vendors mostly obstruct the movement of traffic or pedestrians hence there is no safety on the part of the moving vehicles. Vendors do not care for their environment and hence the public is not protected from equipment that could be lying around dangerously such as cooking fires, gas or electrical devices. Due to this disorganization, there has been plenty of crime reported from street vendors themselves as well as non- vendors.

At city level, the approach and policy adopted to deal with street vending or street trading are influenced by institutional location of street vending responsibilities within each local government, traditionally within the traffic department. With an



ever growing population of 7,759,161 in 1990, 9,885,591 in 2000 and 13,046,508 persons in 2010 (Zambia Central Statistic Office 2011) street vendors have also been increasing in numbers. Even though statistics are difficult to obtain, the increase of street vending can be seen on the streets being more populated than was the case in the 90s. Therefore, this study focuses on generating information that will establish the assumption that street vending is a vehicle for high prevalence of crime.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This study was conducted in the Central Business District (CBD) of Kasama and Mukulumpe road in particular targeting the street vendors and former market traders who are currently vending from there. The town of Kasama was selected because there are vast numbers of street vendors compared to other districts in the country. It was a participatory study because it involved the respondents in the process of research. For collection of data the research relied on interviews and the use of questionnaires. To obtain information, the researchers established good relationships with respondents by working in a non-directive manner to make the respondents feel free.

TARGET POPULATION

The targeted groups for this study were street vendors and former market traders. Researchers selected a sample population from these groups of people. In addition, information was also collected from key informants. The sample was purposively selected from the target population.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Purposive sampling was used to select a group of people that had the characteristics of what was being studied and it also targeted those that were available and willing to answer the questionnaires and interviews. Purposive sampling helps to confirm or disconfirm stories that one gets from the field. According to O'Leary (2010:170) purposive sampling involves the selection of a sample with a particular purpose in mind, representativeness will depend on the researcher's ability to select cases that meet particular criteria including typically, wide variance, expertise, etc. In our study we used purposive sampling in the selection of the study location and case because we were interested in investigating the extent street vending contributes to high prevalence of crime in Zambia.

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

The combinations of structured and unstructured interview questions were used. This was to direct the research focus. Unstructured questions provided an opportunity to capture answers that would not be captured using structured guide. This study being a survey employed questionnaires. These were filled in by the people that were interviewed. Key informant interviews were conducted with officials from Kasama Council that are in charge of ensuring that there is no street vending within the central business district. As pointed out by O'Leary (2010:18) surveys and interviews put the



researcher in charge. Not only do you ask what you want, you also get to ask it how you want, i.e. you get to choose the wording, the order, the prompts, the probes. Brymvan (2008) defines a survey research as that one in which data is mostly collected by questionnaire or by structured interview at one point. This is done in order to collect data of a quantitative or quantifiable nature in which patterns of association can be detected.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

After the data was collected, it was analyzed qualitatively. Qualitative data was arranged into themes and then coded to create patterns which would be individually analyzed.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

All respondents were assured of total confidentiality and anonymity. They were informed that their names would not be written down and thus, there was not breach of privacy. Before going to carry out the research, the researchers got written permission from the University of Zambia.

IV. PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter shows the presentation of the findings on the study. It presents the data in tabular as well as chart form and gives the interpretation of the information each table contains.

FINDINGS OF THE RESEARCH

The average age of the street vendors interviewed was 30 years. The majority (57%) were aged between 20 to 28years. The remaining of the vendors were aged between 30 to 37 years (31.5%) and 11.5% of the vendors were aged 40 years and above. The sample size had more female than male vendors, with 46% being females and 54% males.

