Assessing the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa.

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DECLARATION

I, Miss Ntombizodwa Elaine Buthelezi, hereby declare that this thesis is original and all the contents are appropriately acknowledged and explicitly referenced. A bibliography is appended to the thesis. Furthermore, it represents my own opinions and not necessarily those of the Durban University of Technology.

I also certify that the thesis has not heretofore been submitted in any of its parts or entirety for a degree of Master Management Sciences specialising in public Management in any other institution of higher learning locally or internationally.

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[Signature]

Date

04-04-2022

Supervisor: Prof

[Signature]

Date
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my children, parents and sisters. Also, dedicated to my loving husband Ntokozo Zulu. Your love and support inspired in me the pursuit of excellence and the desire to learn more.
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The completion of this dissertation was made possible through the support, encouragement and assistance from my family, friends and colleagues. Indeed, the recognition that this work may receive is not possible through sheer effort, but to all those who made it possible. I am particularly indebted to the following individuals:

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ABSTRACT

In recent times, South Africa has seen an increase in temporary migration of working mothers and fathers compared to previous years leaving their children behind regardless of age. Children are left in not so familiar environment to learn to cope without their parents. Young and middle-aged males and females are away from homes for periods from 6 months to 12 months or even more before their first home visit from seeking greener pastures and financial stability. The absence of parents has led to children encountering challenges that range from schoolwork, poor social adjustment, short-lived happiness, signs of loneliness even when amongst fellow children. Furthermore, children tend to assume adult responsibilities, thus protecting and defending younger siblings.

Children left behind by migrating parents live in difficult conditions and are subjected to different challenges such as social instability, low education performance, psychological effects.

This study aimed to assess the social well-being of children left behind by South African parents working outside the country. A qualitative exploratory study was undertaken using a non-probability sampling technique known as judgemental sampling. The target population for this study was all families that are taking care of children who have been left behind by parents seeking greener pastures outside the country. The sample size for this study was six families in the KwaZulu Natal province specifically in the Durban area. Data were analysed using NVIVO. The findings of this study showed that children face loneliness due to the absence of their parents. Due to the lack of parental care, they feel helpless because they cannot do as they wish. No parental support when it comes to school activities. The limitation of this study was that the sample size was small as such the findings cannot be applied beyond the current scope. Future research should be conducted across South Africa using a large sample size. Also, a comparative study should be undertaken to broaden the understanding of the problem.
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ABBREVIATIONS

CLB: Children left behind
IOM: International Organisation for Migration
IREC: Institutional Research Ethics Committee (IREC)
LBC: Left Behind Children
OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
UNICEF: United Nations Children Fund
CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION AND PROBLEM ORIENTATION

1.1. INTRODUCTION

When parents leave their home nations to seek work in another country, they frequently want to enhance the well-being of their families and offer better long-term possibilities for their children. While migration might help with financial stability, research suggests that a child's social and psychological development can be harmed by the absence of a parent (Evans, Brooks-Gunn, and Klebanov, 2011; Shonkoff and Garner, 2011). Children who are left behind are a vulnerable group unlike any other, and they require special policy attention. The problem of labour migration and its consequences affects every country in the globe, including South Africa (Yanovich, 2015). A report by the United Nations (2013) shows that 232 million people which makes up 3.2% of the world's total population were living outside their countries of origin. Furthermore, it was noted that around 763 million people were residing within their own country but outside their region of birth.

It is an indisputable fact that children who grow up with their caring and loving biological parents excel in every aspect of life (Jamiah 2013; Manap et al., 2015). They feel safe, loved, and carefree. Many children in South Africa grow up without their biological parents for different reasons. Among these reasons are labour migration, poverty, low marriage and cohabitation rates, housing and educational opportunities, historic population control, and customary care arrangements (Hall and Samsu, 2018). Some of the reasons are beyond human control but some can be avoided. In recent years, the country has seen a very high increase of parents leaving their families for greener pastures outside the borders of South Africa (Reed, 2013). The consequence is that parents who worked abroad have had limited time to spent with their children which could ultimately deprive them of their happiness (Wiley, 2015; Yanovich, 2015). The question arises is: who is teaching these children basic principles of life such as respect, responsibility values, their cultural and religious beliefs? According to researchers (Grzmala-Moszynska and Trabka, 2014), left behind children will always feel disadvantaged and short-changed whether when amongst friends, family members, or at school.

Several reports (Department of Women, Children and People with Disability, 2012; United Nations Children's Fund, 2012; Jamieson et al., 2017) have highlighted that in South Africa,
the rate of rape and molestation of children in most cases by family members or people very close to families is very high. Our own homes are not safe even when biological parents are present. Children are at a higher risk of falling victims to abuse if parents are far away and culprits are aware of the situation. Therefore, the question that arises is: who looks after the children when parents are away for longer periods making money? How trustworthy are these people? What is more important between your child and your lifestyle when children at a young age are left to defend and fight for themselves?

Research studies have revealed that bullying tends to take place at schools amongst schoolchildren (Lorenz, 2013; Serafina, 2015). Researchers have questioned that if a child is bullied at school, who is there to listen, believe, support, and fight the child’s battles if the parent is away for months? This on its own can make a child become violent, a bully, or even withdraw to a point where they commit suicide. If the child has difficulties in understanding a subject at school, who is there, and what skills does that person have to be able to assist the child? Who is at home to give the child the love and care they need? Thus, it is of utmost importance that parents are there to see their children grow and give all the support they need (Lorenz, 2013, Serafina, 2015).

The UNICEF (2008) reports cited a concern that children living without their parents are at risk of being exploited and dropping out of school. Owing to this concern, it becomes highly critical that these children have the right to parental care, protected from maltreatment and exploitive labour practices, neglect, abuse, or degradation. This study, therefore, aims to assess the impact separation has on the well-being of children left behind by parents who work outside the borders of South Africa with specific reference to Durban.

1.2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Large numbers of parents leave the country to find jobs in faraway countries for better opportunities. It is not always easy for these parents to come back to be with their families, especially children every day or when they wish to (UNICEF, 2008). In South Africa, parental migration has been attributed to poverty, inequality, high unemployment as well as
educational opportunities (Amoateng and Heaton 2007; Reed 2013). Zhang et al., (2019: 2) view the impact of being left behind on the development of children as a complex issue. According to the authors, while parental migration usually means an increase in family income, on one hand, it also results in the change of main caregivers and thereby weakening the connection between family members. This is concerning given the fact that children grow up better and feel safe with their biological parents (McWay, Acock and Porter, 2010).

Furthermore, González-Ferrer, Baizán, and Beauchemin (2012:108) have observed that most families are often not prepared to face the consequences of migration. Thus, the absence of parents at home means children have lost their role models, caregivers; and this may lead to an escalation of feelings of abandonment, vulnerability, and low self-esteem (Yanovich 2015). More worrisome is that, parental absence has been reported to decrease care, stimulation and supervision (Salazar Parreñas, 2008). Zhao et al., (2018) warned that the non-traditional family structures might be risks for future psychopathology in children. This in turn may exacerbate the vulnerabilities of children with less social support (Man et al., 2017; Zhao et al., 2017).

1.3. RESEARCH AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The study aimed to assess the social well-being of children left behind by South African parents working outside the country.

Objectives of the study

To achieve the aim of the study, the following objectives were derived.

To assess the impact this temporary migration of parents has on children left behind as they grow.
To identify problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents.
To investigate if the standard of living of the people left behind has improved.
To identify the real reasons as to why these parents, leave their children and seek jobs far from their children instead of relocating with the whole family.
Research questions

The following were research questions that the study seeks to answer.

❖ What is the impact that temporary migration of parents has on children left behind as they grow?
❖ What are the problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents?
❖ What is the standard of living of the people left behind and has it improved?
❖ What are the real reasons parents leave their children and look for jobs far from their children instead of relocating with the whole family?

1.4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Development in Africa in general and South Africa, in particular, depends on the contribution that its citizens make. The children of today are known as future leaders (Presler-Marshal et al., 2020: 1). As such, they need to be well taken care of so that they grow in an environment where there is love, protection, and all the social amenities provided (Skweyiya, 2006:2). The migration of parents deprives children of the aforementioned and a good environment where they can grow into responsible future citizens (Lu et al., 2019: 131). This is a predicament that many countries including South Africa find themselves in.

The reality is that migration is a global phenomenon and is here to stay because of the various dynamics at play in different countries that influence the parents and several others to consider leaving their children behind. Thus, this study is important because it will facilitate a deeper understanding of the reasons that propel parents to migrate to other countries. Furthermore, such an understanding of the problems will enable practitioners and policymakers to find ways of addressing the problems that lead to parental migration and ultimately impact negatively on the social well-being and growth of children.

According to Reyes (2009:10), the social cost of migration is severe and needs attention. While economic pundits may advance the narrative that migration of parents helps to uplift the livelihood of families through remittances, the sad reality which may not be measurable by
money or remittances is that parent migration impacts members of families that are left behind, specifically, the children.

1.5. OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.5.1 The following highlighted the research methodology that was used in the study a more detailed perspective of the research methodology was provided in chapter three (3)

1.5.1. Research approach

According to Barbour (2014), the qualitative research approach is unstructured, exploratory and is based on small samples whereas the quantitative research approach places emphasis on a descriptive design or nature which uses a set of scientific methods and measurements to collect raw data and create data structures that define existing characteristics of the defined target market (Evergreen State College, 2014:9-15).

A qualitative approach was adopted for the study. Hyde (200) further avers that a qualitative approach allows the researcher to gain more in-depth knowledge of the issues and thus enables the researcher to have a greater understanding of the particular environment.

1.5.2. Research Design

The research design is crucial because it is a systematic chain and approach of factual data that links the initial research questions to the study’s conclusions (Creswell, 2014). Exploratory, descriptive, and causal research are the three types of study designs. Exploratory research aids in the discovery of fresh ideas and insights into a phenomenon by the researcher. It is sometimes used to describe and provide plausible explanations for research phenomenon. Descriptive research is used to figure out how often something happens or what the connection between variables is. Causal research, which usually takes the form of experiments, is aimed at identifying cause-and-effect correlations (Churchill, Brown and Suter, 2010:79). The research design adopted for this study was exploratory. Thus, qualitative research was undertaken.
1.5.3. Target Population

The target population, according to Mack (2015), is the group that a researcher seeks to comprehend and that meets a predefined condition. The sample population refers to a subset of the population chosen for the study (Bryman2008).

The target for the study was caregivers of children around Durban and Surrounding areas that were left behind by their parents working outside of South African borders. The target population was chosen because it has a clear understanding of the environment and the welfare of children.

1.5.4. Sample Size

Qualitative studies often have a smaller sample size. The sample size for this study was six families in the KwaZulu Natal province specifically the city of Durban and the surrounding areas. Theoretical saturation was achieved with six interviews. In this regard, caregivers and guardians were interviewed.

1.5.5. Sampling method

The purposive sampling approach was used for this study due to its suitability for the research. Purposive sampling, also known as judgment sampling, is the purposeful selection of an informant based on the traits they possess. It's a non-random approach that doesn't require any underlying hypotheses or a predetermined quantity of informants. Simply said, the researcher determines what information is required and sets out to identify people who can and will offer it via their expertise or experience (Bernard 2002, Lewis, and Sheppard 2006). According to Hair, Celsi, Ortinau, and Bush (2013:145), judgmental sampling allows the researcher to consider certain concerns while choosing a sample, such as revenue-generating and the geographic scope of the study.

1.5.6. Data Collection
Interviews were used to gather information. Designing interview schedules necessitates a great deal of thinking in order to achieve the research’s objectives and answer the research questions (Robson and McCartan 2016). The interview questions were open-ended, allowing participants to express and expound on their thoughts about the topic. Interviews were administered by recording participants. Each interview form had an introductory letter explaining the nature of the study and its benefits. Interview responses were recorded for later analysis and data compilation.

1.5.7. Data analysis

Data were analysed using content analysis. All interviews were recorded and transcribed using appropriate software. Wisker (2008) states that data must be organized, and consideration is given to what is relevant and how the information can be presented to reflect the outcomes.

1.5.8. Delimitations/scope

The study was focusing on the emotional well-being of the children left behind in South African by parents working abroad. The study was restricted to six families in KwaZulu Natal province specifically the Durban and the surrounding areas.

Limitations

The restriction of the study is instigated by the rapid increase of parents leaving their children and the unacceptable social behaviours displayed by children whose parents have left them to work overseas. The study focused only on those affected families and the identity of the affected children is protected.

