



MEKELLE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES

**EXAMINING THE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING IN YOUTH CRIMINAL
BEHAVIOR IN POST WAR TIGRAY; A CASE STUDY OF HAWZEN
TOWN.**

By;

KIROS HAILESLASIE

Advisor ;

Teodros Solomon (Asst. Prof.)

**A RESEARCH SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF LAW AND
GOVERNANCE MEKELLEUNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENTS
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL
ART IN CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES.**

FEBURARY;2025

MEKELLE, ETHIOPIA

**EXAMINING THE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING IN YOUTH CRIMINAL
BEHAVIOR IN POST WAR TIGRAY; A CASE STUDY OF HAWZEN
TOWN.**

By;

KIROS HAILESLASIE

Advisor ;

Teodros Solomon (Asst. Prof.)

**A RESEARCH SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
MEKELLEUNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENTS OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL ART IN CIVICS AND ETHICAL
STUDIES.**

FEBURARY; 2025

MEKELLE, ETHIOPIA

Certification

This is to certify that the thesis prepared by Kiros Haileslasie entitled by: **Examining the factors Contributing in youth criminal behavior in post war eastern Tigray ;in the case of Hawzien town.** Submitted in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Civics and ethical studies and complies with the regulations of the University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

Signed and approved by the Examining committee:

Advisor

Signature

Date

Internal Examiner

Signature

Date

External Examiner

Signature

Date

Declaration

I the undersigned hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**Examining the factors Contributing in youth criminal behavior in post war eastern Tigray;in the case of Hawzien town**” is my original work and has not been presented for a degree, diploma or fellowship to any other University and that all the sources of materials used for the thesis have been dully acknowledged.

Place;Mekelle University; Tigray-Ethiopia

Researchers Name ; Kiros Haileslasie

Signature: _____Date: _____

Table of contents	page
Certification	i
Declaration	vii
List of Table	i
Acronyms and Abbreviations	ii
Abstract	iii
CHAPTER ONE	5
INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Background Of The Study	5
1.2 Statement Of the Problem.....	8
1.3 Research question	11
1.4 Research Objectives.....	11
1.4.1 General Objectives.....	11
1.4.2 Specific Objectives	11
1.5 Significance of the Study.....	11
1.6 Scope Of The Study	12

1.7	Limitation of the study.....	12
1.8	Organization of the Paper	12
1.9	Definition of significant terms.....	13
UNIT TWO		14
Review of the related literature.....		14
2.1	Introduction.....	14
2.2	The meaning and concept of “crime”, “Criminal behavior” and “youth”	14
1.3	Types of youths crime.....	15
2.4	Factors that lead for youths’ criminal behavior.....	17
2.4.2	Social Factors of youths’ criminal behavior.....	18
2.4.3	Drug and Crime	18
2.4.4	Economic Factors Influencing Crime.....	19
2.4.4.1	Poverty and Crime.....	19
2.4.4.2	Income inequality and crime	19
2.4.4.3	Crime and Unemployment	20
2.5	Negative impacts of crime in the lives of the society.....	20
2.6	Crime and strategies (approaches) of crime prevention	21
2.7	Theoretical framework of criminal.....	23
2.7.1	Psychological theories of crime.....	24
2.7.2	Psychodynamic trait theory	24
2.7.3	Cognitive development theory.....	24
2.7.4	Sociological theories of crime	24
2.7.5	Political science theories of crime	26
1.8	Conceptual framework of crime	27
CHAPTER THREE		Error! Bookmark not defined.
RESEARCH METHDOLOGY		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Introduction.....		Error! Bookmark not defined.

3.1 Research Approach and Research Design	29
3.2 Research Design	29
3.3 Source of Data	30
3.4 Instrument for data collection.....	30
3.4.1 Questionnaire.....	30
3.4.2 Open ended questionnaire	30
3.4.2 Key Informant Interview	31
3.4.3 Document Review	31
3.4.4 Observation.....	31
3.4.5 Focus Group Discussion (FGD)	31
3.5 Targeted Population.....	32
3.6 Sample and sampling procedure	32
3.7 Procedure	32
3.8 Data Analysis and Interpretation	33
3.9 Ethical consideration.....	33
CHAPTER FOUR.....	34
Data presentation and analysis.....	34
4.1. Demographic Background of respondents	34
4.1.1. General characteristics, age & sex distribution of respondents	34
4.1.2. Educational Level and Occupational Status of respondents	36
4.1.3 Religious characteristics of research participants.....	37
4.1.4What the common types of crimes and its rate of intensification in the study area	38
4.1.5Factors contributing to youths crime in Hawzien town	45
4.2 Approaches and strategies adopted to reduce youths crimes	50
CHAPTER FIVE.....	52
Summary, conclusions and recommendations.....	52

5.1. Summary of Major Findings.....	52
5.2. Conclusions.....	52
5.3. Recommendations.....	53
Reference.....	56
Appendix 1.....	60
Appendix 2.....	62
Appendix 3.....	64
Appendix 4.....	66

List of Table	Page
Table: 4. 1. General characteristics of respondents and areas of their selection	34
Table: 4. 2. Elucidates age and sex distribution of respondents	35
Table: 4. 3. respondents by their educational level.....	36
Table: 4. 4. Expounds Occupational status of research participants.....	37
Table: 4. 5. reveals research participants by their religious identity	37
Table: 4. 6: Shows Rate of crime in Hawzien town	39
Table: 4. 7: Shows common types of crime committed by youths in Hawzien town.....	39

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AU.....African Union

BA.....Bachelor of Art

KII.....Key informant interview

MA.....Master’s Degree

NGOs.....Non-Governmental Organizations

SNNPE.....Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia

UK.....United Kingdom

UNUnited Nations

UNICEF..... United Nations Children’s Fund

UNODC..... United Nations Office on Drug & Crime

USA.....United States of America

Abstract

The main objective of this study was to explore examining the factors contributing in youth criminal behavior in the post-war context of Tigray, specifically focusing on the case of Hawzen town. The researcher employed quantitative and qualitative research approach. Descriptive case study strategy was also used to analyze data. To get the relevant data both primary & secondary source were applied. Questionnaires, Key informants interview, life history questions, document analysis and semi-structured interview were used as data gathering instruments to identify the dominant factors of youth's crimes.

In this research around 23 males and 4 females in a total of 27 respondents were participated. To select participants' non probability sampling method and purposive sampling technique was used. Purposive sampling and cotta were employed to select from seven sub cities because all sub- cities are not assumed to be having similar attribute in the case of crime experience. Youths and diverse groups of people having with good knowledge and experience with the issue in the sub city were also purposefully selected as target population.

According the findings of this study theft, hanging and physical violence were the most common and frequently committed crimes in the area. The major factors of youth criminal actions were also socio-economic factors like unemployment, peer pressure, drop out of schooling, addiction of alcohol and drug abuse are the dominant once. Lastly this study suggested as the government, judicial system, academic institutions, elders, religious leaders, NGOs, the general public and all stake holders should play their roles in crime prevention & reduction activities.

Key words: *crime, youths, criminal offences, criminal action, commit, major factors,*

Acknowledgements

My deepest and heartfelt gratitude first goes to my advisor, Ato Teodros Solomon (Ass.prof.)for his initiation and providing me direction on how I am going to develop a research topic and how to write a proposal with its respective steps well.

My thanks also go to my brother Tesfay H/slassie for his endless consulting, informing and providing me technical support so as to accomplish the first draft of my research proposal. I extend particular thanks to my office for his encouragement and material support for the completion of this proposal. Finally my deepest thanks go to my families who helps me financially and encouraging me to accomplish my proposal.

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Teacher Birhan Tesfay, for her great support on supplying her computer and cooperation in writing as well as editing my research.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Of The Study

The concept of criminal behavior is deeply intertwined with theories of human nature, reflecting a complex interplay of biological, psychological, and social factors. Understanding why individuals engage in criminal acts requires an exploration of what drives human behavior and how motivations can spiral into actions deemed criminal by societal standards. Philosophical debates about human nature often delve into the question of whether individuals are inherently good or evil. Some perspectives, rooted in classical theories, suggest that humans have free will and rationality, positing that individuals weigh costs and benefits before engaging in crime (Beccaria, 1764). In contrast, positivist theories, including those proposed by Cesare Lombroso, argue that criminal behavior is determined by biological and environmental factors, leading to the belief in "born criminals" with distinct physical and psychological traits (Lombroso, 1876). Psychological theories of criminal behavior further complicate this understanding, highlighting cognitive and emotional processes that influence decision-making. For instance, the General Aggression Model explains how personal and situational variables can lead to aggressive and criminal actions (Anderson & Dill, 2000). This model emphasizes the importance of learning experiences, emotional arousal, and environmental context in shaping behavior..

Crime typically refers to an act or the commission of an act that is forbidden or punishable by law. In legal terms, a crime is categorized into two main types: felonies, which are serious offenses often resulting in significant punishment, including imprisonment for more than a year, and misdemeanors, which are less severe offenses that usually result in shorter prison sentences or fines. The definition and classification of crime may vary across different jurisdictions and legal systems, but some common elements include the requirement of an unlawful act, a societal norm that is violated, and the intent or culpability of the individual committing the act (Bennett & Hess, 2016).