Marital status of the respondents

TABLE 1

MARRIED	SINGLE	DIVORCED	WIDOW	TOTAL
42%	36%	12%	10%	50

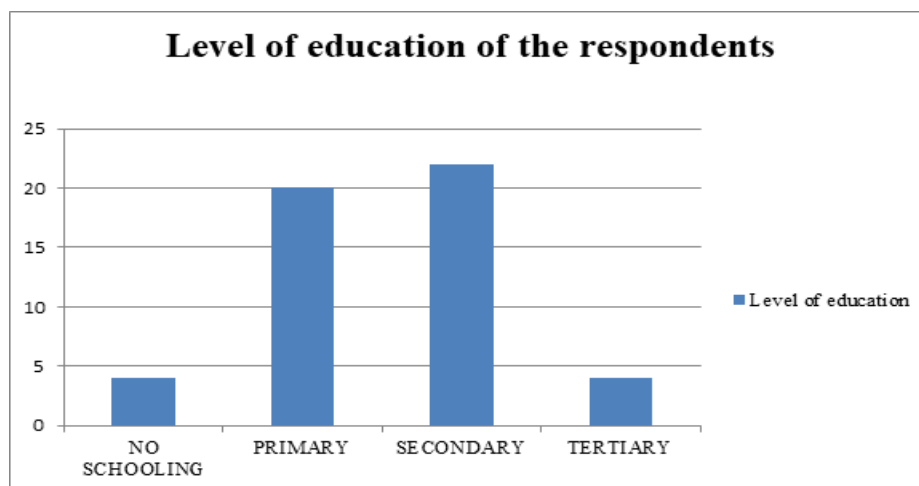
Table 1 above shows the marital status of the respondents. Majority of the street vendors interviewed were married with a percentage of 42 while 36% were single. It was also discovered that 12% of the respondents were divorced and 10% were in the street because they were widows and had to earn a living out of it.

TABLE 2



Lusaka Province	Central Province	Northern Province	Muchinga Province	Western Province	Copperbelt Province	Southern Province	Luapula Province
72%	4%	6%	2%	2%	10%	4%	2%

Table 2 shows the provinces or rather the places where the Vendors who were interviewed came from. Majority of the respondents said that they were born within Kasama which reflected 72 percent followed by 10 percent respondents who were born on the Copper belt province but later moved to Lusaka province for different reasons. A few with the percentage of 6 were born in Northern Province, followed by 4 percent from Central province and 4 percent from Southern province, 2 percent of the respondents were born from Luapula province and the other 2% were from Muchinga province.



The graph above shows that out of the 50 respondents, 4 did not enter school, 20 went up to primary level and 22 out got to secondary school while the remaining 4 managed tertiary level.

Street vending Activities



Pictures showing street vending activities along Mukulumpe Road of Kasama

V. DISCUSSION OF THE RESEARCH FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the analysis and discussion of the research findings. The chapter gives the analysis based on the responses from the street vendors and they are presented under the subheadings derived from the study objectives.

CAUSES OF STREET VENDING

Many reasons could be given to justify and establish the causes of street vending. This research revealed that many people are compelled to venture into street vending because they lack money to meet their daily needs. This is made feasible due to lack of gainful employment which most respondents emphasized on as a major cause of street vending.

Furthermore, street vending is more profitable than selling in markets because there are a lot of customers in streets and as such commodities are sold faster. In a nut shell,



men and women are trading in streets mainly for survival. Aside from these factors, the Vendors who were interviewed confirmed that they lack enough capital that could translate into owning shops in markets because these attract rentals. They said they do not have to pay rentals to trade in streets, so it is cheaper and profitable. Not only that, but also shortage of spaces in formal markets to accommodate every trader compels them to resort to selling in streets where there is enough space.

Another contributing factor according to the Vendors is rampant poverty and lack of proper education to enter into formal employment. Indeed, these factors play a major role in the existence of uncontrollable street vending in Zambia. When many are not able to meet their daily needs, they indulge in all sorts of activities that seem to offer solutions to their problems and these include street vending. Others are in street especially women because they are divorced or widowed and they do not have the means through which they could fend for their families, they resort to vending in order to make money and support their children and orphans. Thus, divorce is also a major cause of street vending because some women are left without any option but to vend because they are no longer with their husbands and it is hard for them to support their families.

It is a well-known fact that any person involved in selling and buying must have a capital either in form of finances or assets to invest in any business venture. Therefore, in this research the deliberate question was asked to find out how the street vendors who were sampled raised their capital. The main essence was to ascertain if there was any sort of involvement in crime related activities for them to raise capital. From the point of view of where they got the capital, there had varying responses. Among the responses which were advanced were that some vendors got money from friends, family and others acquired loans from Banks. One of such lending institution which was cited was FINCA.

Other vendors explained that they obtained startup money from well-wishers for example from churches. Furthermore, some vendors revealed that they sold property they owned before to raise money, while others confirmed that they worked in industries as casual workers. There were also some vendors who began their businesses as Eagle-Eagle and Cargo carrier then eventually established a stationary business. Other respondents stated that they were previously involved in small scale farming and crushing stones. In this vein, it could be established that most of the street vendors started from somewhere in the business cycle regardless of how one found the capital. Thus, doing business in streets is a matter of choice.