1.5.9. Trustworthiness and Credibility

In qualitative research, reliability and validity are frequently overlooked. Researchers instead use the terms "trustworthiness" and "credibility." According to Neuman (2011:214), qualitative research employs a range of data sources and measuring methodologies. This is so because different researchers who use alternative measures may find distinctive results because the
data collection process is an interactive process in a setting that is highly evolving and the context is dictated by a unique mix of measures that cannot be replicated. By properly reviewing the data, coding, analyzing, and presenting it, the study's reliability and credibility were established.

1.5.10. Anonymity and confidentiality

Anonymity and confidentiality are essential to protect study participants from discrimination or prejudice because they believe or behave differently than others... Anonymity was ensured by not exposing the names or identification numbers of the participants. As a result, confidentiality was essential to prevent the research from falling into the incorrect hands or falling into the hands of those who had not been granted permission to utilize the study.

1.5.11. Ethical considerations

Respondents were asked to fill out forms expressing their informed consent, those that were willing to participate in the research, and answer questionnaires were also completed.

The data that was collected for this research efforts were made to protect the privacy of the respondents not to release their names.

1.5.12. CLASSIFICATION OF THESIS CHAPTERS

The following chapters illustrated the composition of the study from Chapter one (1) to Chapter five (5)

Chapter One: Introduction and problem orientation

Chapter one (1) introduced the reader to the research by presenting the background of the study, highlighting the problem statement and the purpose of the study, crafting the research questions, and discussing the significance and the rationale for the study.

Chapter Two: Social well-being of children left behind by migrant parents.

Chapter two (2) provided the reader with an extensive review of the literature regarding the concept of migration and the welfare of children left behind by migrant parents. In this regard,
different schools of thought will be analysed to get a deeper understand of migration and children welfare.

**Chapter Three: Research Methodology**

Chapter three (3) detailed the epistemological basis of the study where knowledge was constructed and issues discussed, explaining in depth the methodology that was chosen, the appropriate research design to answer the research questions, the setting and sample choice, and how data will be collected and analysed for interpretation.

**Chapter Four: Data analysis and discussion of findings**

Chapter four (4) presented a discussion of results and data analysis guided by research methodology.

**Chapter Five: Summary, recommendations, and conclusion**

Chapter five (5) discussed the summary of this study, the limitations, the contributions made to the body of knowledge, possible recommendations, opportunities for future research, and the conclusion of the study.

1.6. **CONCLUSION**

Chapter one provided the background and context of this study, defined the problem to be investigated, the research aims and objectives, and an overview of the research methodology to be used in this study. Lastly, the chapter discussed the chapter's classification of this study. The next chapter discussed a review of literature on the social well-being of children left behind by migrant parents.
CHAPTER 2
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. INTRODUCTION

The previous chapter provided a discussion on the background and problem orientation of the study. This chapter provided a review of the literature on the social well-being of children. Firstly, the concept of migration will be discussed to create an understanding of what it entails. Secondly, the reasons that propel parents to migrate from South Africa to other countries will be discussed so that the framework of the problem under review or study is properly understood. Lastly, the study will highlight the impact of the migration of parents on the well-being of children left behind.

2.2. THE CONCEPT OF MIGRATION

It is important in the context of this study to understand the meaning of migration. According to Helbling et al. (2013), migration is the movement of people from a country or state to another to become residents in their newly found country. Similarly, and as highlighted in the report of the Refuge Council (2016: 1), immigration is explained as the international movement of people to a destination of which they are not natives or where they do not possess citizenship for the purpose of settling or residing there. The term migration/immigration considers “temporary residence” as well and “work permit” as part of the migration process and in recent times, migration of people has been on the increase (Omisakin, 2017: 28). A report by the World Bank’s (2015) shows that there were 23.2 million international migrants from Sub-Saharan, of whom 26% were living in OECD ((Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries and 65.6% were living within the African region and this had contributed to the growing numbers of children left behind in the country of origin. According to researchers, various factors contribute towards immigration inflows, notably: economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural as well as historical reasons (Lenard and Straehle, 2012: 210; Omisakin, 2017: 28). Any person who moves out of his country as in the context of this study is called a migrant. It is important to state that while migration may be local; this study focuses on migration across the border of South Africa. The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) suggests that there are two kinds of migrants: long-term and short-term migrants. The first refers to someone who goes beyond the border of his homeland and settles in a foreign country for more than a year. The migrant considers the country of
destination as his or her permanent residence. Normally, from the country, the migrant comes from or the country of origin, the person becomes a long-term emigrant while in the country that receives him he is a long-term immigrant. Conversely, a short-term migrant is known as someone who leaves his country of birth another for three months and less than a year and his movement is normally motivated by recreation, holiday visits, business, or medical treatment (IOM, 2008: 495-499).

Several researchers have focused on the distinction between internal and international migration. The movement of people within their own country is known as internal migration and takes place without crossing the national borders. On the other hand, the crossing of national borders by citizens born in a particular country to another country is called international migration (IOM, 2008:173). According to Perruchoud (2004:33) people leaving their motherland to settle either permanently or temporarily in another country is an example of international migration. Thus, international migration includes aspects like people’s movement, movement from one’s own country to another, and settling oneself in the country one migrates to. Conversely, someone will be disqualified as a migrant if he is in transit, a visitor, or a tourist given the fact that they do not settle in that country permanently (Perruchoud, 2004:33).

Despite the growing interest of people to migrate to destinations that are lucrative and yield the most beneficial outputs, the reasons behind this trend are yet to be comprehensively substantiated. The trend of migration can be identified in different countries including developed and developing countries, some of which are motivated by policies (Helbing et al., 2017: 79).

2.2.1. Migration in South Africa

The historical background of migration in South Africa is known to be rooted in adult relocation due to work since the 20th century. The relocation/migration trends in South Africa revealed the restrictions applied during the apartheid period targeting non-white people. As a result, most migrants including, most men had to leave their families to work far away to make income for their children and family survival. Presently, in South African, the migration of grown-up persons is still on the increase given the fact that people are looking for better life opportunities (Reed, 2013: 75).
Like in other nations, issues of children left behind in the South African context are believed to be “complex and dynamic” especially in the situation where both parents migrate. Findings of research in the remote areas of KwaZulu-Natal suggest that children of mothers who migrated for one year were believed to be 42 times to have a chance to relocate though it was not sure whether they were to join their mothers to live somewhere else (Ford and Hoosegood, 2005: 759). To a certain extent, the relocation of parents is not the only reason that leads to the short or long-term split of kids with their parents in South Africa. Other motivations in this context might be due to “extra-marital childrearing, union instability, orphaning” but also attractive possibilities to migrate for educational purposes (Bennett et al., 2015: 323).

Previous studies about fatherless children and absent fathers in South Africa have been a focus due to the severe consequences it had in the upbringing of children including the social stability or instability of the family (Tong, Yan and Kawachi, 2019). Whether the father has migrated in the national or above the national borders, fathers can be identified to be both absent and/or leaving children fatherless (The factors associated with being left-behind children, 2019). The semantic differentiation between the two terms, namely absent fathers and being fatherless should be understood in a manner that we reach an understanding of the terms. Absent fathers are physically not present but can be emotionally present while being fatherless means being physically or emotionally absent especially when the father is dead or abandons his own family without taking care of the children and the household (Kunsikila, 2016: 37). This context is, therefore, well-related to the issue of migration and its relative consequences on children.

There is a public opinion suggesting that the African context of migration is mostly motivated or driven by issues of poverty and violent conflict such as war (Castelli, 2018). The author believes that such opinions are unsubstantiated by theoretical basis with well-researched mechanisms. However, the trends of migration in the African continent are perpetual and observed in forms of in-and out-flows of people leaving their homeland for diverse reasons, mostly due to issues related to recurrent conflicts, lack of social balance, governance policies, and failure to secure job opportunities (Flahaux and De Haas, 2016: 1). Factors contributing to the in-and out-flow of people around the continent are believed to be supported by transportation means (Bull, 2003). The development of transport, therefore, is considered to have played a crucial role in making migration be channelled in one of the countries’ policies.
given the fact that it contributes to “flows in economics, urbanization, and epidemiology on infectious diseases” (Garcia et al., 2015: 89).

The African migration history has been a mixture of all kinds of movements encompassing migration within the countries and the ones happening in the continent as well as many people targeting to leave the continent for Europe, America and Asia. According to Flahaux and De Haas (2016: 1), in recent years, there has been an increase in the migration of people from Africa to Europe. Worse is the fact that there has been dramatic and widespread media coverage with sarcastic speeches mocking migrants with blatant exaggeration about them fleeing their countries because of acute poverty. While this seems to be a reality, the different media houses fail to raise the main reasons such as the continued destabilization of most of the African continent economies by the West and the consequences that are inflicted on vulnerable people (Guterres, 2018).

The issue of migration in South Africa and the entire region of Southern Africa has serious implications on the lives and welfare of children left behind by migrant parents. However, it is important to underline that this situation is not only unique to Africa. Contemporary research conducted globally to understand the issue of “childcare and co-residence arrangements” highlighted important findings in 77 nations as follows: an identification of three bottom countries with “parental co-residence which included South Africa with 35 percent of kids living neither of their biological paternities, followed by Namibia with 27 percent and Swaziland with 23 percent. The two other neighbouring countries that include Lesotho and Zimbabwe also find themselves in the low level of the list of ten that feature at the bottom (Martin, 2016: 60).

2.2.2. Factors that motivate migration

It is important to highlight that the push factors of migrating citizens vary but research has identified specific reasons that have encouraged migration. Education is regarded to be one of the key drivers for young people (Sambat, 2012). Thus, previous studies have identified education and economic or financial needs as being the push factors of migration with the view to improve the social well-being of the migrant and their families (Frances, 2014; Browne, 2016). Within the range of the types of migrating age individuals, it is believed that young people are the most active. Among the motivating factors that push the majority of young people to migrate are aspects related to their intentions to succeed and have a better
life. Extant research shows that young people between the ages of 15 to 25 are more likely to migrate and further their studies. Their intention has always been to pursue their studies by migrating to other nations (Hagen-Zanker and Mallett, 2016: 60).

Thus, it is crucial if not compulsory that governments of different nations put in place migration policies that protect different sexual categories particularly women. It has been noted in the horn of Africa that women have the tendency to leave their homeland due to the dearth of education opportunities and premature marriages and these are considered as some of the factors driving girls to migrate to look for better opportunities (Cossor, 2016).

Similarly, extant research has found that education attracts migration for the middle-class, middle-income as well as youth (The Behavioural Economist and the Social Planner, 04 July 2013). Mostly, people of these social classes aspire to seek what is commonly known as white-collar employment, which requires high qualifications. It has also been noted that those people who can migrate for education purposes are those who can afford the fees (World Migration Report, 2016/07). It may look awkward for people to plan to go into a foreign land to study while they do not have enough money to cover their expenses. The majority of those who successfully leave for study abroad make further arrangements with the family to raise enough funding that will cover the entire period of study in the country they are accepted (Punch and Sugden, 2013: 255).

One of the reasons that propel people to migrate from one country to another is looking for employment. It has been noted that the factors that have driven many people to consider looking for employment are many. For instance, the 2007-2008 recessions led to the worldwide growth of unemployment. Secondly, the increase of the population in the developing world has culminated into what has been called the “jobs time bomb”, requiring countries like India to supply over 12 million new employment per annum (Kumar and Busvine, 2014). On the issue of employment, the health sector is believed to have been affected by recent flows of migration from lower to higher incentive remunerating countries, especially in the Southern African region. Also, the loss incurred by the Southern African region in terms of the migration of physicians has been increasing as they leave for greener pastures (Kasper and Banjunirwe, 2012: 976).
The political environment is considered one of the factors that can trigger migration. A specific case in point is a long political predicament that led to Zimbabwe facing serious economic challenges in the year 2000. This situation led to the departure of millions of people to countries that were more safe, stable, and productive in job-related fields (Zira, 2016: 65). Similarly, it has been observed that the increase of migration of people is motivated by many pushing factors from the country they come from. Those factors force them to be attracted to pulling factors they think they would get or enjoy in the country of their final destination. Thus, the continued deterioration of socio-economic conditions, the violence in some war-torn regions in the world, the worldwide economic problems or challenges are tremendous motivations for people to migrate (Hagen-Zanker and Mallett, 2016).

Whilst there has been some debate about whether labour migration helps to reduce poverty or not at the macro scale and in the longer term, migrant parents have been found to improve economic circumstances at the household scale. The people and the children left behind may thus benefit from increases in family income spent on improved nutrition, housing, access to health care, and schooling (Hadi, 1999; Jones and Kittisukathit, 2003). Despite these benefits, the fact remains that children suffer greatly due to missing their parents. Money is not always everything.