The implications of crime are multifaceted and can significantly impact individuals, communities, and society as a whole. Different school scholar scholars state the following implications of crime. Individuals convicted of crimes face various legal consequences, including incarceration, fines, and a criminal record, which can hinder future opportunities (Tonry, 2019). Crime can also lead to a breakdown of community trust and increase fear among residents. High crime rates may deter economic investment and reduce community cohesion (Sampson & Groves, 1989). Crime has considerable

economic implications, including costs associated with law enforcement, legal proceedings, incarceration, and loss of property. Victimization can also result in emotional and financial burdens for individuals (Levin & Cohan, 2018). Victims of crime often experience long-lasting psychological effects, including anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Perpetrators can also face psychological ramifications and stigma (Harris, 2020). High crime rates often prompt changes in law enforcement practices, policy reforms, and community interventions aimed at crime prevention, which can influence wider sociopolitical contexts (Tonry, 2019).

. Another study by Cahill et al. (2017) in the United States found that during peaceful periods, youths were more likely to commit crimes out of boredom or peer pressure. However, during post-war periods, youths were more likely to commit crimes due to trauma and the breakdown of social structures. Overall, research suggests that the nature of youths' criminal behavior varies between peaceful periods and post-war periods, with different factors influencing their actions in each context. Here research is needed to better understand these differences and inform effective interventions to prevent youth crime in both settings.

The global trend of youth criminal behavior in the post-war periods has been influenced by various socio-economic, political, and cultural factors. After major conflicts, such as World War II, the Vietnam War, and more recently, conflicts in the Middle East, many countries faced significant social upheaval, economic challenges, and shifts in governance which have impacted youth behavior (Khamis, V. 2015).

The criminal behavior among youths in Ethiopia during the post-war periods has also a complex phenomenon influenced by a variety of socio-economic and political factors. The aftermath of wars, including the civil conflict has often resulted in significant dislocation, poverty, and social upheaval, which can contribute to increased criminal activity among young people (Moges, A., &Girma, T. 2021).The intensity of youth's criminalacts in Ethiopia during the recentTigray-Ethiopia conflict has beenreported to be significant.

According to a recent report by Amnesty International (2021), there have been widespread reports of young people being involved in criminal activities such as looting, vandalism, and violence in the aftermath of the conflict in Tigray region. The report also highlights the lack of accountability for such criminal acts, with many perpetrators going unpunished. Thus, youth criminal behavior is a significant issue in post-war Tigray, impacting the social fabric and wellbeing of the community.

Understanding the factors that contribute to youth engaging in criminal activities is crucial for implementing effective prevention and intervention strategies. This proposal aims to examine the various factors that influence youth criminal behavior in post-war Tigray, drawing on recent research and empirical evidence.

Peer Influence and Criminal Subcultures: In conditions of strain, youths may gravitate towards peer groups that promote deviant behaviors as coping mechanisms. The presence of gangs or groups that engage in criminal activities can provide not only a sense of belonging but also a way to achieve status and respect in an environment where traditional routes to success are blocked. Strain theory also emphasizes emotional responses, such as anger and frustration, which can result from unfulfilled aspirations. In post-war Tigray, youths may experience trauma and loss, compounding feelings of anxiety and anger. These emotional states can increase the likelihood of engaging in criminal behavior as a form of both coping and expression.

Post-war environments often experience disintegration of community structures and social ties. With weakened familial and community support systems, youths may lack the social capital needed to access resources or legitimate pathways for advancement. Strain theory suggests that this disintegration can exacerbate feelings of alienation and increase susceptibility to criminal behavior..

Hawzen is one of the most known wereda, which is found in Eastern zone of Tigray regional state and that has a long and old history. It has contained four kebelles and sub kebelles under its administration. People who are living in that area are engaged in various economic activities like farming lands, livestock products and small enterprises for the development of the area(survey on;2023 Agriculture rural Head office Annual report) .However most of the unemployed young gang memberships are committing different criminal actions all over the study area. Those mafia style groups commit organized crimes and because of this Hawzen wereda is the most vulnerable area even if the Wereda administration provided massive number of security forces and militias to control the criminal actions of those gang memberships of youths, the sense of social insecurity and fear of the community members is still common. Even if a crime is existed where ever and committed by whom so ever, this study focuses on Hawzen, a prominent worda within Tigray.

1.2 Statement Of the Problem

In ordinary language the term crime denotes an unlawful act punishable by law of a state. As it is stated on the urban report made by UN habit and facts about youth's crime (1992), crime is an index of lawlessness and disintegration of social order and youth criminal act is the root for more organized and sophisticated crimes that costs a very strong activity in order to tackle it.

Crime is a societal problem which exists in the womb of the society its solutions is more complicated as long as diverse factors of crime are allowed in the entire community. In almost all areas, crime is becoming disclosed to everyone that number of youths to commit crimes is increasing dramatically. (Radda, 1996).

As Edwin (2007) who is cited in Meti Kebede (2016) stated that the treatments of youths at their early stage, parental relationships, poverty and environmental conditions have played a great role on influencing youth's behavior. Fisseha (1996) in his research entitled with the consequence of urbanization consider as the economic, social and environmental factors like poverty, unemployment and spreading urbanization has been highly exacerbated the problem of youths crime.

Many researchers have conducted in different parts of the world on the areas of youths' crime in relation to its causes and consequences. For instance Sammy k. has conducted a research on the title of "Factors contributing to crime among male urban youth in Nairobi, Kenya". This study shows that youths crime is more committed in urban than rural areas because of the urban areas population growth rate increases from time to time as a result of rural to urban migration. In relation to gender, the study also shown us male youths were more involved in criminal offenses than females. However, even if Sammy K. has done the research well, he failed to state the major factors that lead youths to commit crimes and he did not show the gap that the study was going to address well.

Bimal K.N. (2013) has also done a study on the title of "Juvenile Delinquency: Its magnitude and impact at Gondar Town in Ethiopia", crime is more related with Urbanization, Economic, social and Cultural factors. Accordingly, this problem is universal in nature and found worldwide. Youths from different background are easily victimized and get involved in

different kinds of anti-social activities in the community such as crime involving theft, hanging, vandalism, or violence, these victims always suffers loss.

As Fereje Fanchu (2017), who has conducted a research on the topic of “Exploring the factors pushing criminal suspects to commit crime in Soddo town, SNNPE regional state of Ethiopia”. According to his study, many youths migrate from rural areas of the region to Soddo town every time. Those migrated youths faced many problems because of unemployment and poverty. This drives them to engage in different kinds of anti social activities like criminal acts. Fereje attempted to explore the driving factors of crime, but he did not clearly demarcate the age level of criminal offenders that were involved in crime and did not put the gap that he wanted to filled.

More over to this, Habtamu (2007) had made a research on the areas of “Trends of crime against women prison”. He stated the genetic factors of crime and related on how it influences men’s as well as women’s behavior. But it lacks the other factors of crime and its prevention mechanisms (strategies and approaches) of crime.

Kidanemariam G/tsadik (2016) also studied on the topic of “Community policing and its contribution in crime reduction in Hawzien town”. According to his research, crime is one of the major anti social problem in the city and he pointed out the dominantly common types of crimes committed in the study area and stated the strategies and approaches that the police officers used the criminal rates well. However, he failed to point out the major factors contributing for criminal acts of youths in the city.

From the background of the study, it is clear that Hawzien is facing social and economic problems. Among these problems, the fear of crime and disorder are some of the social problems that affect the quality of life of the whole community. As the statics made by justice office of Hawzien town(2025), the number of criminal offenders increases from year to year in a very alarming rate. Accordingly, from these offenders, youths under the age 16-29 were highly engaged in the criminal actions than other age groups. Similarly, the zonal police office annual report (2024), stated as the criminal rates of the city intensified every year. According to the police report, diversified, complex and serious crimes in huge numbers are committed in the city. In Hawzien tow from the year 2023-2025 there were 800 and 1200 criminals respectively (Hawzien town police office reports,2024).

Therefore as per the reports of the police and the court room the criminality rate was intensified rapidly from time to time. According to the report the most common and frequently committed crimes were theft, hanging, physical violence and other social disorders practiced dominantly. As shown in the aforementioned discussion, crime, fear of crime and situations of disorder in the town is increasing at an alarming rate.

As can be seen from the statistics presented earlier, there has been an increase in the magnitude, complexity and rate of crime. There are several reasons for this intensity of crime. There has been a misconception about the dangerousness of crime in the society, high rate of migration from rural to urban areas, lack of job opportunities other socio economic problems lead youths to commit crimes. The summary in the survey report of police (Hawzien town Police, 2024) in relation to youth's crime that corresponds to my personal observation of more than three years indicates that youth, being they are expected to be the most productive members of the society, they fail to achieve the expected responsibilities and they usually involve in so many criminal activities. So, being youth's crime is deep and serious problem that undermines the wellbeing of the society, it requires the major causes and prevention mechanisms well. That is why the investigator (researcher) wants to deal with this very serious issue and conducts a research by systematically investigate examining the factors in youth criminal behavior in the post-war context of Tigray, specifically focusing on the case of Hawzen town .So, when the researcher has come across observing and assessing in Hawzien kebele the involvement of youths in different kinds of criminal acts has been exited seriously. Because of this most of youths spent their work time in accusing each other, they did not feel comfort in their life time, they do not produce income even if they are productive members of the society and they could not be role model for the local community at all. Therefore, the researcher tries to know the root causes and major factors of criminal acts of youths and tried to recommend such managing systems so as to reduce the negative effects of the crime. These are the major reasons which initiate the researcher wants to conduct his research on this area.