Upon inquiry on why the vendors chose the street as a venue for conducting their businesses in preference to formal markets. The vendors yet again gave rather intriguing responses. They suggested that they preferred trading in the streets because trading spaces are free which implies that they do not pay anything. They further argued that the government has allowed them to operate from streets despite it being illegal. It is also worth noting that the street vendors continue to vend because they argue that street vending is beneficial to them and as a consequence, they were able to bring out some of the benefits of street vending.



THE BENEFITS OF STREET VENDING

Street vending is an informal activity which seems to take a central place in almost all cities of Zambia. Despite it being associated with congesting cities and other unacceptable vices, people continues to engage in it. In this research it was established that it benefits not only the people who do it, but also the nation through its contribution to the economy. Among the benefits of street vending is generation of household income which is in turn used to meet basic needs such as food, clothes and shelter. The income generated from street vending is spent on paying school fees for their children and health care.

The vendors indicated that street vending is beneficial to them due to the fact that their merchandise do not get damaged because they do not last long without being sold. In short, goods are sold faster in streets as compared to trading from the formal markets. In view of the foregoing statement, it is important to note that street vending is of benefit as it is faster to get money, this is true especially to the vendors who move about to look for customers. Since these vendors sell their products fast, there are lower chances of their products going bad or getting expired. In addition, the respondents said that they benefit from street vending in the sense that they do not have to pay money to the council for them to sell and as a consequence they use such monies to meet their daily needs.

THE EFFECTS OF STREET VENDING

One of the specific objectives of this study was to find out if street vending has any effects or not. It was found out that out of the fifty vendors who were sampled and interviewed, 70% agreed that street vending has effects, while 24% disagreed and 6% had no opinion on the matter.

The vendors who agreed that street vending has effects justified that since most vendors' trade near the roads; there are many accidents which occur as result of the congestion created by street vending. They said that accidents usually occur when a customer is trying to cross the road to come and buy some goods from the other side of the road. Furthermore, there are some contagious diseases like cholera and tuberculosis that break out and spread as a consequence of street vending. Most street vendors also complained of harassment and victimization by unscrupulous people. Another effect of street vending is assaults which occur due to fighting for trading spaces hence lack of respect and hatred amongst the vendors themselves. However, others said that they do not experience any problems especially that the current government has allowed everyone to trade in streets for as long they kept their environment safe and clean.

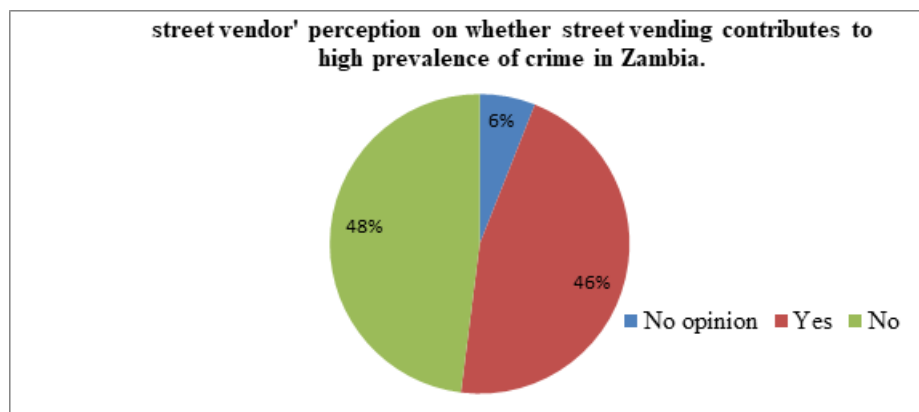
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STREET VENDING AND CRIME

From the time street vending became prominent in Zambia, there has been perpetual complaints from many sections of the society. Society has for a long time regarded street vending as one of the major contributors to high prevalence of crime. This research tried to compare the level of crime in formal markets and in streets. The former market traders who were sampled and interviewed had mixed views on the



matter. Of all the total number of traders who were interviewed, 26 percent agreed that there were high levels of crime in streets compared to formal markets, while 46 percent of respondents disagreed and 28 percent expressed ignorance about the issue. Those who disagreed justified that crime in streets is increased when street vendors are chased from the streets and left with nothing to do. When this happens, the chased vendors come back in streets to steal, assault others and involve themselves in drug trafficking. From these findings it can be established that in both trading premises there is prevalence of crime.