2.3. MIGRATION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES ON CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND BY PARENTS

There is enough evidence that migration has been a reality for several years in different places/or nations. Research suggests that in South Africa, numerous families are leaving the country to other parts of the world for different reasons, one of which is seeking employment or greener pasture and, in the process, leaving their children behind (Bennett et al. 2015: 322). Migration affects families without any differentiation as people across all social classes leave their nations in search of green pastures and furthering their studies etc. It is important, however, to underline that the migration of people is a reality in almost all continents, which in the case of the European Union is believed to have been motivated by financial, vocation and embracing a new way of life (Bygnes and Flipo, 2017: 199).

The people that plan to migrate are faced with opportunities and challenges which if not properly analysed can affect their respective families and communities they leave behind. However, it is crucial to state that international migration is much more connected to the
strategic income improvement meant to stabilize the financial sustainability of the household which in the long run may prevent the family from collapsing (Graham and Jordan, 2011). It is also important to underline that migration affects not only the head of the family, but the repercussions are felt by the larger family including children, relatives, and parents. Research suggests that among these groups, children are the most vulnerable and the most affected because they are left behind by parents that migrate to copy with life by themselves and sometimes with the help of relatives or siblings who do not have the same interest as that of a parent (UNICEF, 2017).

Children left behind by migrating parents live in difficult conditions and are likely to suffer different consequences including social instability, low education performance, psychological effects, which results across the world have been substantiated in different countries (Children of Migrant Parents, 2018). Another school of thought suggests that there is evidence of the positive economic and social improvement of the migrating parent's livelihood but at the same time the negative effects of those they leave behind, especially children (Fang Y, 2018). The findings of research conducted in Rural Northern Vietnam concluded that children left by migrant parents have demonstrated greater scores of problems as well as particular symptoms like: “hyperactivity/inattention, emotional symptoms, peer relationship problems, conduct or behavioural problems than children who live with their parents (Luot and Dat, 2017: 188). On the other hand, children who do not live with their migrant parent before migration may have a different experience of parental migration to those that were co-resident with a parent, especially if the parent was the child’s primary care-giver, however, are rarely captured in studies of migrants’ children (Bennett et al. 2015: 322).

Migration in the South African context has also affected the country at different levels including the education sector, in which the loss of teachers has a negative impact on the country. Given the fact that trends of the teachers migrating for better opportunities outside the country have been one of the contributing factors for the loss of educators, levels of learners have to be controlled. The Department of Basic Education (2015) released its statistics in 2013 suggesting that 12 883 888 pupils from 30 027 institutions were recorded. Nonetheless, three main trends motivating the migration of teachers in the South African context have been considered. The first trend includes career change as a result of educator dissatisfaction, the second talks of teacher attrition (slow destruction i.e., by death or retreat),
and lastly those who have been recruited by industrialized nations (de Villiers, 2017: 214). Though the findings of the above research do not include aspects related to the consequences of parents’ migration on their children, we consider that most of the teachers leave families behind and make later arrangements for reunification. This is important to prevent children become socially and psychologically affected in different manners.

Similarly, previous studies have focused on both the positive and negative effects children are likely to suffer. A study conducted in China that focused on the understanding of the wide-ranging effects of migration on the welfare of children whose parents have left them behind in the country of origin noted that these children receive less attention from their parents (Carling, Menjivar and Schmalzbauer, 2012). An additional report on findings of a particular gender of the household that has migrated especially the mother, reveals that the performance of children from such families is worse than that of teenagers from other immigrant families and those whose parents are home (Wen and Lin, 2012).

2.4. UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND BY MIGRATING PARENTS

It is important to raise the understanding of the concept commonly known as well-being before highlighting other aspects of the subject at hand. In fact, the difficulty faced in evaluating the welfare of children is related to what the concept means itself. The mechanisms that determine children’s well-being are equally the same with a slight difference from children’s particular wants and their exposition to susceptibilities. Given the vulnerability of children well-being and being an important population group of the society – defining children well-being takes into consideration aspects related to childhood poverty. Instruments like the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989 promotes and protects the rights of children and this entails the equal treatment, care, survival, development, protection and participation benefiting individuals under 18 years old (UNICEF, 2009: 2).

There are numerous discussions about the way migration and the well-being of parents and children are related. Some findings have attributed the influence of relocation and children welfare to be occasionally labelled as “positive or negative” (Moran-Taylor, 2008: 83). A hypothesis about the results between immigration and the welfare of children is “dynamic and conditional” taking into consideration aspects linked to “child’s age, post-migration caregiving
arrangements, a household’s socio-economic status, and the retained ties between a migrant and the household members remaining in the origin country (Moran-Taylor, 2008: 83 and Mazzucato, 2014: 753). Another school of thought suggest that the best way of finding the accurate numbers of children left behind by migrating parents is to run an investigation in the different households. Thus, determining the well-being of these children can only be possible by examining their welfare in a household where there are one or more non-resident-members (Collinson, 2009). Nevertheless, it is challenging to ascertain CLB with no accurate household, which might tie their background with their parents.

Similarly, the migration of parents has been assessed to determine which parent between the father and the mother has a significant effect on the well-being of children. In the same context, it is important to analyse whether the relocation of one of the parents is advantageous or harmful to children’s social welfare. Findings on this aspect suggest that the migration of the mother has more effects on children than that of the father. Parenting theory known as attachment theory suggests that what mostly justifies the mother’s absence is the recurrent interaction that the mother has with the child because of the sensitive parenting focus that the child benefits from in the first year (Kunsikila, 2016: 28). This opinion might reflect the reality of other research findings that motivate the presence of both parents to play a crucial role in the lives of children.

While the mother is believed to have more to do with the nurturing process of children especially when it comes to toddlers at an early age, the father’s presence should not be neglected. Other research findings reveal the dichotomy that exists between the migration of fathers and mothers. The authors suggest that fathers migrate for longer periods with 47% of them leaving their families for a period exceeding 8 years, with 95% of them involved in work. The second tendency presents migrant mothers scoring 69% as working, while 21% of them studying or involved in professional training (Bennett et al., 2015: 327).

2.5. THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND BY MIGRATING PARENTS

There is a growing body of literature suggesting that the well-being of children left behind by migrating parents are worse than that of children living with their parents as underlined in the previous sections. Thus, several calls have been made in South Africa, to enhance the health and well-being of children. There is a common belief that the larger extended family helps to take care of children in case of temporary migration or the situation that one of the parents
dies (Hall and Posel (2012). The parenting roles, therefore, are transferred to brothers, sisters, uncles, community, or church leaders (Hall and Posel 2012). Thus, in these conditions, it is possible that the well-being of children can be met (Hall and Posel, 2012).

Similarly, Gassman et al. (2018: 423) dismiss conformists’ findings, which suggest that the migration of parents is destructive to the welfare of children. They reached this outcome after completing research in Moldova and Georgia migration issues. In their study, it was found that in Georgia, migration was linked to the improved well-being of children in terms of communication access, housing, and many other things as provided in the well-being index.

A study conducted in three different countries namely: Ghana, Angola, and Nigeria to investigate youngsters’ welfare whose families are abroad compared to the ones whose parents are in their homeland investigated four important features about the international families. Firstly, it was noted that the shifting of caregivers was linked with minor well-being in those three countries. Secondly, the migration of parents had no impact in Ghana for example, however, in scenarios where the mother leaves and the father remains as the person taking care of children, results showed that it impacted the children's welfare, while the migration of both parents in Angola revealed deteriorating consequences. Lastly, there were no diverse outcomes for children whose parents leave national borders compared to those whose movement is observed both in Ghana and Angola, while it was discovered in Angola that children whose parents crossed international borders were found with “poor psychological well-being” (Mazzucato et al., 2015: 215).

Often, the public policy describes migration differently ascribing it on one hand as something positive, while on the other it is considered as negative depending on the pull and push factors supporting these arguments in the context of the families of children left behind by migrating parents. Such examples have been found in countries like Moldova and Georgia because they have huge migration populations. Additionally, migration influx has unanimously stimulated apprehensions about the costs and advantages of migration towards children left in the previous setting (World Bank, 2015).

However, questions raised about the stressful situation of bringing to the fore the relevant way to quantify migration and the consequences it bears on the life of those migrating and their respective kinsfolks have shifted the way to understand it. One important factor to consider in this regard is the tendency that looks at the results of the financial inflow, which is the transfer
of funds and in the case of Moldova it has reached over 24% of GDP while Georgia stood at 12%. It is believed that the movement of finances or remittances is a contributing element in maintaining the social equilibrium in the households. Unfortunately, the contribution of the remittances sent by the migrating person cannot be evaluated if he or she was still in the household he or she left (World Bank, 2015).

2.5.1. Migration and social well-being of children.

Transnational labour migration is viewed as a family livelihood strategy that strikes a balance between economic growth and family separation (Graham and Jordan, 2011). For societies, communities, and people, migration provides both possibilities and problems. While economic considerations are important drivers of migration, it also affects the structure of families. Migration affects a wide range of individuals, including girls, boys, women, men, and better-off as well as impoverished people (Lu et al., 2019). Children are affected by migration in a variety of ways: they are left behind by migratory parents, they are carried along with their migrating parents, or they travel alone, without the presence of their parents or adult guardians (UNICEF, 2017).

There has been a significant upsurge of transitory migration in South Africa of working mothers and fathers in comparison to the preceding years with a tendency of the parents not taking their kids irrespective of the age (Hall and Posel, 2019). Mostly, these kids are left in the social environment they are not accustomed to, thereby, giving them no other way than coping by themselves. The small number of children, who benefit from social help, are either cared for by siblings, uncles, aunts, social fathers, or anybody who is known to be close to the parents. There are numerous cases regarding migrating working parents that have been observed and the related effects that this social factor has had on the welfare of the children (Graham et al., 2012: 876).

While the absence of parents at home has ripple effects on the upbringing of the child, the issue of migration is an inevitable reality because of the economic challenge’s parents face in their countries of origin. However, it is important for migrating parents to remain in positive communication with their children as a way of maintaining the relationship between them and their children even though they are far from the household. Previous studies by different researchers have noted that there are negative and positive consequences of migrating parents and the Children Left Behind (CLB) (Graham et al., 2012; Luot and Dat, 2017;
Gassmann et al., 2018). Several research outcomes portrayed in the body of knowledge suggests that there are both negative and positive effects of migration on the well-being of children (UNICEF, 2017). For instance, some researchers claim that CLB by migrating parents is psychologically affected, has less education performance, and/or is likely not to be successful in their life (Haagsman and Mazzucato, 2014: 1679). Therefore, the national or international migration of parents and different effects on children is a global challenge that does not only affect South Africa.

2.6. CONSEQUENCES OF ABSENTEEISM OF PARENTS

Children who are left behind by migrant parents are far worse than the children living with both parents when it comes to their school behaviour, confidence, and realisation of their future goals. They present signs of loneliness, fear, and neglect (Meng and Yamauchi, 2015). This is so because biological parents are regarded as primary caregivers. Losing a parent due to work outside the country intensifies children’s sense of loss. This then leads to expectations that children of migrant parents will suffer a great risk of poor social and emotional health because of the separation from primary caregivers (Wiley, 2015).

The presence of parents plays an important role in the well-being of children. Issues related to the parenting of children and the lack of it have several consequences on the growth of the offspring. Problems and difficulties faced by children in the absence of parents are diverse and consequences are more detrimental in the long term. Children need to be taken care of and be provided with all the needs as they grow. From the perspective of those who have the responsibility to support the well-being of their children, research suggests that both parents have particular roles to share and play for the well-being of their families (Migration and Child Labour, 2010). A look at the fathers’ involvement in the nurturing of children has been identified as important but also linked to several positive choices that focus on issues surrounding them as a family (Richter, 2006). Through numerous settings, fathers need to fulfil certain conditions like spending time with children, showing psychological and physical affection as well as issues related to health, education, and the permanent provision of financial means (Hunter, 2006: 56-58).

A study conducted in Durban and its surrounding areas such as Engonyameni and Ntuzuma to build young men’s capacity to become responsible, loving and nonviolent fathers or prospective fathers, revealed among the findings young men suggesting that fathers need to
be responsible, loving, nonviolent, caring and providing for their children. In the same consideration of responsibilities, mothers, the most associated with the upbringing of children play the primary role in the successful psychosomatic, emotional, and physical growth of children (A Father’s Impact on Child Development, June 2018). The absence of parents can also be understood in different ways besides the fact that they migrate. There are parents who are physically present in their household with their family but who are emotionally absent, which is a further failure to the provision of love and care to children. Nonetheless, there are parents who are physically absent from their household but remain permanently emotionally present as they phone and solve problems that children face while they are away (Kunsikila, 2016: 105-110).