Even if many researches relating to youths crime have been conducting in different parts of the world like in Israel, USA, Netherlands, UK, Canada and others; in Africa like in Ghana, Kenya as well as south Africa and in Ethiopia like in Gondar, Oromo and Sidama but although there are only few studies regarding the factors of youth's crime in our country, these few studies also did not found to raise the major factors of crime. So, the researcher

wants to undertake a study to fill the knowledge gap. Thus, this research is conducted with the intention of exploring examining the factors in youth criminal behavior in the post-war context of Tigray, specifically focusing on the case of Hawzen town

1.3 Research question

1. What are the major factors of youths' criminal behavior?
2. What types of criminal activities are youths involved in?
3. How do youth criminal activities in Hawzen Town impact community safety, economic activity, and social cohesion?
4. Which strategies are adopted to reduce youth's crime?
5. How can evaluate the existing approaches help to reduce youth's crime effectively?

1.4 Research Objectives

1.4.1 General Objectives

,The main objective of this research was to examining the factors contributing in youths criminal behavior in post war Tigray; the case of Hawzen Town.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

1. To assess the relative importance of different determinant factors contributing to youth criminal behavior.
2. To determine the types of criminal activities that youths are involved in Tigray; the case of Hawzen town.
3. To assess the influence of gender, age, education level, and family income on youth participation in criminal activities.
4. To identify the strategies adopted to reduce youth participation in crime in Hawzen Town.
5. To evaluate the effectiveness of existing approaches in reducing youth participation.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of studying examining the factors in youth criminal behavior factors in youth criminal behavior in post war Tigray;in the case of Hawzen town. Particularly in the post-war period, is multifaceted and crucial for several reasons criminal behavior in youth citizens. Because the post-war context in Tigray has significantly altered social, economic, and political landscapes. Identifying risk factors specific to this milieu allows for a better understanding of how these influences shape youth

behavior, which is critical for policymakers and community leaders looking to address crime. More over to this, by exploring the underlying causes of youth criminal behavior, stakeholders can develop targeted interventions and policies that are culturally and contextually sensitive. This is particularly important in post-conflict areas where traditional systems may be disrupted.

Understanding the factors that lead to youth criminality can help in fostering community-based approaches to reintegration and rehabilitation.

1.6 Scope Of The Study

This study proposal will be focus on exploring the risk factors associated with youth criminal behavior in Hawzen town, Tigray, in the post-war context following the Tigray conflict. The study will be localized in Hawzen town District. Hawzien town district have four kebelles .Based on researcher focus on the four kebelles. The research will examine youth within the age range commonly classified as adolescents and young adults (ages 16-35). These age groups are particularly vulnerable to influences that could lead

1.7 Limitation of the study

The study will focus on the specific geographical area, gender, educational and employment status of research participants. This is because it is too difficult to deal with all group of the society and all Hawzien town kebelles of the region in terms of time, material and budget and to handle as well as manage the study.

1.8 Organization of the Paper

The first chapters deal with introduction, statement of the problem, objective of the study, the research questions, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study. The second chapter presents varied reviewed literature; it also incorporates the conceptual and theoretical framework of the study. The third chapter deals with the research methodology followed by the description of the study area, research strategy, research approach, sampling procedure, data source and data collection tools. The third chapter stated the analysis part which contains the general characteristics of respondents, the data gathered via different instruments, the discussions and findings are included. The last chapter described the summary of findings, conclusions and recommendation parts. Finally the whole thesis was conducted on the basis of the planned methodology of the research to the extent possible.

1.9 Definition of significant terms

Youths: Refers to any individual between the ages of 16 – 35 as per the context of Ethiopia

Crime: Refers to illegal activities that cause harm to others and other peoples' property.

Criminals: individuals those who are committed on a certain law breaking act and punished by the legal authority.

Risk Factors: Variables or conditions that increase the likelihood of youths engaging in criminal behavior

Determinant Factors: Specific influences or causes that directly shape and guide youths' decisions towards criminal activities.

Criminal Activities: Actions that violate legal codes and are punishable by law.

UNIT TWO

Review of the related literature

2.1 Introduction

The word crime has been a topic of discussion for many years. A number of scholars have attempted to define crime in different perspectives. Numerous studies have explored the factors underlying youth criminal behavior in various contexts. In post-war settings, factors such as poverty, lack of educational opportunities, political instability, exposure to violence, and trauma have been identified as key contributors to increased rates of criminal activity among young people (Bolger Patterson, 2020). Moreover, the breakdown of social institutions and support systems following periods of conflict can further exacerbate the risk of youth involvement in criminal behavior (Bunting et al., 2019). This part of the paper deal with the views of various writing of scholars to give background information about the study. The chapter also presents a theoretical framework on which the study is premised. In Tigray, the recent conflict and displacement have had a profound impact on the lives of young people, leaving them vulnerable to various risk factors associated with criminal behavior. Research conducted in post-war Tigray has highlighted the link between exposures to violence, loss of Livelihood's, and disrupted education on youth engagement in criminal activities (Tesfaye et al., 2021). Additionally, the prevalence of substance abuse and easy access to weapons in the region have further contributed to the escalation of youth criminal behavior (Alemu&Teshome, 2020).So, this chapter deals with the concept of criminal behavior and the theoretical frame work developed from the study.

2.2 The meaning and concept of “crime”, “Criminal behavior” and “youth”

The word crime, being a social term, has multiple meanings. That's why is many scholars define it in different ways. According to Bohm and Haley (2005), crime is an international violation of law and which is penalized by the state (legal definition). Crime is also an anti-social behavior which violates the tradition, norm and morality of the society (social definition) (Ibid). A crime is simply a harmful act or omission against the public which the state wishes to prevent and which, upon conviction, is punishable by fine, imprisonment and death.

The concept of crime has become a central issue of criminal dogmatic in the developing criminal systems of many countries of the world. Having aside the many individuals' issues two essential points

of criminal law from both legal theory and practical reform aspects must be focused on the substantive definition of crimes and administrative offences.

Youth, as cited in Sintayehu Tilaye(2015), it is a life stage comprising a series of transitions from adolescence to adulthood, from dependence to independence and from being recipients of society's services to become contributors to national, political, economic and cultural life(Curtain,2003). Therefore the student researcher consider the term youth in this paper as it defines in the context of Ethiopia, which covers between the age of 16-35 years.

2.3 Types of youths crime

Many researchers' tries to distinguish types of criminal behaviors like (Gimod, 2001) distinguish between overt and covert crimes. Covert, less visible crime like embezzlement and feeling false information, but overt crime is easily identifiable, which involves the physical or psychological injury like homicide, armed robbery, attempted murder, sexual crime, and manslaughter (Gimod, 2001).

As Moser (2004) stated there are also many types of crimes in developing countries. There are violent crimes based on political, institutional, economic, and social violence. Even different scholars classified crime in different categories as: Personal crimes include assault, false imprisonment, battery, kidnapping, rape etc. property crimes such as theft, robbery, burglary, forgery, stolen goods etc. Moser (2004; 42) categorized the predominant type of crimes committed in different less developed countries. There were violent crimes based on political, institutional, economic and social violence.

Although there are many different kinds of crimes, criminal acts can be divided in to four categories. These include personal crimes, property crimes, inchoate crimes and financial crimes. (Retrieved from: <http://www.justia.com/criminal/offense>.)

Personal crimes are crimes that result in physical or mental harm to a person such as assault, battery, child abuse, kidnapping, rape etc. Property crimes relates with the interference of another property like theft, robbery and shoplifting. An inchoate crime also refers to those crimes that were initiated but not completed like attempt and conspiracy. Finally, financial crimes often involve deception or fraud for financial gain such as blackmail, fraud, embezzlement, money laundering, tax evasion and cyber-crime. (Ibid)

Crime is also classified based on the degree of criminal career and this criminal career involves organization of roles built around criminal activities. Such activities are; identification with crime, conception of a self as a criminal, extensive association with criminal activities and with other criminals and finally a progression in crime that involves the acquisition of more complex techniques and more frequent offenses. Accordingly, by taking the above grounds we can possibly categorize in to four types of crime (Clinard, 1979 cited in Wondimu, 2004).

Crime of violence: This crime implied as harm producing acts committed against people. These include murder, aggravated assault, forcible rape, abduction, kidnapping, armed robbery and burglary. Since this all act crimes use force, they are categorized under crime of violence.

Crime against property: these crimes commit against the wealth of another person by illegal means. Shoplifting, corruption, embezzlement, stealing and gambling are examples of crimes of property.