The diagram below shows the street vendors' views on whether street vending has contributed to high prevalence of crime in Zambia or not.



On whether street vending contributes to high prevalence of crime in Zambia, 46% of the respondents said that it contributed to high prevalence of crime, 48% were of the view that it does not contribute at all though others had mixed feelings because they would say it does not contribute but again complain to say they have problems with the fights on the street which at times erupts from nowhere. 6 % had no opinion as to whether there is high prevalence of crime in Zambia as a result of street vending or not.

Furthermore, on the ways in which street vending contributes to crime in Zambia, the respondents that represented 46% as shown on the chart above were of the view that it has brought a lot of theft and violence (assault). When violence breaks out, some mobile vendors take advantage of the people who in the crowd and steal things like money and phones. It was also found that among the street vendors there are those who usually sell plastics and do not make enough money as compared to their friends who sell clothes and food stuffs therefore, those who sell plastics usually steal from customers when they are busy searching for clothes to buy.

In addition, violence is also another factor that street vendors said contributed to crime in Zambia. It was also found out that there is too much fighting amongst the



vendors especially those who pretend to be vendors but in the actual sense spend their time just drinking beer and harassing people to steal from them.

VIEWS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL ON THE CAUSES, EFFECTS AND THE CORRELATION BETWEEN CRIME AND STREET VENDING

According to Kasama Council Public Relation Manager the causes of street vending are poverty, unemployment, taxes in formal markets and low literacy levels or lack of education. He further stated poverty and street vending cannot be separated, they are closely linked. People who are poverty stricken have low access to education and as a result they find it difficult to find meaningful employment. These people resort to street vending to earn a living though it is illegal.

The public relation manager also confirmed that those who sell in streets do not pay tax whereas those who trade in markets pay tax. Thus, this disparity makes traders to prefer trading in streets to trading in markets. The key informant was asked why the council does not tax street vendors, however he said that street vending is illegal and taxing them would mean legalizing it. Political intervention is a major obstacle in handling street vending issues. The Public Relations Manager lamented that they have failed to chase street vendors because politicians tell them to leave them as they have not been employed to earn a living.

The effects of street vending are noticed in the aspects of public health, sanitation, congestion, litter, garbage and crime. The food stuffs which are sold in streets are health hazards as in most cases they are exposed to dust which compromise the health standards. Apart from that, streets do not have enough sanitation facilities hence vendors urinate anyhow especially men which becomes a health hazard. The major effects of street vending which is also a major challenge to the Council are litter and garbage collection.

The Public Relation Manager also acknowledged that street vending contributes to high prevalence of crime. He said that some vendors are not genuine because they steal money, cell phones and snatch people's handbags. Some people are beaten along the streets due to stealing which result in assaults and murder. Fighting is also common in streets and as fight breaks out, street vendors especially those that are mobile take advantage of the situation and pick pocket in order to steal

VI. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the main objective of the study was to investigate and establish the correlation between crime and street vending. According to the findings of this study it has been revealed that street vending contributes to high prevalence of crime in cities in forms of fighting, stealing, drug trafficking.

The study has also revealed that the government has allowed street vendors to operate freely without any undue intimidation from authorities as this has been confirmed by the vendors themselves and the reluctance of the law enforcers to act. In addition, the



research has established the various causes and effects of street vending. Most of the respondents pointed out poverty and lack of employment as the major causes of street vending. They stated that they were in the street in order to survive since they do not have jobs for them to earn a living. The research has also brought forth various effects of street vending such as sanitation problems, congestion, litter and garbage piling. It is therefore vital for the government to consider these issues and devise measures to address them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The government should construct more formal markets near the town centers where majority of customers are in order to accommodate many traders and ensure quick trading.
- The government should institute an independent street vending board consisting of technocrats who would join forces with the Councils and the police in dealing with any issues related to street vending for example sanitation. This shall tirelessly assist in enforcing the law to compel the vendors to comply with government demands.
- Furthermore, the government should embark on setting up industries in each province in order to create jobs for local people so that the cities could be decongested and eventually reduce on street vending.

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