According to research findings, the effect of migrating parents on the children they leave behind is that they encounter several problems in their daily livelihood and physical well-being which may take longer to heal (Fatherless, 2020). As earlier highlighted, parents have the likelihood to play a positive role although they are far from their children. Motivations behind parents migrating are diverse most of which are driven by the need to get better socio-economic conditions, financial freedom, and life security. Most of the literature findings on the positive contribution of parents in the lives of children suggest that parents who provide profound, approachable care and particular attention to the social conditions of their children prepare their children to be successful in life (Grusec and Danyliuk, 2014). Furthermore, research suggests that the positive handling of the management of the household by parents in terms of their behaviour, their provision of health, education, shelter, and psychosomatic support towards children and their mother is likely to spill over on childrens’ capacity to handle their parenting skills in the future. According to Collins (2015) children who benefit from such parental privileges, can safeguard and improve the lives of their children in the future from different challenges including stress or trauma effects in their lives.

According to Canadian researchers, the more parents get involved in the lives of children, the more they contribute positively to the well-being of their future life (University of Toronto, Canada, December 2014). Correspondingly, household connexions, and nurturing styles in terms of communication, provision, and management are believed to be adequate improvement factors towards toddlers (Mageau et al., 2017). There is much evidence to suggest that the quality of life of parents plays a crucial role in the developmental environment
depending on whether there is enough provision of financial means, appropriate living measures, domestic interactions, and nurturing styles (Wen, 2012).

Unfortunately, the lack of these aspects, for example, parental physical or psychological absence, generates social imbalances in the life of the kids. Thus, when biological parents are involved in the life of children who grow in the same household with them, the children tend to produce or achieve better results in their educational journey than others. Conversely, the deficiency of parental care towards children in the process of their development disturbs the neurobiology of the children (Spencer, 2013).

2.7. UNDESIRABLE PSYCHOSOMATIC EFFECTS OF MIGRATING PARENTS ON LEFT-BEHIND CHILDREN (LBC)

Several research findings on absent parents have revealed emotive effects on children of parents living in rural areas rather than those of non-migrated parents who are present (Jingzhong and Lu, 2011). On one hand, these children have also been found as showing worrying signs, insecurity and living in permanent fear (Fan, Su and Gill, 2010), while on the other they are believed to be “un-self-confident”, (Shen and Shen, 2014) but also with “low self-assessment” (Xianjun, 2015). The Constitution of South Africa Section 28(1) (a-g) states it very clearly that:

- Children have a right to protection. Right to parental care
  - Protection from maltreatment, neglect, abuse, or degradation
  - Right to be protected from exploitive labour practices.

While the Constitution guarantees the freedom for citizens to abide by the laws in terms of children’s protection and others, Reeds (2013) finds out that in the modern rural South African areas, levels of migration of parents are on an upward trajectory as parents leave their previous milieu of life for better opportunities. Most disturbing is the fact that despite the decision to end family migration, the sudden increase of women into migration and the
propensity of parents leaving behind their kids without migrating with them means that the battle is far from over (Posel, 2010).

Children left behind by migrating parents are reported to be worse than children living in the household with both parents in terms of their behaviour at school, self-assurance, and awareness of their environment and future (Wiley, 2015; Yanovich, 2015). Furthermore, these children are identified with marks of solitude, anxiety, and abandonment simply because their parents are absent (Yanovich, 2015). The reality is that biological fathers have important roles to play in children’s lives because they are their principal caregivers. Unfortunately, children who live without parents have fewer expectations and they run the risk of poor societal and emotive health motivated by the long separation from their biological caregivers (Wiley, 2015).

It is therefore very important that children be considered when making such decisions. In many cases, migrant parents find work abroad to improve the well-being of their families and better opportunities for their children over a long period (Yanovich, 2015). The migration will indeed assist in financial stability but can permanently destroy children’s social and emotional development. Several studies have found that children are negatively impacted socially and emotionally (Wiley, 2015; Yanovich, 2015). Children who are left behind by migrant parents face many challenges ranging from neglect, deteriorating academic performance, and health concerns. These may arise due to neglect and not being attended to urgently when they need attention. Family stability is also at risk. Children are at risk of human trafficking, rape, and abuse of all kinds (Yanovich, 2015).

A child’s quality of life and developmental trajectory is influenced by the home environment, which includes a lack of financial resources, suitable living arrangements, family connections, and parenting methods. It's possible that family stresses like parental absence, financial difficulty, family conflict, and bad parenting contribute to children’s cumulative disadvantages, which can have far-reaching consequences for their entire development. Indeed, the developing child is largely afforded the opportunities and experiences necessary to acquire the fundamental skills, behaviours, values, beliefs, and knowledge that enable him or her to engage successfully in social relationships, become competitive in schooling, and eventually have satisfactory adulthood, through the family (Maccoby, 1992).

For children, childhood should be a pleasant period. It should be a time for children to grow, learn, and develop, as well as receive love and care, play freely, and be active. They must
also feel safe and secure, be healthy, and be heard when they express their opinions on issues that are important to them. In many years to come, investments in children will bear fruit in the form of social fairness and enhanced human capital. It’s a sound and long-term investment. The South African Constitution lays forth a national design for a society that values the equality and dignity of all people, including children and adults (South African Government, 2011). It protects social, economic, and cultural rights, as well as adults and children’s civil rights and freedoms, and Section 28 specifically provides for extra rights that apply solely to children. As a result, children have a unique position in our constitution (Xingwana, 2011).

The Ministry of Women, Children, and People with Disabilities are dedicated to fostering an environment that facilitates the implementation of constitutional responsibilities, policies, and legislative frameworks in order to realize all children’s rights. The government has stated that democracy has made significant progress in establishing a better South Africa for children in recent years. It does, however, recognise that today’s children, caregivers, and communities confront several problems (Xingwana, 2011).

There is huge and rather varied attention that has been accorded by researchers in the literature suggesting that there are perturbing effects that children left behind go through due to the migration of their parents in terms of their schooling results (Wang, 2014: 1039 and Xie, and Roy et al., 2015: 20). While there has been a connection between the migration of parents and the performance of children in terms of their school results, other studies have also underlined the fact that poor performance of children at school may likely occur as a result of failure to provide the needs for the household (Ambler, Aycinena and Yang, 2015: 2015 and Malik, 2015).

Previous studies have made some claims about the destructive elements of the decision by parents to leave their children behind for better opportunities (Ruiz, 2018). There is a belief that the dearth of parental care is the reason why children underperform in many aspects of life (Mckenziw and Rapoport, 2011: 1334). On the other hand, Zhou et al. (2015: 1965) claim that there is no connection between parent migration and the way children perform in their academic work. Thus, such findings show a balance of ideas in the field to sustain the development of the work conducted in this domain of study.
Children who live with both parents receive more one-on-one attention from their parents than children who are left behind. With China’s high and growing pay rates, parents of left-behind children who work full-time in the city will almost surely have greater financial resources than parents of children who live with both parents, many of whom earn the majority of their income from small, near-subsistence farms. As a result, the study uncovered that children who are left behind do as well as or better than children who live with both parents. As a result, having more resources helps to mitigate the harmful impacts of a lack of parental attention, at least in part (Zhou, Murphy, and Tao, 2014: 278).

2.8. CONCLUSION

The current chapter provided a review of the literature and has identified the impact of migration on the well-being of children left behind by migrant parents. Thus, it has been noted that parents are motivated to migrate to different countries for several reasons including the search for a better life. Furthermore, extant research has confirmed that children may benefit financially and but on the other hand, they may be affected in terms of their health and education. Therefore, it is crucial to consider that there are both negative and positive effects of national and international migration of parents on children who are left behind in the countries of origin.
CHAPTER 3
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the research methodology that was used in the study. The philosophical foundation is provided first to set the tone and lay the foundation of the study. Furthermore, this chapter provides a discussion on the research design, sampling technique, target population, sample size, and data collection methods that were used in this study. In addition, a discussion on trustworthiness and credibility, data analysis, pilot study, and ethical considerations is presented in detail.

3.2. PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATION

Saunders, Thornhill, and Lewis (2012: 160) devised a research approach termed the research 'onion' to construct an effective procedure for performing a research study. The researcher starts with the research philosophy and works through each of the layers (research methodology, research strategy, and time horizon) to arrive at the data gathering technique. The research 'onion' model is used in this study, as shown in Figure 3.1.

![Figure 3.1: The research 'onion' (Source: Saunders et al. 2012: 85)](image-url)
According to Creswell (2014), philosophical worldview or philosophical orientation has an impact on research practice. According to Carson et al. (2001), the research philosophy helps the researcher to get a more in-depth and wide view of the topic. According to Saunders et al. (2009), the research philosophy influences the techniques, tactics, and methodologies used in the study.

Furthermore, according to Creswell (2014), there are four philosophical worldviews: positivism, constructivism, interpretivism transformational, and pragmatism. The interpretivism method is used for this research. Interpretivism advocates believe that knowledge is created or formed via experiences and social interaction (Creswell, 2014; Dudovskiy, 2013). According to Willis (2007), interpretivism generally tries to comprehend a specific situation, and the interpretative paradigm's basic assumption is that reality is socially created. Willis' statement supports the choice of interpretation for researchers whose purpose was to investigate a phenomenon because most research was constructed within a western paradigm. The context of their transition between cultures was important because most research was constructed within a western paradigm.

3.3. RESEARCH DESIGN

Research design is a blueprint that is developed to guide the researcher in the collection and analysis of data (Pandey and Pandey, 2015). The purpose of the research design is to show and provide direction so that the researcher can come up with findings that are valid, relevant, reliable and credible (Goering and Anton, 2015:44). Exploratory, descriptive, and causal research are the three types of study designs. Exploratory research aids in the discovery of fresh ideas and insights into a phenomenon by the researcher. It is sometimes used to describe the research topic and assist in the generation of alternative answers, whereas descriptive research is concerned with determining the frequency with which something occurs or the connection between variables (Saunders et al., 2016). Causal research, which usually takes the form of experiments, is aimed at identifying cause-and-effect correlations (Churchill Jr, Brown and Suter, 2010). An exploratory design was employed in this investigation. This study design was deemed the best fit because the researcher wanted to look into the social well-being of children in Durban who were left behind by parents who worked outside of South Africa's borders.
3.4. RESEARCH STRATEGIES

Creswell (2014:41) noted that the research strategy forms the basis for the selection of the type of research approach that should be used. According to him, a research study can be conducted using a qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method approach. Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill (2016:166) explained that a quantitative method examines the relationship between variables which are measured numerically and are analysed utilising statistical and graphical techniques. The authors elaborated that quantitative research could either be experimental and or survey research (Saunders et al., 2016:168).

Qualitative research, by contrast, uses different research strategies (DeFranzo, 2013:1; Nueman, 2014:51). According to Creswell (2012:4), qualitative research entails investigating meaning through interviews, observations, or document analysis, and resulting in non-numerical data. According to Dane (2011:46), qualitative research is more exploratory and aims to provide a full and detailed account of the study issue. Qualitative research looks at human behaviour from the perspective of its cultural, social, and political viewpoint (Salkind, 2012). The hallmark of qualitative research is that it generates a lot of data (Gagliardi and Dobrow, 2011), is interpretive and naturalistic in that it tries to explain beliefs and behaviours in the natural world (Draper, 2004). As a result, qualitative research is linked with a variety of methods, each with its focus, scope, and set of techniques (Saunders et al., 2016:169). The research strategies for the qualitative approach include narrative, case studies, phenomenological, action research, grounded theory and ethnography.

On the other hand, and for a mixed-method strategy, Saunders et al. (2016:170) explain that the researcher combines both the qualitative and quantitative strategies. Since this study sought to investigate, the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa, a phenomenological research strategy that follows a qualitative research approach was chosen for the study. Leedy and Ormrod (2010) point out that phenomenological research strategy aims to understand people’s perceptions, perspectives, and understandings of a certain situation. Therefore, the qualitative research approach was selected to obtain an in-depth understanding of perceptions held by caregivers of left-behind children in South Africa.
3.5. POPULATION

Population refers to a potential group of participants that the researcher wishes to generalise the results of the study (Salkind, 2012). Creswell (2005:145) who states that a population refers to individuals or subjects with some similar characteristics that a researcher can identify and study affirms this. Neuman (2011:246) believes that researchers select respondents from the target population to which the results will be generalised. The target population for this study was all caregivers of children in Durban and surrounding areas who are left behind by parents working outside South African borders. The caregivers were chosen as the target population for the study because they are responsible for the welfare of children daily. Hence, the researcher envisaged that caregivers can provide reliable information for this study.