Crime against the state: these crimes are focused against the government and attempted to protest, to express negative opinion against the status quo or existing government structure, against the system of government etc. these crimes have impacts on violation of citizens' rights and civil liberties. Treason, sedition, Sabotage, assassination and unlawful assembly are examples of this.

Crimes against morality: these Crimes are also called victimless crimes because there is not complainant, or victim (Ashley, 2016). Adultery (prostitution), gambling, drug, homosexuality, alcoholism and Vagrancy are such examples. These offences are referred to as victimless crimes because it is assumed that no one is injured with the possible exception of those persons involved in these acts and these are called victimless crimes.

As Sanin and Jaramillo, 2000 in Moser, 2004 there are also different typology of crimes. These include; Armed Robbery- this type of crime is committed in most reported cases in Africa, the offenders usually being young males working in groups of three or more and unknown to their victims. (Pelser et al.2004). Shaw et al. (2003) argue that the case of robbery in developing countries is significant as it not only causes injury and loss of property to the victims but also because it raises the general level of fear of crime. This type of crime attempts to obtain property or a thing of value from a person by use of force.

Gang Violence and Vigilantism- the expansion of urbanization creates a crisis in (urban) governance fueling unemployment and the inability of public police forces and the security sectors of many

countries to provide adequate protection. This also leads to the growth of gangs, self-defense groups and so-called vigilantes. According to Muggah and Delfrotte (2007) the laxity of the police forces and security personnel has also led to the emergent of gangs and vigilante groups in developing countries urban centers in the veil of providing security to the inhabitants of slum and poorer urban areas.

Organized crime is the phenomenon exists everywhere that show multiple forms of crime, enabled by different actors that fluctuate and adapt to various environments (Organized crime index of Africa, 2019). According to Ashley, (2016), organized crime is committed by structured groups typically involving the distribution and sale of illegal goods and services. Many people think of the Mafia when they think of organized crime, but the term can refer to any group that exercises control over large illegal enterprises (such as the drug trade, terrorist group, illegal gambling, prostitution, weapons smuggling, or money laundering). These crimes are related to car hijackings, vehicle thefts, armed robberies, and burglaries of homes in upper-class areas and businesses, commercial crimes and even certain types of shoplifting (Schonteich, & Louw, 2001).

2.4 Factors that lead for youths' criminal behavior

There is no single root cause of criminal behavior. Criminal behavior is primarily the outcome of multiple adverse factors include social cause like inequality, not sharing power, lack of support, low value placed etc. economic factors such as poverty, unemployment and in family structure like parental disagreement, poor parental supervision, family low income, lack of communication and respect, neglect of children and family breakdown and so on are the major factors that cause crime. Factors contributing for criminal behavior of youths implies for those characteristics, variables, risks or anything that drive a person to commit criminal actions (Shader 2002 & Davies 2001). Accordingly numerous researchers have come up with various factors that cause for criminal behavior of youth people. Among this the following are the risk factors of youth criminal behavior.

2.4.1 Individual factors of youths criminal behavior

The personal and interpersonal factors of criminal behavior are depending on various risk factors like age, gender, mental health, impulsivity, attention problems, low intelligence, low school attainment, personal behavior and other personal characters. Individuals at the age of adolescence are more risky compared to other developmental stages of humans in all cultures (Shader;2002).. Therefore age by

itself has an influence on an attitude and behavior of individuals. As Agnew and Brezina (2012) cited at Sintayehu Tilaye (2015) males are more likely to involve in criminal actions than females especially in serious types of offences. Thus, gender is also another factor of crime. Other researchers also argue that individuals with different mental deficiencies are highly committed criminal actions than the so called “normal”. Individual’s personal behavior, personal experience and peer pressure are also other determinant factors that initiate to commit crimes.

2.4.2 Social Factors of youths’ criminal behavior

As we have already known, human is a social animal. Here researchers have tried to explain what the factors cause the social behavior that contributes youth’s crime. Among these living arrangements, challenges of marriage, schooling and peer influence are some of social factors of crime. As the Belgian statistician Adolph Queteled (2015) found that, the majority of crimes were committed by under educated people, the poor and younger males in the entire society. Not only are these there also many ways in which a society can restrain abnormal behaviors. Peer influence and schooling also has its stake on deviant behavior. Generally family conditions, peer influences and school attainments are some of the social factors influencing youth’s criminal behaviors.

2.4.3 Drug and Crime

Drugs are related to crime in multiple ways. Most directly, there are many sorts of correlation between illegal drug use and other kinds of crimes. Some of these relationships suggest that the drug use itself causes the crime. Because both drug use and crime are linked to other underlying social, behavioral, economic and cultural factors. Drugs and alcohol are one of the social factors that lead to crime. Criminologists estimate that thirty to fifty percent of crimes committed are due to the influence of drugs and alcohol (Renzetti, 2001).

Surafel Gedamu (2008) suggested that youths are increasingly commit crimes due to poor parenting style, family background of drug abuse and other. He mentioned that youths are highly use drug disproportionately to work out the psychological and related problems they are suffering from. Drug abuse generates and causes various types of violent criminal actions including disputes among individuals, initiate youths to participate in crimes, tend to be addicted and motivate them to involve in serious types of crimes such as homicide and drug trafficking activities. Because drugs cause abnormal

behavior of youths and lead them to involve in many violent actions. As Holtman, 2008 stated that drug users will ordinarily be violent, there is a perception that perpetrators under the influence of drugs are likely to be less inhibited, more aggressive and out of control. Different studies shown that young people who have been victimized in young age are at greater risk of themselves using violence, having mental health problems, offending or using illicit drugs (Billitteri, 2007). Therefore, the kinds of behaviors and circumstances which lead to law-breaking are often similar to those leading to victimization. So we can conclude that crimes are highly related with criminal actions of individuals.

2.4.4 Economic Factors Influencing Crime

As we already know crime is a multi-causative problem. Economic factors of crime are related with poverty, income inequality, social exclusion family background, and the average educational attainment of the adult population (Buonanno, 2003). Criminal actions may exist when individuals feel in some way materially deprived, because of poverty or unemployment. Therefore economic deprivation can cause criminality.

2.4.4.1 Poverty and Crime

As we have observed our environment most individuals are committed crimes to attain something. This is because of their income insufficiency. As Omboto, Odera and Ayugi (2013), suggested that most youths are in crime because of poverty, which drove them in to criminal acts for survival. So poverty is a life situation in which people are unable to access easily their basic needs including adequate food, facilities, standards and services. So, when individuals have difficulties to attain these fundamental necessities of humans lead to involve in violent actions. Youths who live in economically deprived areas are characterized by extreme poverty and poor living conditions. Therefore, by reviewing the above three authors' argument, we can conclude that one of the main factor that drive people to commit a crime is poverty.

2.4.4.2 Income inequality and crime

As all matters in the world are depending in economy, economic inequality may lead to different quarrels and chaos among different social groups in general and individuals in particular. That's why is numerous studies conduct researches on the relationship between income inequality and crime. There have been numerous cross-sectional studies of income inequality and crime that concludes as rates of

violence's are higher in more unequal societies. As cited in sintayehu (2015), a situational analysis research made on youths at Addis Ababa city established that, youths from low income households are found to be vulnerable for crime (Addis Ababa youth and sport bureau, 2009 as cited in Abraham Genet, 2010, p. 9). Similarly, individuals from low income families are more likely to become involved in crime than those from more affluent backgrounds. Thus, individuals with inadequate incomes contribute to criminal behavior. So, people with low income may engage in theft and other criminalities simply so as to get money to live, or they may perceive that they do not have viable alternatives to improve their economic wellbeing and living conditions.

2.4.4.3 Crime and Unemployment

The notion of unemployment is a strong probable cause/factor of violence and crime in the global level. There are several reasons as unemployment rate in a given area leads for criminal actions. Collier, 2000 suggested that unemployment was a source of grievance and create an opportunity for young men to engage in violence and join mafia groups. Similarly Ali, 2014 argued that with regard to crime, "Disaffected young people who lack the economic opportunities to raise themselves out of poverty are more vulnerable than adults to participation in crimes like armed violence, gangs, and drug trafficking and other illicit activities". As Oya, C.(2013), the implication of youths unemployment may cause for other forms of crime like terrorism, violent conflicts, membership of gangs and other collective/private crimes. More over to this many recent studies suggest that there is connection between increase in crime and in the vote of unemployment. From this one can understand that there is some significant correlation between crime and unemployment.

On the reverse, as UNODC, (2007) increasing in wealth is associated with lower levels of violent crime. Wealthier household are much more likely to experience property crime, while poorer households are more at risk to be victims of all violent crime. Generally speaking, unemployment is associated with higher levels of personal crimes.

2.5 Negative impacts of crime in the lives of the society

Crime is one of the unfortunate inevitabilities in the world, and can happen pretty much everywhere. Crime rates and criminal activity has long been at topic of discussion, especially in recent years because of the recent increase of violent crimes in the global community. As a result crime can have a very dramatic impact all over the entire community. Because increasing crime rates can have a negative

effect in the social fabric or the interpersonal relations between members of the community. As Buvinic and Morrison(1999), states about the direct effects, indirect costs, non-monetary costs, economic and social effects of crime. Direct costs of crime in the society includes medical, legal, policing, prison etc. indirect costs include lost earnings, lower human capital, psychological cost, lower productivity and investment. Non-monetary costs of crime involve pain, suffering and death. Economic impacts of crime include human capital, labor force participation, lower wages and incomes. Social impacts of crime include erosion of social capital, inter-generational transmission of violence and lower quality of life.

2.6 Crime and strategies (approaches) of crime prevention

Criminal behavior is an emotional issue, which draws on insecurities about safety and security (Carter, 2005). Crime is the omission of a duty that make the offender liable to punishment by law or a behavior that is prohibited, as well as behavior or an act that is required by law(Steven, 2003). In Ethiopia penal code of 2006, article 23, sub-article 1 Crime is “an act which is prohibited and made punishable by law (Ethiopia Federal Police, 2006).

Crime prevention is the attempt to reduce and defer crime and criminals. it is applied specifically to efforts made by government to reduce crime, enforce the law and maintain criminal justice. As Drisakis and Gkanas (2007) stated the proper actions for a significant reduction and effective prevention of crime rates has become a prior issue for every country, since criminal actions are presented through different forms, everywhere and in every time. So, here we can understand that to prevent crime we need to implement a national action plan, promote the adherence of law, promote primary prevention responses and soon.

As cited in Taye 2011, according to lab (2004, 23) crime prevention incorporates the ideas of lessening the actual level of crime or prohibiting further increases in crime.

The overall purpose of knowing/identifying the risk factors of youth’s criminal behavior is vital to provide appropriate solutions and to prevent crime effectively through the full involvement of citizens. This may lead to a situation where the citizens of a country feel free to live, secure, move and play in their respective areas without any tension. Crime prevention is an attempt to eliminate crime either prior to the initial occurrence or before further activity. According to the NCPI, cited in (Taye, 2011) crime prevention is a practical method for the direct control of crime. It involves

analyzing criminal attack methods and designing specific actions within the environments of potential victims to reduce criminal opportunities and manage the crime risk (Taye, 2011).

Crime prevention is a broad and multifaceted concept that involves various mechanisms and approaches aimed at reducing crime and enhancing community safety. Below are some of the primary crime prevention mechanisms and approaches along with examples of how states have successfully implemented them.

1. Situational Crime Prevention

Situational crime prevention focuses on reducing the opportunities for crime by modifying the immediate environment. This can include measures such as improved lighting, surveillance cameras, and the architectural design of buildings.

Example: In New York City, the “broken windows” theory has been applied through increased police presence and the maintenance of public spaces to deter petty crimes, which, in turn, has contributed to reductions in serious crime rates (Kelling & Wilson, 1982).

2. Community-Oriented Policing

This approach fosters partnerships between the police and the community to collaboratively solve problems related to crime and disorder. It emphasizes proactive measures rather than reactive interventions.

Example: In the United States, programs such as "Neighborhood Watch" have been successful in various neighborhoods, wherein citizens are encouraged to be vigilant and report suspicious activities, thereby cultivating a community-stylized approach to policing (Skogan, 1990).

3. Social Crime Prevention

Focused on addressing the root causes of crime such as poverty, lack of education, and social inequality these strategies aim to improve community health and education, thereby reducing the crime rate.

Example: Countries like Sweden and Norway have implemented social welfare programs that provide support services and education for at-risk youth, resulting in lower crime rates and a reduced likelihood of recidivism (Lappi-Seppälä, 2008).

4. Environmental Design

The Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) approach involves altering the environment to decrease criminal opportunities. This includes urban planning and the strategic placement of resources.

Example: Cities like Melbourne, Australia, have incorporated CPTED principles into their urban planning to enhance natural surveillance and reduce crime in public spaces (Jacobsen et al., 2017).

5. Restorative Justice

This approach focuses on rehabilitating offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community, which can reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

Example: Programs in New Zealand have used restorative justice successfully, allowing offenders to take responsibility for their actions and engage in dialogue with victims, thereby decreasing recidivism rates (Harris & Towl, 2006).

These crime prevention mechanisms have shown varying degrees of success in different contexts. States and local governments that adopt a combination of these strategies, focusing on both situational and social elements, tend to experience more significant reductions in crime.

2.7 Theoretical framework of criminal

Crime is a generic term covering a wide range of offenses. As a result no single theory is universally accepted by experts. Rather many theories have been forwarded to explain particular aspects of crime. Thus based on the objectives of the research and the field of study, the researcher focused on the determinant factors of crime. Accordingly, many scholars and criminologists suggested that understanding the real cause of crime remains a difficult problem (Seigel, 2003). Because searching for a 'single' cause in crime studies remains difficult because of the existence of

multiple causes/factors in human behavior. So as to deal with risk factor of crime, the student researcher is going to use different moral, social, legal, political and psychological theories.

1.7.1 Psychological theories of crime

Many psychological theories explain crime as caused by personality differences emotional process or easily child hood experiences. Different psychological researches analyze the effect of individual differences, personal behavior and psychological factors on criminal acts of individuals. Most criminologists believe that psychological factors may contribute too but fully explain criminal behaviors. Some of these theories include;

1.7.2 Psychodynamic trait theory

This theory was developed by Sigmund Freud in around 1800s and that deals with the history of crime studies (Siegel, 2005). According to him childhood experiences of humans can be taken as a cause for criminal behavior. He justified that the Id, ego and superego influences human behavior. Id is a primitive behavior and if ego does not control Id, the person will behave primitively and it may cause criminal actions (Siegel, 2005). Therefore our personal characteristics may cause crime.

1.7.3 Cognitive development theory

This theory was developed by Lawrence Kohlberg in around 1958 and he focused on moral reasoning by considering morality/laws and these thoughts are vital for predictors of criminal actions. This part of behavioral psychology claims that people learn their behaviors through rewards, punishments or other experiences' of people. According to the differential association theory, which is part of psychological theory, criminal action is a behavior, and that can be learned like other behaviors. People can learn moral or criminal acts with classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and modeling. Thus, the criminal act may increase with reinforcements or decrease with punishments. Rewards and punishments define the causes of criminal activity.

1.7.4 Sociological theories of crime

Recent sociological theories focus on the larger social environment such as communities or societies. Researchers try to understand why some societies have higher crime rates than others. Disorganization theory replied that inability of community members to achieve shared values leads for higher rates of criminal actions. Some environmental factors like physical, social, economic, cultural and political environments may shape behaviors of people. Poverty, unemployment, low education levels lack of social support and poor family experiences may lead to increase the

possibility of crime and these can be taken as risk factors for a criminal act. With regard to risk factors of crime different theories suggest various ideas. These include;

Strain theory

This is one of the socio-structural perspectives and which considers as social structure within the society can cause for criminal acts. When people experience with strain or stress, they can behave like a criminal to reduce and escape from negative feelings. If there are different levels and classes in the society, and these classes are not equal and fair, some people may feel stress and anger. This theory argues that discrepancy often exists within a society between its goals and its system of legal means for achieving success. These goals can be money, status and for adolescents the autonomy from adults. If there is a limited possibility to achieve these goals, people can commit a crime and tend to use some illegal ways.

Social learning theory

This theory explains crime via observing others' behaviors, people can learn criminal actions. Accordingly, the influence of family, friends, and media can shape behaviors of people. For example if there is a criminal action in the family, friends, television films, group of a person etc, individuals can behave criminal and aggressive behaviors. Therefore, family characteristics, child-rearing practices, parental criminality, peer influences, unemployment and school characteristics are some of other factors which may cause for criminal act.

Control theory

This theory is varied from the above two theories because both strain theory and social learning theory analyze factors which push a person to commit a crime, but this theory tries to understand why people obey rules. Breaking the stated rules may lead to crime. That's why controls and restraints prevent individuals to commit a crime. Here there are three types of control these include direct control, stake in conformity and internal control. Direct control is performed by family, school officials, co-workers, neighborhood residents or police. Stake in conformity on the other hand intends when there is strong emotional attachment to conventional others in conventional society to reduce the possibility of a criminal act. Internal control is also another effective way of controlling crime where someone has good self-control skills. For example if a person believes that

crime is a bad s/he will not commit a crime whereas if a person has low self-control, s/he will have impulsive, insensitive, risky behaviors, and these will increase criminal actions. Therefore crime is caused by our poor self-controlling systems.

1.7.5 Political science theories of crime

Political scientists state down different theories to describe crime and its causes. These several theories help to explain how political and governmental processes influence conceptualizations of crime. These theories relate to individual choice, conflict, societal labels, and power dynamics. Understanding these concepts is crucial to the process of separating scholarly analysis from political rhetoric on crime. Accordingly the following theories can describe about crime and its causes. These include;

Social conflict theory

This theory assumes that societies are built on conflict and competition between disparate groups (Bohm, 2001). Conflict theorists view criminality as a large social problem that “is a byproduct of political and social conflict”. Crime is a direct result of conflict that results from stratification or power differentials between groups; it emerges from a sense of relative powerlessness (Vold & Bernard, 1986, as cited in Bohm, 2001). This theory suggested that class/group conflict causes crime in any society. Here the laws and law enforcement are used by dominant groups in society to minimize crimes by institutions of criminal justice to secure order in the society. The criminal justice system and its policies are in place to meet the needs of the dominant group. Therefore power holders should create stable society by assuring equal enforcement of the law and order among all members of the society.