3.6. SAMPLING METHOD

Sapsford (2007:51) defines sampling as a process of selecting people or subjects from the sampling frame, which are deemed as the representative of the target population. Sampling helps the researcher to achieve the set objectives. Kumar (2014:54) revealed two main sampling methods commonly used in research which are probability and non-probability. Probability sampling is the sampling technique where all the respondents in the population are given an equal chance of selection (Surbhi, 2016). An example of probability sampling includes random sampling, stratified, cluster and or systematic sampling (Kumar, 2014).

Whilst non-probability sampling can be understood as the unknown probability of each participant in the population being chosen (Surbhi, 2016). Thus, in the context of this study, a non-probability sampling method was adopted due to its ability to produces quality data and allow the researcher to select respondents based on certain characteristics or their appropriateness to the study (Farese, 2012). Neuman (2011:243) argues that non-probability sampling is the most appropriate sampling technique for a small number of investigative preliminary research and qualitative research studies. Alvi (2016) reveals that non-probability sampling includes convenience, quota, purpose, snowball, or maximum variation methods. The non-probability sampling method that was used in this study was purposive sampling. According to Surbh (2018:1), purposive sampling is used when the researcher uses his or her own judgment in choosing a sample. The choice of the sampling technique was based on the knowledge of respondents as caregivers. The researcher used his discretion to only select respondents that were deemed knowledgeable about the subject at hand (Salkind, 2012).
3.6.1. Sample size

The sample size is a small set of cases from a population that the researcher selects from and generalises to the population (Neuman, 2014). Most purposive sampling studies, according to Guest, Bunce, and Johnston (2006), recommend determining the sample size inductively and continuing until theoretical saturation is reached. The aforementioned authors, however, believe that researchers should not wait until saturation has been reached because most studies require the sample size or number of interviews to be done to be specified at the proposal stage. More data cannot be seen as better than less data, and vice versa, according to Fusch and Ness (2015), who contribute to the saturation issue by arguing that there is no uniform strategy to achieving saturation. The authors go on to say that rich and thick data acquired using proper data collecting methods and a well-designed study can help achieve data saturation. The sample size for this study was six families in the KwaZulu-Natal province specifically the city of Durban and the surrounding areas. Bearing in mind resources and time constrain, the small number of sample families was to allow the researcher to gain an in-depth discussion with the caregivers. Price, Jhangiani and Chiang (2015) suggest that semi-structured interviews should be carried out with a relatively small group of participants. Thus, a total of 6 females participated in the study.

3.7. DATA COLLECTION

Data collection is a process of collecting information from the respondents (Kumar, 2014). In this study, primary data was collected from the source using different methods. In addition, secondary data was collected from existing literature as described in the subsequent section.

3.7.1. Primary data

Primary data refers to data that is collected from the source by the researcher. Furthermore, this data was collected from the subjects of interest for the purpose of achieving the study objectives (Sekaran and Bougie, 2013:113). O’Leary (2014:201) suggests that primary data is data that has never been used and belongs to the investigator, seeks to address specific issues, and is dependent on the research process. In this regard, researchers can decide to collect data using interviews, observations, or questionnaires. Gray (2009:337) believes that questionnaires are the most widely used instruments for collecting primary data. Primary data helps to unearth new insights and enables the researcher to determine the context in which data will be collected (Farquhar, 2012:68). In this study, primary data was collected using interviews.
3.7.2. Interviews

A face-to-face semi-structured interview was used to collect the qualitative data for this study. Christensen, Johnson, and Turner (2010:109), state that semi-structured interviews allow the interviewer to create and use a framework of topics to explore by means of developing an interview guide. Maxwell (2013:135) explains that semi-structured interviews permit the participants the freedom to express their views on their own terms. Drake and Heath (2010:87), add that the semi-structured interview method is flexible and can provide reliable, comparable qualitative data. Leary (2011:23), states that semi-structured interviews are a technique used to collect qualitative data by setting up an interview that allows a participant the time and scope to talk about their opinions on particular topics or themes. Robson and McCartan (2016:117), highlight that the focus of the interview is decided by the researcher based on the areas or themes that the researcher wishes to explore. Lewis (2015:17) adds that the focused semi-structured interview comprises open sets of questions, allowing new ideas to be brought up during the interview because of what the interviewee says.

Kothari (2013:71) emphasises that the objective is to understand the participant’s point of view rather than make generalisations about behaviour. Maxwell (2013:138), cautions that the interviewer should consider well in advance the specific topics or themes that will be explored during the interview and accordingly prepare an interview schedule. Morling (2014:73) describes that a focused semi-structured interview allows the researcher to build a positive rapport with the participant, which allows for complex issues and questions to be discussed or clarified. Fowler (2013:108) believes that a semi-structured interview is beneficial if the researcher will only have a single opportunity to conduct the interview with the participants, whilst aiming to extract as much data as possible. In this study, once-off interviews were conducted with the participants at a place of their choice in Durban. The interviews lasted between 20 to 30 minutes and one interview was conducted per day. A brief explanation of each of the data collection methods used in this study now follows.
3.7.3. **Interview schedule and protocols**

In line with a qualitative research approach, a semi-structured interview schedule (Annexure 1) was used. The interview schedule comprised of the following, namely, a cover letter assuring respondents of their anonymity and a consent form. The interview schedule was developed based on the guidelines presented by Curry and Nunez-Smith (2014:121), pertaining to the types of topics, the sequencing, and the wording of the questions. The recommendations provided by Goodwin and Goodwin (2012:83-85), was used in preparing, conducting, and recording the interviews.

3.7.4. **Secondary data**

Walliman (2011:177) perceives secondary data as important because it helps to create the background to the study. In order to access secondary data, researchers interpret events that are premised on primary sources (Bell, 2010:128). In addition, O’Leary (2014:243), has noted that secondary data is situational and is data that is already in existence. Thus, most secondary sources have already been processed through statistical means. According to Walliman (2011:178), secondary data can be accessed in a documentary form (written and non-written) or survey data (statistical information). In this study, secondary data was collected by accessing existing published summaries in the form of academic journals, textbooks, media articles and reports, government publications, and unpublished dissertations (Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill, 2009:256).

3.8. **DATA ANALYSIS**

Regardless of the research methods used in data collection, data analysis is useful to make sense of the collected data. Wong (2008) defined data analysis as the process of searching and arranging transcripts, observation notes, or other non-textural materials to increase the understanding of the research phenomenon. According to Austin and Sutton (2014) qualitative data analysis can be achieved by coding sections of the text, writing down the researcher thoughts in the margins of transcripts, or making separate notes about the data collection. In this study, the collected data were analysed using content analysis. Graneheim, Lindgren and Lundman (2017) viewed content analysis as a method to analyse qualitative data. The authors explained that content analysis focuses on subject and context and emphasises variations between parts of the text.
Lewis (2015:67) claims that when analysing qualitative data, the move from coding to interpretation is crucial and involves the transcendence of factual data and cautious analysis by means of applying data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. The responses obtained from the interviews were coded based on the guidelines provided by Morling (2014:78). All interviews were recorded and transcribed using appropriate software (Nvivo version 11, QSR International, Ltd).

3.9. PILOT STUDY

The pilot test, according to Saunders et al. (2009:212), is used to enhance the interview questionnaire or guide to verify that there is no ambiguity or bias and that the questions asked are acceptable for data collection. Two people took part in the pilot research in this study. They were chosen at random to test the interview guide so that any required changes could be made before the interview was administered to the target respondents. Welman and Kruger (2003:191) agree with Saunders et al. (2009:212) that the purpose of a pilot study is to fine-tune the questions so that there are no difficulties with their interpretation during the real empirical investigation.

3.10. TRUSTWORTHINESS AND CREDIBILITY

Reliability and validity are often not discussed in qualitative studies. Rather, researchers use the concept of trustworthiness and credibility. Trustworthiness and credibility are names that are associated with the reliability and validity of the qualitative study. Kumar (2014) refers to credibility as a situation where the results obtained through qualitative research are agreeable to the participants of the research study whereas trustworthiness is the criteria for judging the goodness or quality of an inquiry. Rolfe (2006) noted the reader judges the quality of a report in a qualitative study. Graneheim, Lindgren and Lundman (2017) therefore advised that the researcher’s responsibility is to present the report in such a way that they persuade readers of its trustworthiness. According to them, this can be achieved by establishing accuracy during the research process such as giving trails that allows readers to understand how and why the decision was made in the study.
Thus, in order to ensure that the credibility and trustworthiness of this study are achieved, a pretesting was conducted in order to address problems related to the questions. Furthermore, the collected data were recorded, transcribed, coded, and cleaned (Anney, 2014). In this study, trustworthiness and credibility were established by thoroughly checking the data, coding, analysing, and presenting the data based on the emerging themes from the analysis.

3.11. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Salkind (2012), states that in ethical research, participants should be treated with dignity because they are human beings. The participants’ confidentiality and privacy should be respected and maintained (University of South Africa, 2007). An approval to conduct the study was obtained from the Durban University of Technology Institutional Research Ethics Committee (IREC). The proposal was reviewed and approved by IREC and subsequently, a number was assigned to the study (Annexure A: IREC letter). Respondents had a choice to withdraw at any given time from the study should they not wish to continue with it (Ketefian, 2015).

Ethics, according to Robson (2011: 199), are moral principles that were established by an individual or a group of people and were accepted as norms and behavioural expectations regarding proper behaviour. The right of the participant, informed consent and secrecy, and anonymity are three essential ethical principles proposed by Bayat and Fox (2007:148) as the foundation for research with human beings.

3.11.1. Right of the participant

There was no purposeful attempt to hurt or injure the participants in this research. Those who were subjected to any type of damage, whether physical, emotional, or psychological, were notified in advance of their right to withdraw from the study.

3.11.2. Informed consent

In this study, permission to conduct research was obtained from the mayors’ office and has been provided as Annexure B. Respondents were asked to sign a letter of informed consent which included information on the nature, purpose, and objectives of the study. In addition, consent to record the participants were obtained from each of the participants.
3.11.3. Confidentiality and anonymity

Saunders, et al., (2003:94), suggest that confidentiality entails that the information collected from respondents should not be divulged to the public nor made available to third parties such as colleagues, subordinates, or superiors. The researcher had informed participants that the information collected would be kept anonymous. To achieve this, respondents were given pseudo names to ensure that confidentiality is maintained, and the participants were anonymous. In addition, a cover letter was issued, and this made a provision to assure respondents that all responses that were collected in the study would be confidential and anonymous.

3.12. CHAPTER SUMMARY

This chapter presented the research methodology that was used for this study. The philosophical foundation used in this study was discussed in detail to ground the research. Furthermore, this chapter discussed the three types of research design, namely, exploratory, causal and descriptive research design. An exploratory and qualitative design was discussed in detailed and the reason for the choice justified. Also, the sampling methods, sample size, target population and data collection methods used in this study were presented. The data analysis methods, trustworthiness and credibility and the ethical consideration were discussed in detailed to explain and justify the different methodological steps that the researcher had used to guide this study.
CHAPTER 4
DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter summarizes the results of the data collection method, provides the findings and examines the semi-structured interview findings. The information collected from the interview was deductively categorized and examined thematically.

4.2. PARTICIPANTS BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

This section presents the biographical information of those who participated in the interview. The participants are described in terms of their age, gender, racial group, level of education, nationality, and income.

4.2.1. Age

The age group distribution of the interviewee was given in Figure 4.1. More (n=4; 66.7%) are within 45-54 age group while the others (n=2; 33.3%) are within 35-44 years.

Figure 4.1: Showing age group distribution of participants.
4.2.2. Gender

The gender of the participants is shown in Table 4.1. All the participants were females (n=6; 100%).

Table 4.1: Participant’s gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.3. Racial group

The participant racial group is described in Table 4.2. All the participants are African (n=6; 100%).

Table 4.2: Participants racial group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coloured</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.4. Nationality

In terms of their nationality, all the participants indicated to be South African (n=6; 100%).

Table 4.3: Nationality of participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South African</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.5. Education level

The age group distribution of the interviewee is given in Figure 4.2. Half (n=3; 50%) of the participants indicated to have only matric level of education, followed by those with diploma level (n=2; 16.7%) while 1 (16.7%) holds a bachelor’s degree qualification.
4.2.6. Income

The average monthly income of the migrated parents as indicated by the participants is given in Table 4.4. More (n=4; 66.7%) earn monthly basis between R10000-R20000 while the others ((n=2; 33.3%) earn between R20000-R30000.