Critical (Radical) theory Critical theory is a type of classical school of thought which developed first in Frankfurt school by Marks Heirkheimer in 1937 and that describes the Neo Marxist philosophy in all about the societal change. This theory has a positivism perspective and which attempts to produce social order as well as predicate human behavior. Critical theories focus on some assumptions like political leaders should create social structure, society is based on conflict between groups, and science is inherently value-laden (Bohm, 2001). So, crime can have the power

to create social and political instability. Thus, crime as one of the anti-social problem requires preventing and controlling it to the extent possible.

Rational choice theory is derived from the classical school and that assumes as opportunities, risks, and benefits are weighed before a crime is committed and that decision-making process may vary at different stages and with different types of crime. If the gains outweigh the costs, criminal behavior can occur. Accordingly, individuals come in to crime to attain something (benefits). Thus, we can conclude that poverty, unemployment and income inequality can be taken as a risk factor of crime.

2.8 Conceptual framework of crime

The conceptual frame work of the study concerns on the youth's participation in crime and which basically emphasizes on the risk factors of crime on the basis of age, gender, level of education and employment status of the youth under considerations. Accordingly, most crimes are committed by youth in the urban areas and these crimes will have economic, social, moral and psychological factors.

Psychologists suggest that all human behavior, be it criminal or not, is a product of psychological and environmental inputs that inhibits individuals' action. Criminal actions like hanging, assault, rape, and theft are parts of human behavior. As David M. Buss, 2012 stated, these types of criminal behavior are common in every cultural groups and perpetrated many times more by males than by females. Some sociologists like D. Zembroski, (2011) explained as the cause crime is a conflict among societies to attain resources and the illegitimacy of such a distribution. Their justifications are relative with economic deprivations and these scarcities may lead individuals to criminal behavior. Moralists also stated as failing to respect the moral rules and moral duties may cause the criminal behavior of individuals.

2.1 Figure; Conceptual frame work of crime

A. Independent Variable

Socio economic factor

- . Poverty stricken family
- . Unemployment
- . Congested neighboring
- . Immoral and delinquent parents
- . Disreputable morals in the neighbors' hoods

Family socialization factors

- *unfavorable conditions at home
- *single parent hood
- *Unhappy family
- *Lack of parental measures

Dependent Variable

Peer group influence

- *Drug abuse
- *Cultism
- *Criminal role models
- *weaken bonds between parents
- *Rejection by normal

Youth involvement in Criminal Behavior

- .Theft
- .Robbery
- Rape cases
- .Cultism
- .Killing
- .Drug peddling
- .Drug abuse & addict

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHEDODOLOGY

Introduction

This part of the paper would present the research techniques and trying to accomplish the study objective and also answer the research questions. Therefore it consists of the approach, design data gathering instruments, research site, target population, sample and sampling techniques, data analysis, and ethical issues.

3.1 Research Approach and Research Design

Research design is a framework or blueprint for conducting a research. It contains all the necessary information needed to structure and solve the research problems.

Thus the Design of this particular the research design was Case Study. The reason behind using descriptive study is that the researcher is interested in describing the existing situation under study. The research employed Descriptive research method. Descriptive research methods in a single study to understand a research problem (Fischler, 1997). This is because, qualitative research have many advantages which were chosen by researchers to achieve researchers objective of the research. Some of the advantages attract researchers to employ qualitative research are: qualitative methods research design approach can be employed when the concern is with the people because the researcher wants to study in depth and detaile (patton,1990). And provides more evidence for studying a research problem qualitative research alone.

3.2 Research Design

The study employed Case Study research design. According to Polit and Humger (1999) cited in Selamawit (2015) Case study research provides an accurate account of characteristics of a particular individual, event or a group in real-life situations. It is a type of research design where the human's behavior, feelings or thoughts have been tried to explain from the existing context. Therefore, this study will be use descriptive because it focus on examining the factors in youth criminal behavior in post war Tigray;a a case study in Hawzien Town.

3.3 Source of Data

The study was utilizing both primary and secondary data which were accessed from various sources. The primary data was generated mainly through questionnaires and in-depth-interview with key informants, which have been allow a researcher to produce a rich and varied data set in a less formal setting and a more detailed examination of experiences, feelings or opinions. Data gathered from primary sources was further substantiated by a critical review of secondary sources. In addition, government guidelines, policies, directives about current situation were to enrich the findings.

3.4 Instrument for data collection

For triangulation purpose, this study utilized a variety of data gathering tools. In order to collect data from the primary sources, this study has been used survey questionnaires, key informant interviews and literature review. The detail is explained as follows

3.4.1 Questionnaire

The researcher prepare questionnaire which is semi-structured (closed and open ended) questions and administer to collect a wide range of data from respondents. The questionnaire were design by the researcher and administered by the same and by trained enumerators under direct supervision of the researcher .The questions were prepared in English language and translated in to the Tigrigna. Therefore, In order to achieve objective of this research the researcher was employed questionnaires because of the following merits:

- It is free from bias of the interviewer; answers are in the respondents' own words.
- Respondents have an adequate time to give well thought out answers.
- Large sample can be made use of and thus the result can be made more dependable and reliable (Kothari, 2013).

3.4.2 Open ended questionnaire

A questionnaire is an effective way of data gathering instrument. As Barr, Davis and Johnson said, a questionnaire is a systemic compilation of questions that are submitted to a sampling of population from which information is desired. Both W.J. Goode and K. Hall also defined questionnaire as a device for securing answers to questions by using a form which the

respondent fills in him. Therefore the researcher was used both the open ended and close ended questionnaire so as to obtain a reliable and genuine data from the selected respondents.

An open ended questionnaire was translated in to Tigrigna language and distributed to youth's affairs officers, first instance court judges and public prosecutors so as to get sufficient information about youth's criminal issues.

3.4.2 Key Informant Interview

In this study, key informant interview was conducted to collect the necessary data in order to make the study more complete. Both structured and semi structured interview will be administered. This is because, using only one type of interview may leads to less rich data or information. Semi structure question is mainly use because it is allow the researcher to go beyond systematically prepare questions. Therefore, individuals who are expected to have background information on criminal behavior is contact and interview. The potential respondents are from Hawzien Justice Office, social courts, and police community government officials.

3.4.3 Document Review

In order to ensure the relevance of collect data, the researcher is carry out a detail and extensive review of existing literature on area of examining factors in youth criminal. This would be include different published books, conventions, combined and documents in related with the study area, legal documents such as websites, government reports, various journals, articles and research papers.

3.4.4 Observation

This tool is also used as a primary data source and which is crucial to gather a data in a very detailed and visible manner. As (Merriam, 1998) which is cited by Birhanu (2012), participant observation is a major means of data gathering instrument in case study. In the same way Wamahilu and Karugu (1995) stated as the researchers sense organs are the main tools to gather information in a means of participatory observation. So, this data instrument is advantageous to get appropriate data by creating smooth interaction and participate well on the issue with the research participants. As a result it would help to gather genuine information and maximizes the quality of the study

3.4.5 Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) is a qualitative research method used to gather diverse perspectives from a group of individuals who share common characteristics or experiences. It typically involves a

small group of participants (usually 6-12) who engage in guided discussions about specific topics, facilitated by a moderator. The aim is to explore participants' attitudes, beliefs, and experiences in a dynamic environment that encourages interaction and debate, Koss, M. P., & Heslet, L. (2014).

3.5 Targeted Population

Population is any group of individuals that have one or more characteristics in common that were of interest to the researcher. For this research the population is the employee select offices of Hawzien Town District of eastern Zone of Tigray regional State of Ethiopia.

3.6 Sample and sampling procedure

In this research study, to determine Non probability procedures. Because the different factors were taken in to consideration including research cost, time, accessibility and availability of respondents. Therefore, the researcher use purposive sampling techniques in which the researcher subjectively defines a typical case and then tries to select those individuals presented to best reflect the required information. According to Survey; 2023 population Hawzien town the residents were Total 42,600 and of which 21,537 are female while the rest 21,634 are males. Accordingly, among the total population 27 respondents were selected purposively and cotta systematic. From this 2 respondents from youths' affair officers that are the chairman and vice leader of the youth's association so as to get the right data. He also gathered an appropriate data from different sectors those who have a good knowledge about the causes, consequences and methods of minimizing criminal behavior include 5 police officers from police community centers, 2 judges from first instance courts, 2 public prosecutors from the justice office, 3 from special police force, 3 from militia officers, 2 from traditional courts officers, 4 parents (elders) from the community dwellers, and 4 from correctional center officers of the sub city would be taken as a sample on the basis of their performances, positions and personal status of respondents purposefully.

3.7 Procedure

In order to get relevant data to conduct this research, the researcher would be first ask permission the head of human resource management to get workers and necessary body those who have been included in sample to give information from concerned bodies. Then after, the participant understands the reason why they were engaged in interview and the researcher start to ask necessary questions. Concerning questionnaire, after the questionnaires are distributed enough time is given

for participants in order to get valid data from participant. The entire instrument of data collection is held by face to face with participants.

3.8 Data Analysis and Interpretation

For this research study, descriptive methods of data analysis have been used to describe and interpret the collected data. In other words, data which were study by quantitative and qualitative in nature was described, classified and concepts has been connected with one another. The quantitative data was analyzed through simple statistical and thematic methods like percentages and cross tabulations to facilitate meaningful analysis and interpretations of the research findings.

3.9 Ethical consideration

Ethical consideration is moral codes that were intended to be followed though for doing research. Hence, the researcher addressed all ethical considerations from the beginning and ending. Interviews and questionnaires are explained about the purpose of the study to the participants. Participants are not voluntary to use the tape-recorder to record all the information with the permission grants from the participants and are not take the photos of the participants to ensure the informed participants. According to the interest of the participants researcher is keep information of participant in secret. Then, at the end of the interview and questionnaires session the participants are thank for their time.

CHAPTER FOUR

Data presentation and analysis

Introduction

This chapter deals with analysis and interpretation of collected data about the factors/causes of youths crime, commonly committed crimes and the strategies used to prevent crimes in the study area. This research was conducted through qualitative approach methods and it thematically interpreted its discussion and narrating by describing the data well. The first part of this chapter includes the demographic background of the respondents; the second part includes discussion of the major factors/causes of youth's crime, the third part focused on the common types of crimes in the study area and lastly the strategies and approaches of crime prevention were part of a discussion.

4.1. Demographic Background of respondents

4.1.1. General characteristics, age & sex distribution of respondents

This category provides the demographic profiles of respondents in the qualitative research methods. The background information of informants is essential for the interpretation of findings and understanding of research result in the report. The demographic characteristic includes respondents' age, sex, educational level & occupational status.

Table: 4. 1. General characteristics of respondents and areas of their selection

Respondents selection area	Sex and their selection areas of respondents			
	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Hawzien Town police office	3	2	5	18.5
Judges first instance Court	2	-	2	7.4
Traditional court	2	-	2	7.4
Militia officers	3	-	3	11.1
Special police force	2	1	3	11.1
Youths affairs office	2	-	2	7.4
Police community	4	-	4	14.8
Public prosecutor	2	-	2	7.4
Religious leaders &Parents (elders)	3	1	4	14.8
Total	23	4	27	100

Source: own survey, 2025

From the above table we can understand that 5(18.5%) Hawzin town police officers from each kebelles, 2(7.4%) Judges first instance Courts, 2(7.4%) Traditional court officers 3(11.1%) Militia officers, 3(11.1%) Special police force , 2(7.4%) youth affairs office 4(14.8%) correctional center, 2(7.4%) public prosector,and 4(14.8%)parents(elders) dwellers a total of 23 males and 4 females were the research participants of this study.

This implies the respondents were purposefully selected from diverse groups of the society by considering the knowledge, relevance, competency and their experience in relation to the topic so as to obtain pertinent information in the study. With regard to gender distribution males were more dominated than females. As the feminist perspective like the feminist criminologist Elizabeth Stanko (1985) pointed out crime is disproportionately committed by men than women. That’s why the researcher was highly emphasized on males because most of the criminal acts were committed by males whether individually or in groups. So the researcher suspected that males can provide accurate information than females from what they have seen in most criminal actions.

Table: 4. 2. Elucidates age and sex distribution of respondents

Age of respondents	Age & Sex characteristics of respondents			
	Male	Female	Frequency	Percentage
16-29	17	3	20	74.1
30-45	3	1	4	14.8
46-55	2	-	2	7.4
56 and above	1	-	1	3.7
Total	23	4	27	100

Source: Researcher’s own survey data, 2025

Table 2 shows that respondents age 16-29 were 17 males &3 females and these age group accounts 74.1% of the total respondents, age 30-45 participants were 3males and 1 females and this holds about14.8% of the total participant of the study. Moreover, respondents age 46-

55 accounts 7.4 % and the age 56 and above contained 0 female and 1 male that holds 3.7% of the study. So, in this study the majority age group respondents were laid on youths within the age of 16 up to 29. Having obtained data from all the above age levels was very crucial to get the diverse views and knowledge about the factors that lead youths to commit various types of crimes.

4.1.2. Educational Level and Occupational Status of respondents

Educational level is another important personal characteristic of respondents because education is very essential for oneself and the well-being of the society. Education determines people’s life for the coming bright world to have a capacity, opportunity for work and generate income. In relation to this idea, respondents were asked about their level of education because which helps the researcher to know the major factors of youth’s crime and to provide appropriate solutions so as to reduce the criminal acts in the study area. Accordingly the table below shows the educational status of respondents.

Table: 4. 3. Respondents by their educational level

Educational level	Sex & Educational level of respondents			
	Male	Female	Frequency	Percent
Illiterate	2	-	2	7.4
Grade 1-8	4	-	4	14.8
Grade 9-12	5	-	5	18.5
Certificate	2	2	4	14.8
Diploma	4	2	6	22.3
Degree	6	-	6	22.3
Total	23	4	27	100

Source: own survey data, 2025

According the above table out of 27 respondents, 22.3% were with BA degree, 22.3% owned diploma, 14.8 % hold Certificate, 18.5% were from Grade 9-12, those who able reading and writing (Grade 1-8) were 14.8%, and the rest 7.4% were illiterate. Here majority of the research participants have took high governmental positions and held first degree status and this helped the researcher to get logical and mature ideas in relation to the crime cases well. So, from the above table as many international evidences suggest that, increasing in

educational attainments provides a valuable contribution on knowing the causes and crime reduction mechanisms.

Occupational characteristics is also another vital element in this study that helped the researcher to identify the participant of the study in which type of occupation are engaged in.

Table: 4. 4. Expounds Occupational status of research participants

Occupational status of respondents				
Occupational status	Male	Female	Frequency	Percentage
Unemployed	6	-	6	22.2
Governmental employee	14	3	17	62.9
Non-Governmental employee	3	1	4	14.9
Total	23	4	27	100

Source: Researcher’s own survey data, 2025

According to the above table out of 27 total respondents 22.2% was unemployed, 62.9 % were engaged in governmental jobs, and 14.9 % were non-government employees (private workers). Therefore, even if diversified groups were involved in the sample, most respondents were taken from governmental workers than the other occupational statuses. Those governmental workers were involved in keeping the peace and security of the study area. That’s why is the researcher highly emphasized on the members of the justice office than the rest in order to obtain reliable and accurate data in relation to the criminal cases.

4.1.3 Religious characteristics of research participants

Table: 4. 5. reveals research participants by their religious identity

Religion	Male	Female	Frequency	Percent
Orthodox Christianity	20	3	23	85.2
Muslim	3	1	4	14.8
Total	23	4	27	100

Source: Researcher's own survey data, 2025

The above table shows that the majority of the respondents 85.2% were lies on Christian Orthodox. Out of these respondents 85.2 % were males and 14.8 % were females, Muslims accounts 14.8% of the total respondents, out of these 11.1% were males and 3.7% were females. From this table we can understand that the respondents were took from various religious groups.

Crime by every religion can be taken as an immoral and unaccepted activity which always convicted by all religious groups. Even if all religions avoid such criminal actions, paradoxically crime was committed by all religious followers. For instance, majority of Muslim offenders go to Sheri 'a court to deal with their conflicting issues rather than in social courts. Similarly, all religions have their own crime prevention mechanisms. The followers of Orthodox Christianity have larger population than any other followers that's why Orthodox Christians were the highest respondents than any other followers in this study. This was the reason why the researcher incorporated from all religious groups so as to obtain accurate and reliable information.

Generally speaking the researcher purposefully took a sample from diverse groups of people having with a diverse age, gender, religion, educational and occupational backgrounds in order to have reliable information about what the factors that initiate youth's crime, the commonly practiced types of crimes and the strategies of crime reduction mechanisms in the study area.

4.1.4What the common types of crimes and its rate of intensification in the study area

As many researchers suggested that crime is committed whenever and everywhere else. However the rate and type of may vary from place to place. Accordingly the researcher

explored the documents and records of police office and court rooms of Hawzien town as to know the crime rates and common types of crimes that youth were engaging in the study area.

Part I: Document analysis on the Rate and type of crimes in Hawzien town

Many assume that high crime rates or an increasing crime rates caused a decline in all aspects of human life. So crime has a negative impact in the lives of the entire community. This is because when individuals engaged in various criminal activities, the economic, political, social, psychological and moral stability of the society can be jeopardized abroad.

Therefore, crime is one of the hot social issues in our society fundamentally in Hawzien Town. According the data gathered from court room of the sub city depicts that crime is increased from year to year, within four years (from 2023-2024) as the table shown below.