Table 4.4: Monthly income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly income</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R500-R10 000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10 000-R20 000</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R20 000-R30 000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R30 000-R40 000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 40,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3. EMERGING THEMES AND SUBTHEMES FROM THE SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS WITH PARTICIPANTS

The analysis of the data gathered from the semi-structured interviews resulted in the identification of the themes and subthemes highlighted in Table 4.5.
### Table 4.5: Identification of themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>Subthemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Theme 1: Exploring reasons for temporal migration | Subtheme 1: Countries of migration  
Subtheme 2: Age and Number of children left behind  
Subtheme 3: Reasons for leaving children behind |
| Theme 2: Impacts of temporal migration | Subtheme 1: Negative Impacts on children left behind  
Subtheme 2: Positive Impacts on caregivers  
Subtheme 3: Challenges of caregivers or guardian  
Subtheme 4: Frequency of financial support |

Themes were identified in line with answering the research grant tour question that is:

- What is the impact that temporary migration of parents has on children left behind as they grow?
- What are the problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents?
- What is the standard of living of the people left behind and has it improved?
- What are the real reasons parents leave their children and look for jobs far from their children instead of relocating with the whole family?
- What are the solutions and strategies that can be implemented to curb economic migration by South African nationals?

In addition, significant statements from the data produced from the interviews were utilized to enhance the debate on themes. Semi-structured interview data were transcribed verbatim and utilized in the discussion as such. However, the identities of the interviewees have been altered to maintain confidentiality.

#### 4.3.1. Theme 1: Exploring the reasons for temporal migration in South Africa.

It has been suggested in the literature that migrant parents improve economic circumstances in the household. South Africa has witnessed a surge in temporal migration, particularly amongst parents that seek to provide more financial stability to their family (Reed, 2013: 75). This is being fueled by the high inequality, poverty, and high rate of unemployment.
Consistent with this, it emerged from the interview that most of the parents had migrated for financial gains. These are reflected in the statement below.

*When they for the first time, they didn’t have jobs but were promised to get within three months. They said the salaries were very low such that it was difficult to take care of their family, pay school fees for the children, and feed themselves. They stated that it was difficult to live in SA with low salaries and life is very demanding daily. They explained that they wanted to provide a good life for their children which were like a pie in the sky if they stayed in the country.*

(Caregiver 1)

They said to me it was always their dream to work abroad so that they make a lot of money for their family.

(Caregiver 2)

*The parents left in search of green pastures in the Middle East because they had secured a new job. Stated also that they have family in the Middle East. It will be easy for them to adjust with family around.*

(Caregiver 5)

*Parents found a new well-paying job outside the country and could not resist the offer.*

(Caregiver 6)

Apart from financial reasons, the pursuit of quality education, as well as avoidance of marital conflicts, were other reasons disclosed by the participants.

In terms of avoiding marital conflicts, caregiver 3 revealed the following:

*The reason they gave was that wife was making a lot of money because she left long before her husband. The husband was looking after the children and I was only responsible for doing house chores. They stated that they avoid marital problems which could have led to divorce if they were separated. That is why the husband followed her after two years. I didn’t have a problem with their decision.*

(Caregiver 3)

Drawing from the above comment, it is sufficient to assume that both parents’ migration is tied to economic gains. Presumably, one may be tempted to say that the high income been generated by the wife might have influenced the husband to join her whilst leaving the children in the hands of caregivers.
Additionally, Bennett et al., (2015: 323) points out that education purpose is an attractive possibility for migration. Resonating with this view, some of the interviewees reveal that migrant parents had migrated to seek a better education for themselves.

*They stated that education in South Africa is not up to standard, so they should leave for the States, also find jobs while they study.*

*(Caregiver 4)*

Although the complaint was that South African standard education was poor, it could also be gathered that economic gain was partly the reason for the migration. This finding is in agreement with Browne (2016) that education and economic or financial needs are the core factors of migration with the view to improve the social well-being of the migrant and their families. Contrary to the view that African migration was mostly due to issues related to recurrent conflicts, lack of social balance, governance policies, and or failure to secure job opportunities (Flahaux and De Haas, 2016: 1), the finding from above subtheme suggest that economic opportunities and the quest for quality education were the core reasons for South Africans temporal migration.

Moreover, it is noted in the literature that migrants who migrate for education purposes are normally from the middle-class that can afford the expensive fees in foreign schools (Punch and Sugden, 2013). This supports the assumption that not all temporal migration is for economic gains.

### 4.3.1.1. Subtheme 1: Countries of migration

Although there has been an increase in the migration of people from Africa to Europe (Flahaux and De Haas, 2016: 1), it is no surprise that the Middle Eastern countries have become the choice of most South African temporal migrants. This may be attributed to its strong and stable economy. The majority of the participants revealed that the Middle East was the destination most of the parents' children they provide care for have migrated to.

*They applied in and both were employed in one of the hotels in Dubai.*

*(Caregiver 2)*

*The parents left in search of green pastures in the Middle East because they had secured a new job*
(Caregiver 5) Australia and the United States of America happened to be another preferred choice for temporary migrating parents.

Parents are in Australia and only the wife is a professional nurse. The husband works as a bus driver in the same hospital where the wife works

(Caregiver 3) The parents left South Africa for the United States of America to pursue further studies.

(Caregiver 4)

Flahaux and De Haas (2016: 1) noted that many African migrants leave the countries to the continent for Europe, America, and Asia. This, perhaps, may be connected to the economic stability and standard of education available on these continents. This is in agreement with Zira (2016: 65) who noted that millions of people migrate to countries that are more safe, stable, and productive in job-related fields.

4.2.1.2 Subtheme 2: Age and Number of children left behind

Regarding the age and number of children left behind by the migrated parents, it was found that the majority were in the age group considered as teens while the numbers of children ranged from 2-4. From a South African context, refers to a person aged from 13 to 19 (Branson, Ardington, and Leibbrandt, 2013).

Three children. 2 boys and 1 girl. Ages are 17, 14 and 9.

(Caregiver 1)

2 Children, twins aged 12, both boys

(Caregiver 2)

I take care of three children. Two are a husband’s and one is for both. All three are teenagers. I am not sure of their ages, but they are between 13 and 17.

(Caregiver 3)

Four children, two boys and two girls.

(Caregiver 4)

Two children aged 16 and 11.
The above age group of children suggests that many of the children are still at a stage where they need parental love and care. This could have a negative consequence on child development and future endeavours. Haagsman and Mazzucato (2014: 1679) claimed that child left behind by migrating parents is psychologically affected, has less education performance, and are less likely to succeed in their life.

4.3.1.2. Subtheme 3: Reasons for leaving children behind

Undeniably, South Africa is faced with a social challenge that has seen the rise of violence and abuse, particularly for women and children. Some of these are gory tales of how young teenagers particularly the girl child is repeatedly abused by their supposed caregivers. Given this concern, it was surprising to know that parents would migrate to another country without their children, thus leaving them vulnerable and at the mercy of others. Accordingly, this subtheme aimed to explore the reasons why parents left their children behind. The following question was used to initiate a discussion and response “What were the reasons that the parents gave for leaving the children behind without taking them to where they were located?”

It was found that environmental consideration, particularly the challenge of the children acclimatizing to a new environment as well as the concern of disturbing the children’s school progress in South Africa were the main reasons noted why the parent left them behind.

*They wanted to go and settle down first before they can take the kids with them considering that it was a new environment. Children were in high school, so they didn’t want to disturb them. They promised to take them when they are ready to go to tertiary.*

(Caregiver 1)

*The mother had found a well-paying nursing job and they thought the children should join them at the beginning of a new school term than in the middle. They didn’t want to disturb kids at school and also their environment.*

(Caregiver 3)

*The parents want to acclimatize to the new environment and assess if it is the right environment for kids to grow and learn. They also stated that both kids did not like the idea of leaving the country to a totally new environment.*
(Caregiver 5)

Sharing similar sentiments as the above participants, particularly in terms of the children school consideration, caregiver 4 voiced that:

*The parents did not want to interfere with the studies of the kids since it was the midterm of the school calendar.*

(Caregiver 4)

Equally, it was revealed that the parents desire the children to start their early education in South Africa.

*The parents thought that it was best that they start school in SA. They also advised that they will only take them when things stabilize and when they are a bit older. They were still very young when they left. They were only four years when their parents left SA.*

(Caregiver 2)

Another notable reason expressed by one of the interviewees was the uncomfortable condition the parents found themselves in their new location.

*They were offered a small in house accommodation where children were not allowed. They had four children who were going to be difficult to take when they do not have their own house.*

(Caregiver 6)

Drawing from the above, it is sufficient to say that environmental issues and child education were the critical reasons why the parents decided to leave the children behind. The environmental issues illuminated by the interviewees may be related to the challenges faced in housing and finding education immediately for the children. This echoes the sentiment shared by Griffiths et al. (2018) that children who migrate with their parents are less likely to be admitted to local public schools in destination cities. Another concern raised for why the children were left behind was the challenge of accommodation. This supports the claim made by Tong, Yang and Kawachi (2019) that migrants' parents are faced with crowded and poor housing, hence they are constantly changing their place of residence. Besides, Haung and Tao (2015) noted migrants are not entitled to subsidise housing and social welfare; thus making it difficult to relocate with children.
4.3.2. Theme 2: Impacts of children left behind.

There is no doubt that parent temporal migration has a significant impact on the children left behind. These impacts could be positive and highly beneficial in terms of economic improvement and/or negatively impact child development (Haagsman and Mazzucato, 2014). Undeniably, children, particularly in their early stage of growth needs strong bonds with their parents. A child tends to have their parents as their early heroes in life and are inspired by them. This theme examines the impacts of temporal migration on the children left behind. The subtheme discussed includes the negative impact, and the positive impact.

4.3.2.1. Subtheme 1: Negative impacts on children left behind.

It is well documented in the literature that children who are left behind by migrant parents are negatively impacted socially as well as emotionally (Wiley 2015; Yanovich 2015). Moreover, it is noted that these children suffer signs of loneliness, fear, and neglect which could ultimately result in suicide or depression. Bearing this in mind, this subtheme explores the impacts of parent temporal migration on children that are left behind.

Of particular concern, and consistent with the literature (Wiley 2015; Yanovich 2015), it emerged from the interviews that children left behind are gravely impacted both socially and emotionally. It was found that these children felt lonely, deprived of parental love, faced challenges with school work, and more or less engaged in societal vices like substance and drug abuse.

*Loneliness due to the absence of their parents. Lack of parental care and feel helpless because they cannot do as they wish. No parental support when it comes to school activities. I cannot go to their sports or any activity where parents are supposed to join because of finances. They don't feel free to discuss their private issues with me especially the older ones. Nobody attends school meetings. They hardly participate in school activities because I don't always have money to pay for their school activities.*

(Caregiver 1)

In support of the above interviewee, caregiver 2 also stressed that the children suffer from parental love. This is inconsonant with Parreñas (2008) who noted that parental absence leads directly to decreased care, stimulation, and supervision. The consequence of these may result in low self-esteem as the children tend to compare themselves with other kids at school.
The children don’t have enough support in terms of parental love at home and money to take to school. They always compare themselves with other children at school. In addition, the kids tend to miss their parents and question me all the time. They are very withdrawn and sadly most of the time. They get angry even for small things because of frustration.

(Caregiver 2)

Equally concerning, children surround themselves with much older children may be an attempt to compensate for their parents not being around. This was hinted to harm the children as the caregivers suspect them engaging in illegal substances including drugs.

Always surrounded by big crowds of kids. Hang around with kids much older than them. They fight all the time about everything. I suspect they are on illegal substances such as alcohol and drugs. They abscond school a lot. School sends SMS’s to me since I’m the adult around them. They lie about everything. Parents transfer money directly into their accounts. Often comes home very late at night claiming they were at the library. They have no respect for me.

(Caregiver 3)

Another concern noted from lack of parental love was linked to the children’s poor school performance.

The lack of parental care as they don’t feel the same love. Adjusting to the new environment and new friends has been a problem. Poor school performance. Withdrawn. Demanding. Lack of respect. Spending money anyhow because there is a lot.

(Caregiver 4)

Added to the above, absent parents were noted to breed a child-headed home. It emerged that the elderly sibling takes in the responsibility of caring for the younger ones. This may have a long term psychological impact on child development from taking the responsibility of parents at an early age.

The children are very lonely and fond of missing their parents. The elderly one finds himself becoming a parent to the little one. It strains him because he is still a child himself and needs care. Parent’s transfer money into his account, he is responsible for buying food for us. It is too much for him since he is still at school. He needs to concentrate on his school work.

(Caregiver 5)

Equally, it was uncovered from the interview that children left behind suffer emotional and social issues like anger, loneliness, and withdrawal. This also reflects a lack of parental love and signs of psychological trauma.
Parents hardly call them. They miss their parents a lot. Parents visit home once a year. Always complaining about being broke and busy. Children are withdrawn and angry all the time.

(Caregiver 6)

The above finding confirmed the assertion that parent temporal migration negatively impacts the children left behind (Yanovich, 2015). It was extracted from the interview that children suffer low-self-esteem, loneliness, mental and behavioural problems. The finding resonates with other studies that children left behind are prone to loneliness (Smeekens, Stroebe and Abakoumkin, 2012), low life satisfaction and depression (Graham et al., 2012), low self-esteem (Xianjun, 2015), and behavioural problems (Luot and Dat, 2017). Moreover, and in agreement with Wiley (2015), children left behind may have fewer expectations. This may be the cause of the reported poor academic performance.

Equally, it was noted that children left behind run the risk of poor societal and emotive health. This is reflected in the revelation from the interview that these children hang out with wrong and older companions and engage in alcohol consumption as well as stealing.

4.3.2.2. Subtheme Positive impacts on children left behind.

The previous subtheme suggests that parent temporal migration has both social, emotional, and psychological impacts on children's development. Despite this concern, it has been noted in the literature that migrant parents working abroad have reportedly improved the well-being of their families and provide better opportunities for their children over a long period. However, a mixed reaction was noted when asked whether the standard of living or livelihood of the children improved since their parents left South Africa. While the majority of the participants indicated no tangible improvement in the children's welfare, others suggested otherwise.

Among the participants who disagreed that parent temporal migration had improved their children or family standard of living, it was uncovered that the children left behind have become worse off economically.
There is no improvement as things are worse now because the family has grown unlike when these children were staying with the parents.

(Caregiver 1)

The standard of living has gone from bad to worse because of meagre resources.

(Caregiver 5)

Another of the participants shared a similar sentiment. In the participant’s, own words:

Things have not changed because it is barely six months since the parents left and there is no substantial change we have seen or witnessed.

(Caregiver 2)

While also supporting the above views, caregiver 6 revealed that the migrant parents are still struggling to provide for the children.

The standard of living has not improved as we are still failing to buy things or provide for the children.

(Caregiver 6)

On the contrary, and in agreement with the popular notion that migration assists in financial stability (Zhao et al., 2018), two of the participants claimed that the family's financial condition had improved. They acknowledged that the migrant parents have been very supportive, regularly check on their children, and in some way spoil them with money.

We have not been experiencing problems because the parents left money to take care of the children. In addition, they phone regularly to check on them. They spoil their kids by transferring money into their accounts. They don’t use money wisely.

(Caregiver 3)

Yes, we have enough support structure and the parents have been supportive financially only.

(Caregiver 4)

The above narrative agrees with Gassmann (et al., 2018: 423) that parental migration was linked to the improved well-being of children left behind in terms of communication access,
housing, and many other things as provided in the well-being index. Zhou, Murphy, and Tao (2014: 278) attribute this to the parents having access to more financial resources. However, and supporting some of the findings from this study that the economic condition of the children left behind is not improved, other studies carried out in Ghana, Angola, and Nigeria on the welfare of children left behind did not find any substantial improvement (Mazzucato et al., 2015: 215).

While the impact temporal migration had on children remain debated as this above finding reveals, the World bank (2015) highlights in their report that the positive or negative benefits of migration on the children left behind may be dependent on the pull and push factors. These factors may perhaps be linked to access to financial resources by the migrant parents.

4.3.2.3. Subtheme: Challenges of caregiver or guardian

The previous subthemes revealed that despite the economic reasons for temporal migration, the standard of living conditions of some of the children left behind has not truly improved. Reinforcing these views, there was consensus in the caregiver’s testimony that lack of resources is the main challenge faced by them taking care of the children. Apart from this, it was noted that the children showed a total lack of respect and behaved unruly.

The biggest challenge is the lack of resources and money to take care of the children. Very little communication. Parents hardly call me or the kids. No discipline and arrogant children. I do not get time off since I work full time in this home.

(Caregiver 1)

I do not have a stable job to enable me to get money and resources to support my family and the children left behind by their parents.

(Caregiver 2)

The biggest challenge is the lack of money to buy food for the child.

(Caregiver 6)

Another notable concern mentioned was the challenge of assisting the children with their schoolwork.

The biggest challenge is trying to get the kids to adjust to the new environment in the absence of their parents. They have no respect for me. When I send messages to parents they do not respond. I don’t always have resources to assist the kids with their
schoolwork or sports. I get no respect from the children even though I am their relative. They often remind me that I am not their parent. It is very painful. I live with a broken heart all the time.

(Caregiver 3)

Equally, the above revealed bad behaviour displayed by the children left behind by their parents may be associated with a lack of parental care (Zhao et al., 2018). It is well noted in the literature that teenaged children are more likely to be withdrawn, unruly, and disobedient to instruction (Graham et al., 2012; Luot and Dat, 2017). Thus, they require individual attention and support as they undergo biological changes. Without their parents, this stage of their life may become challenging for the caregivers. These are reflected in the statements below.

The family has grown and becomes very difficult to give proper attention to the children as most young people need individual attention and stricter supervision. I do not have biological children, so it is difficult for me to understand their issues. We clash all the time and I find myself isolated by them.

(Caregiver 4)

Competition for resources as the family has grown but our earnings remain the same. I get paid very little and always find myself using my money to support these children. I get bullied by these kids if they do not get what they want. They do not respect me, and I think they learn this behaviour from their parents. If I need to cook, I have to ask a child to buy groceries, yet they demand food all the time. The big one abuses money by spending it with his friends.

(Caregiver 5)

4.3.2.4. Subtheme 4: Frequency of financial support by temporal migrant’s parents

While it has been indicated that economic stability and desire to improve the quality of life of their children influence the temporal migration of the parents, a critical point that emerged from the above subtheme was that the caregivers suffer from a lack of resources to look after the children. Given this concern, it was prudent to know from the participants who are caregivers how often the parents send resources for the welfare of children or communicate with the children. The participants, however, presents a mixed reaction to the question. While some acknowledge that the parents sent home money regularly, otherwise strongly
disagreed. For example, caregiver 1 vehemently claim that the parents hardly send resources nor communicate to the children.

*The family hardly sends help to us. There is hardly any communication between me or the children and their parents.*

(Caregiver 1)

In support of caregiver 1, another of the participants made a bold claim that the parents of the children are yet to send any resources since leaving South Africa.

*The parents of the kids have not sent anything since they left South Africa. I battle to make ends meet.*

(Caregiver 2)

*They have not sent any help six months now after they left South Africa.*

(Caregiver 6)

On the contrary, some of the other participants admitted that the parents send financial support. According to the account of caregiver 4, the parents send help regularly and have not let them down on any occasion.

*They send regularly and, in some cases, we make an urgent call when something is pressing and they have not let us down on any occasion.*

(Caregiver 4)

Added to the above, and in terms of the frequency of receiving financial support, caregiver 3 disclosed the following:

*Every month we get financial support in addition to the seed money they left with us when they were leaving South Africa.*

(Caregiver 3)

The caregiver, although acknowledged that the parents do send money home, however, noted that it was not regular.

*The parents do not send financial support on regular basis and this makes it hard for us to provide for the kids as they would have loved and wanted.*

(Caregiver 5)
4.4. CHAPTER SUMMARY

In summary, the above chapter had explicitly uncovered the positive and negative impacts of parent's temporal migration had on children left behind. It was found that the children suffer both emotionally, mentally, and psychologically.

This is manifested in their loneliness, rude behaviour, and disobedience. On the positive side, it was found that temporal migration has improved the standard of living for the children left behind. Although this claim was refuted by the caregivers citing their financial struggle to adequately look after the children due to lack of resources. Despite this claim, some of the caregivers acknowledged that the parents indeed regularly send financial support. Overall, and weighing the positive and negative consequence of temporal migration, this chapter conclusively suggest that parent temporal migration has no benefits for the children left behind as they suffer and display characteristics of children without parental love. The next chapter will provide the summary and conclusion of the study findings.
CHAPTER 5
SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1. INTRODUCTION

The preceding chapter provided a discussion of a qualitative analysis using the Nvivo software package and thematic analysis approach. The findings were compared to the literature review to evaluate the social well-being of children left behind by South African parents working outside the country. This chapter will provide a discussion on how each objective was achieved. Furthermore, the chapter will discuss the recommendations, limitations and direction that future research should take to broaden the body of knowledge. Lastly, the chapter will end with the conclusion of the study.

5.2. SUMMARY OF THE STUDY

In recent times, there has been a surge in the numbers of a parent leaving South Africa to other countries for greener pastures or better opportunities. The challenge is that these parents leave young children behind in the custody of relatives or what are known as caregivers. The study aimed to assess the social well-being of children left behind by South African parents working outside the country.

To ground the study and lay a strong foundation, an extensive literature review was conducted. Chapter Two of the study discussed the literature on the social well-being of children left behind by migrant workers. In this regard, the concept of migration was analysed extensively. It was noted that the specific motivations that lead countries to accept immigration inflows are economic, social, humanitarian, and cultural as well as historical reasons. Generally, it has been noted that migration in Africa is influenced by poverty and violent conflict such as war.

In the context of this study, migration is driven by work opportunities and the need to fend for the sustainability and well-being of households. Furthermore, chapter two discussed how parent’s migration affects the social well-being of children left behind in the hands of relatives and caregivers. Thus, despite the opportunities that migration presents, it also alters the
family structure. This means that parents are separated from their children and relatives. It was further noted that children left behind by migrating parents live in difficult conditions and are subjected to different challenges such as social instability, low education performance, psychological effects. Thus, children left behind show signs of present signs of loneliness, fear, and neglect.

Chapter three discussed the methodology that was used in this study. Specifically, the study used an exploratory research design. Qualitative research based on a phenomenological study was adopted to understand people’s perceptions. Caregivers were selected as respondents using a non-probability sampling technique known as purposive sampling.

5.3. REFLECTION AND EVALUATION OF OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve the objective of the study, several objectives were formulated. A qualitative study was undertaken to achieve the set objectives. The following is a summary of the objectives:

To assess the impact this temporary migration of parents has on children left behind as they grow.

To identify problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents.

To investigate if the standard of living of the people left behind has improved.

To identify the real reasons as to why these parents, leave their children and seek jobs far from their children instead of relocating with the whole family.

To identify solutions and recommend strategies that can be implemented to curb economic migration by South African nationals.
The following discussion will explain how each objective was achieved by comparing the findings derived from the analysis of qualitative data collected from the caregivers who were the respondents of the study.

5.3.1. **To assess the impact this temporary migration of parents has on children left behind as they grow.**

The first objective of this study was to assess the impact of temporary parents on the children left behind as they grow. Caregivers were asked to give their perspective regarding the impact of migration of parents on children and the findings that children left behind suffer emotional and social issues like anger, loneliness, and withdrawer. This also reflects a lack of parental love and signs of psychological trauma. This implies that the objective was achieved.

5.3.2. **To identify problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents.**

The second objective of this research was to identify problems and difficulties children face daily due to the absence of parents. The findings of this study revealed showed that these children face loneliness due to the absence of their parents. Due to the lack of parental care, they feel helpless because they cannot do as they wish. No parental support when it comes to school activities. Thus, the second objective of this study was achieved.

5.3.3. **To investigate if the standard of living of the people left behind has improved.**

This study investigated if the standard of living of the people left behind has improved. Based on the findings, a mixed reaction was noted when asked whether the standard of living or livelihood of the children improved since their parents left South Africa. While most of the participants indicate no tangible improvement in the children's welfare, others suggested otherwise. This objective was achieved as per the findings.
5.3.4. To identify the real reasons as to why these parents, leave their children and seek jobs far from their children instead of relocating with the whole family.

This study sought to identify the reason why parents leave their children instead of relocating with them. The findings of this study showed that that environmental considerations, particularly the challenge of the children acclimatizing to a new environment as well as the concern of disturbing the children's school progress in South Africa were the main reasons noted why the parent left them behind. This objective was achieved.

5.4. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this study the following recommendations are made:

There is a need to improve child and caregiver support. Generally, the caregivers noted that financial support was lacking. Therefore, it is recommended for parents to improve child-caregiver support. Regular financial support will help caregivers to provide adequate support and needs to the children both in terms of food, clothes and other needs to support their growth and well-being.

Regular communication should be encouraged between the parents and the children to assist them to settle down in the new environment but also to encourage them in many aspects of life. Regular communication with the children can also ease loneliness which was one of the findings concerning the impact of migration on the well-being of children.

Parents should relocate children immediately after they settle down. It was noted that children do not relocate with their parents in some cases to avoid disturbing their academic calendar. In this regard, parents are encouraged to relocate children once they are settled and the academic calendar has finished. This will provide an opportunity to grow in an environment where parents can be checking them regularly and monitor their academic or school progress.

The government needs to create an enabling environment that does not encourage brain drain and labour migration. South Africans are leaving the country because of high unemployment levels and unattractive salary packages in different professions.
Thus, the government must create an environment that will lead to creating more jobs but also review the minimum wage so that working in South Africa should be attractive. In so doing, such interventions will reduce or curb economic migration. Parents are also encouraged to provide financial support so that part-time teacher can be engaged during the after-school hours to keep them busy and also address the gap that has been created due to the absence of parents who are tasked with following up on the children’s academic progress.

5.5. LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE STUDY.

The study was conducted in Durban using a small sample size such that the findings cannot be applied wholesale to the whole of South Africa or other cities and countries. Future research should be conducted in a different cultural setting and with many more respondents so that a wider perspective on the discussion can be developed. In addition, comparative research between South Africa and other countries should be conducted so that a seamless intervention can be developed across many countries.

5.6. CONCLUSION

This study assessed the social well-being of children left behind by South African parents working outside the country. The welfare of children in South Africa is a matter of concern as there is a surge in the migration of parents from South Africa to other countries looking for opportunities and greener pastures. This study has provided an extensive discussion on migration and the social well-being of students left behind by migrants’ parents. Thus, the causes and impacts of migration were analyzed and discussed in detail. It is envisaged that the findings of this study will help scholars, practitioners, and society at large to understand the challenges students are facing but also to find better ways of managing such scenarios when they arise. The reality is that migration is a common phenomenon and is here to stay. Therefore, the application of the findings and recommendations of this study can be useful in the management of the welfare of children and society.
LIST OF REFERENCES


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ANNEXURE A: IREC APPROVAL LETTER

23 February 2019
Miss N E Buchelezi
2 Sunset View
449 Queen Elizabeth Avenue
Pietermaritzburg

Dear Miss Buchelezi,

Assessing the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa

The Institutional Research Ethics Committee acknowledges receipt of your final data collection tool for review.

We are pleased to inform you that the data collection tool has been approved. Kindly ensure that participants used for the pilot study are not part of the main study.

In addition, the IREC acknowledges receipt of your gatekeeper permission letter.

Please note that FULL APPROVAL is granted to your research proposal. You may proceed with data collection.

Any adverse events [serious or minor] which occur in connection with this study and/or which may alter its ethical consideration must be reported to the IREC according to the IREC Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs).

Please note that any deviations from the approved proposal require the approval of the IREC as outlined in the IREC SOPs.

Professor P N Pillay
IREC Chairperson (Acting)

DUT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
ANNEXURE B: LETTER OF INFORMATION

Dear Participant

Title of the Research Study: Assessing the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa.

Principal Investigator/s/researcher: Elaine Ntombizodwa Buthelezi (Bed Honors Education Management)

Co-Investigator/s/supervisor/s: Prof Jamila Kathoon Adam (PhD)

Brief Introduction and Purpose of the Study: I am a Masters’ Degree student from the Durban University of Technology. This study will focus on the social well-being of children left behind by parents working away from South Africa.

Outline of the Procedures: This study is targeting six families in the KwaZulu Natal province and specifically Durban and surrounding areas. You are asked to respond to 6 interview questions. Your experience and information regarding the welfare of the children left by parents working outside the country will be critical towards the success of this interview and study. The interview process will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Risks or Discomforts to the Participant: There are no foreseeable risks or discomforts or adverse effects to you.

Benefits: The outcomes of the study will increase the awareness of the important role the biological parent plays in his/her own child. It will also prove that being present in your child life which can be interpreted as active parenting is very important. Parents will in future make decisions that will always favor their families but mostly children.

Reason/s why the Participant May Be Withdrawn from the Study: Your participation in this study is voluntary and you may withdraw from the study at any time without giving reasons for such action.

Remuneration: There is no remuneration given to you for participating in this research.

Costs of the Study: There are no costs that will be incurred by you as the participant for this study.

Confidentiality: All information collected in this research will be kept private and confidential. You will be allocated a number and responses will be recorded under that number and not your name. Similarly, data that may be reported in academic journals or published will not include information that will identify you as a participant in this study.

Research-related Injury: There is no risk or research related injury to you.

Persons to Contact in the Event of Any Problems or Queries:
Name of Researcher: Elaine Ntombizodwa Buthelezi
Phone numbers: 0725720276
Email: zodwabz@icloud.com; 21751980@dut4life.ac.za.
Name of Supervisor: Prof Jamila Kathoon Adam
Phone number: 0313733093 / 0827860682
Email: adamjk@dut.ac.za.

Or the Institutional Research Ethics Administrator on 031 373 2375. Complaints can be reported to the Director: Research and Postgraduate Support, Prof S Moyo on 031 373 2577 or moyos@dut.ac.za
ANNEXURE C: CONSENT

Statement of Agreement to Participate in the Research Study:
I, the parent hereby confirm that I have been informed by the researcher, Elaine Ntombizodwa Buthelezi, about the nature, conduct, benefits and risks of this study - Research Ethics Clearance Number: ___________,
I, the parent have also received, read and understood the above written information (Participant Letter of Information) regarding the study.
I, the parent am aware that the results of the study, including personal details regarding my child's sex, age, date of birth, initials and diagnosis will be anonymously processed into a study report.
In view of the requirements of research, I, the parent agree that the data collected during this study can be processed in a computerised system by the researcher.
I, the parent may, at any stage, without prejudice, withdraw my child's consent and participation in the study.
I, the parent have had sufficient opportunity to ask questions and (of my own free will) declare my child to participate in the study.
I, the parent understand that significant new findings developed during the course of this research which may relate to my child's participation which will be made available to me.

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I, Elaine Ntombizodwa Buthelezi herewith confirm that the above parent/guardian of the participant has been fully informed about the nature, conduct and risks of the above study.

Elaine Ntombizodwa Buthelezi  
Full Name of Researcher  
Date  
Signature

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Faculty of Management Sciences
Department of Public Management and Economics
Durban

Date

Dear Parent/ Guardian

Thank you for agreeing to participate in my study titled: Assessing the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa. Attached is the letter of information together with the consent form. Kindly sign and return this form

I humbly request your assistance. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact either my supervisor or myself.

Yours sincerely

Ntombizodwa Elaine Buthelezi
Student
Contact Details: 0725720276

Prof JK Adam
Supervisor / Promoter
Contact Details: 082786082
2 Sunset View  
449 Queen Elizabeth Avenue  
Manor Garden  
Durban  
4001  
05 October 2017

The Director/ Manager  
Skills Development Unit  
Shell House  
221 Anton Lembede Street  
Durban  
4023

Dear Sir

Re: LETTER REQUESTING PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A RESEARCH

I am a Masters Student at Durban University of Technology in South Africa. I formally seek permission to conduct a research with six families in Durban and surrounding areas. The topic of my research is: Assessing the social well-being of children in Durban left behind by parents working outside the borders of South Africa.

The reason for conducting this research is to assess the well-being of children and the impact this temporary separation has on the children left behind home by parents. Findings of this research will be shared with the Skills Development Unit.

I humbly request your written approval to conduct this research in Durban and the surrounding areas.

Yours sincerely

Ntombizodwa Elaine Buthelezi  
Cell no: 0767923807
ANNEXURE F: INTERVIEW GUIDE

Opening script

I am interested to learn about your thoughts and experiences regarding the social well-being of children left behind by parents.

1. How many children are you taking care of and what were the reasons that the parents of the children gave for leaving South Africa?

2. What were the reasons that the parents gave for leaving the children behind without taking them where they relocated to?

3. What challenges are the children facing due to the absence of the parents?

4. What challenges are you facing as a caregiver or guardian of these children in the absence of their parents?

5. Has the standard of living or livelihood of the children improved since their parents left South Africa?

6. How often do the parents of these children communicate and send assistance or resources for the welfare of children?
INCWADI YEMININGWANE

Isihloko socwaningo:

Ukubhekisisa isimo senhlalo kanye nokuphatheka kwabantwana baseThekwini namaphethelo abashiyye ngabazali abasebenza ngaphandle kwemingcele yaseMzansi Afrika.

Owenza ocwaningo:

Ntombizodwa Elaine Buthelezi (Bed Honors Education Management)

Abambisene naye/ Umphathi:

Prof Jamila Kathoon Adam (PhD)

Inhloso ngqangeni emfishane yalolu cwaningo:

Lolucwaningo luzobheka ngqo ekuhlalisekeni nasekuphathekeni kahle kwabantwana abashiyye ngabazali abasebenza ngaphandle kwemingcele yase Mzansi Afrika.

Sizobheka ukuthi lokhu kwehlukana kxeskhashana kuza naziphi izinkinga noma izingqinamba.

Uhlaka lokuzokwenzeka uma senha lolucwaningo:

Ucwaningo luzoba nohlu lwemibuzo kanye nezingxoxo.

Ucwaningo luzobhekana nezingane ezizalwa yilabo bazali abasebenza ngaphandle kanye nalabo ababashiye kubo ukuba babanakekele ngesikhathi bengekho beyosebenza.

Bonke abazobamba iqhaza kulezingxoxo bayokwaziswa kuqala ngokubhalelwana imininingwane yocwaningo, bacacisewele kahle ngalokhu okuzokwenzeka.

Uhlaka locwaningo luyochazwa ngokucwele noma lokhu okulindeleke kwabazobe bephendula imibuzo.

Bazonikezwa ifomu elishoyo ukuba bayazi ngocwaningo nokuthi bayavuma ukuba yingxenye yalo.

Bayovunyelwa ukuba babuze nabo imibuzo ukuze bacaciseleke kulokhu abazophendula ngakho nokuthi izimpendulo zabo zingahlanekezelwa.

Imibuzo iyonikezwa labo abayingxenye yocwaningo ukuze b achazelwe ngayo kanye nokuthi bazophendula kanjani.
Ubungozi noma ukungaphatheli kahle kwababamba iqhaza:
Akukho lutho okusolakala nokubonakala kungaba yinkinga kwababamba iqhaza.

Okungaba yinzuzo
Imiphumela yalolucwangingo lungaqwashisa indawo ebalulekile edlalwa ngumzali emntwaneni wakhe amzalayo.
Kuphinde kuvele ukuthi ukuba khona empiweni yengane yakhoko njengomzali kubalulekile kakhulu.
Esikhathini esizayo abazali bayothatha izinqumo eziyoba nemiphumela emihle eqondene nemindeni kanye nabantwana babo.

Izizathu ababamba iqhaza bengahoxiswa ekubeni yingxenye yocwaningo
Ukuba yingxenye kuxhomeke kumuntu ngamunye akekho ophoqiwe.
Bangahoxa noma nini ekubeni yingxenye futhi akukho abayojeziselwa khona.

Amaholo
Akukho nzuzo noma iholo elitholakala ekubambeni iqhaza kulolucwangingo.

Izindleko zocwaningo
Akukho mali eyodingeka kulabo ababamba iqhaza kulolucwangingo.

Imfihlo

Ukulimala okuyamelene nocwaningo
Uzobuzwa kuphela imibuzo ekuvunyelenwe ngayo ebhalwe phansi. Akukho ukulimala okulindeleke kulabo abazoba yingxenye yocwaningo.

Abazothintwa uma kunemibuzo nomzi izinkinga:
Umnikazi wocwaningo: (0767923807)
Umphathi: (0827860682)
NOMA

Institutional Research Ethics (031 373 3093)

Izikhalazo zingabikwa kulaba abalandelayo DVC: TIP, Prof F. Otieno ku (031 373 2382) noma dvctip@dut.ac.za

Ulwazi oluvamile

IMIBUZO MAYELANA NOCWANINGO

Inkulumo yokuqalelela imibuzo

Nginentshisekelo yokufisa ukwazi ngezingqinamba kanye nezinselelo ezikhona ebantwaneni abashlywe abazali ukuyosebenza ngaphandle kwemingcele yeze.

1. Ngifisa ukwazi ukuthi ngabe bangaki abantwana obanakekelayo nokuthi zithini izizathu abazali abazinika abantwana babo uma bebashiya ngemuva ekhaya nawe?

2. Wena ngabe zathini izizathu abakunika zona njengomuntu omdala ozobagadela izingane. Ngabe yini eyadalala ukuthi bangazithathi ukuya laapho bayosebenza khona?

3. Ngabe yiziphi izinkinga kanye nezingqinamba abantwana ababhekana nazo ngokungabibikho kwabazali babo?

4. Wena njengomuntu obagadaya, ngabe ziyini ezakho izinkinga kanye nezingqinamba obhekana nazo?


6. Ngabe baxhumana kanjani kanti futhi kangaki nezingane zabo. Kungakanani abakuthumelayo okujabulisa nona okuthuthukisa izimpilo zezingane njengoba uzigadile?
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