Table: 4. 6: Shows Rate of crime in Hawzien Town

Year	No of criminal Offenders	Sex			Age distribution of criminals			
		M	F	T	16-29	30-45	46-55	>55
2023	210	200	10	210	170	30	8	2
2024	251	242	9	251	160	85	6	-
2025	310	300	10	310	195	99	13	3
Total	771	742	29	771	525	214	27	5

Source: Annual reports of court room in Hawzien Town. 2023-2025

From the above table the researcher explored the total criminal offenders that were sentenced in the consecutive three years annual report of Hawzien town court room registrar office. Accordingly, the criminality rate increased in every of the three years. In relation to the age distribution youth engagement in criminal activities was higher than the other age levels. The study also found that there was significant difference between genders in committing of crimes and as per the table shown males had highly participated in criminal actions than females. Therefore the criminal rate of youth offenders intensified from time to time in the study area.

Table: 4. 7: Shows common types of crime committed by youths in Hawzien town

Crimes committed in the sub city	Number of criminals engaged in	Percent
Theft/ robbery	100	46.7

Physical violence	59	27.6
Hanging& pick pocketing	17	7.9
Attempting to kill	5	2.3
Motor cycle theft	4	1.9
Damaging property	5	2.3
Sexual harassment	6	2.8
False testimony	5	2.3
Traffic related crimes	6	2.8
Other petty crimes	7	3.3
Total	214	100

Source: Annual reports of court office in Hawzien; 2025

The above table elucidates that youths were involved in various types of criminal acts. In the annual report of Hawzien court office 2025 there were 340 sentenced criminals and from these total criminal offenders 214 of them were youths. As per the table above around 100 criminals (46.7%) were participated in theft, 59(27.6%) engaged in physical violence, 17(7.9%) in hanging & pick pocketing, 5(2.3%) attempt to kill, 4(1.9%) involved in motor cycle theft and the remaining 29 individuals were engaged in different types of crimes. Thus from the above document majority of the offenders were involved in theft crimes, physical violence and hanging in the study area.

Similarly as per the document analysis of Hawzien police office report 2023-2025 there were huge numbers of criminal suspects in the study area. As per the data provided by the police officer of the sub city there were 210,251 and 310 criminal suspects in 2023-2025 respectively. From these suspected criminals 210, 251, and 310 individuals were justified as they were criminals and sentenced by taking from simple to sever punishments depending on the severity of their criminal acts.

Concerning the police report the criminality rate of youths was intensified from time to time. In addition to this the police officer stated that most of the criminals who were engaged in committing crimes were male youths. There were different types of crimes in the area such as theft, hanging, gambling, robbery, physical violence, damaging property, false testimony, land related crimes, traffic related crimes and other sever & petty crimes were commonly committed in the area. This was because of the rapid population growth in the area, high rate

of unemployment, immigration, addiction, idle mindedness and others were the major causes of youth's crime.

Part II: key informants interview with judges, public prosecutors and police officers on the Rate and type of crimes in Hawzien Town

The key informant interview was made with two first instance court judges, two traditional court and five police offices of Hawzien town so as to know about the criminal rate and what the common types of crimes in the area.

Accordingly the first instance court judges Mr. X and Y were justified as the criminality rate of youths in the area is escalating up due to variety factors in these three years than ever before. The judges indicated that many types of crimes just like organized crimes, crimes against persons, crimes against property and many other forms of crime were visualized in the area. However, even if different forms and types of crime are existing in the sub city, theft, (robbery, pick pocketing, motor cycle theft), physical injury, and hanging crimes were the most frequent offenses in the sub city.

As the key informant interview by social courts, Mr. X and Y were youth involvement in crime at Hawzien town was also found very high. As per the traditional courts, many illegal and immoral activities were happened in these three-two years than before. These criminal acts should violate against the legal, moral and social order of the community.

As the police officers Mr. X, Y and Z said, stable and peaceful coexistence of the society depends on the effective implementation of the law and order in a given state. That's why crime investigation and prevention is one of the major responsibilities of the justice office. Having these in minds, the justice office stated as there are many types of crimes which are highly committed by youths in the study area. These crimes include stealing, robbery, arson, hanging, physical violence and many others. Even if several types and forms of crime were committing in the areas their degree of severity was also varied depend on the nature of the crime. In the same sense the police officers of the sub city were also shared the above ideas too relating to the rate and types of crimes in the study area.

Thus the researcher has come to see that all the above-mentioned informants were justified as the criminality rate of youth offenders become very high in the consecutive three years than ever before. More over to this even youth were engaging in various types of crimes, theft, physical violence and hanging were the most common and frequently committed crimes in the area.

Part III: Semi structured interview with militias, religious leaders, and elder parents on the Rate and type of crimes in Hawzien town

Semi structured interview was made with all the three militia coordinator officers, four elder parents, and the rest four religious leaders were taken to state full information about the types and rates of crime in the sub city.

As the militia's coordinator officers cited

They were keeping peace and security of the sub city every day and night. While they were visiting their surrounding areas to prevent crimes, they faced various challenges like stealing, hanging, robbery, vigilantism, pick pocketing, and many other offenses especially at bars and hotels in the night time. Even if the militias as a peace keeping force organized well in this time comparing with the last two /three years the criminality rate is increasing in the recent years.

Both religious leaders and elders were also stated that

As crimes were an immoral, illegal and a sin in our religion as well as in the social context of our society, our youths are involving in this anti-social activity. All our religious books (whether our Holy Bible or Quran) absolutely condemned crimes. For instance the Holy Bible of orthodox Christianity under the guiding principles of their religion stated the ten commandments of the God and any type of crime like stealing, killing, prostitution and others can be considered as sin and an immoral act. More over to this the Holy Bible of Muslim religion also stated as any form of crime is an immoral act. Even both religious leaders and elder parents attempted to guide youth's right way by providing religious education and counseling services, the criminality rate is still increased.

In the same sense youth residents of the area also justified as number of youth criminals intensified in these years. Due to many factors, youth were involved in gambling, theft, hanging, and other immoral and illegal activities. As per the youth interviewee theft and hanging are the most dominantly types of crimes in their area.

Part IV: Open ended questionnaires with youth affaire office, first instance court and public prosecutors on the Rate and type of crimes in Hawzien

Open ended questionnaires were prepared in English language and then translated in to Tigrigna language so as to make the questions clear and understandable to all the respondents to the extent possible. Then after the question papers were distributed to the above aforementioned respondents well. Accordingly as the youth's affairs office also stated that crime can never be eliminated as long as the entire community existed. In other words crime can exist with the existence of the social groups. However, the nature of the crime and its severity rate may decline for the over all aspects of the society. By considering this victimization the youths affairs office in collaboration with the peace & security force, the residents and other concerned bodies of the society struggled to prevent crimes. But even if there were great efforts contributed by all these groups, the criminality range of youths spreads in an alarming rate. As per the youths coordinators of the sub city described even if there were many petty and capital types of committed at different periods theft, hanging, physical injury and organized crimes were frequently appeared in the sub city.

Part V: personal story of victimized groups on the rate and type of crimes in Hawzien town

With regard to the types of crimes and its intensification rates the researcher was found three individuals and invite them to tell him for what has happened in the study area. Accordingly the respondents were replied the event for how and when the accidents were happened as follows:

"I was born in Hawien woreda & I am living in Hawzien town Tabya (kebelle) Bazen. I am a civil servant in governmental institution and I was new to this sub city. I am living lonely. Once upon a time my friends called me to enjoy together. Then I agree and enjoyed that night up to around 3:00 pm. After

completion of their invitations I left them there and I went back home. While I was reaching around my home someone greeting me by shaking my hands and unfortunately some other one came automatically and hanged me. Then after I felt fainted and when I wake up after few minutes no one was there. While I was searching my pocket my mobile phone and some amount of money (around 4200 birr) were lost. Finally I informed the issue to the nearby police community police office but no one was arrested.”

As we have shown in the above story there was a criminal practice of hanging in the study area. As per his further description many youths were organized to engage in such types of crimes such as hanging and theft.

The other second respondent was a female and she stated all what has faced in the area in line with the issue of criminality as follows.

“My name is” Y” and I was born here in Hawzien town kebele Marta. I work in private business and I had a mini market shop. One year ago, while I was at the shop three youths came and asked me to buy different items. Then when I shift my face back to search the items that they ordered me, they took some goods and run to skip. At that time I felt nervous and I shouted loudly for help. Suddenly two police men and other neighbors were there. Then after the police men were cached up one of the thieves and arrested him. After a deep investigation three of them were controlled by the police force and each of them was sentenced for around three years.”

From the above personal story of the residents of the Hawzien town kebele Marta, we can understand that the crime of theft was highly committed by youths in the Hawzien town.

The third respondent also mentioned for the challenge faced at the study area as follows.

“My name is Mr. X.Z.I was born in Edaga-arbi Nebelet but, I lived here for about nine years in Hawzen town kebele Hadnet. I am married and I have three children. Last year during January 2024 I went home on foot at the evening time. Unfortunately my friend, who had a share in my business, called me via mobile phone. Then while I was talking with my friend emotionally, two physically matured youths took my mobile phone and run away to skip quickly. However when I asked for

help, through the cooperation of the residents the offenders were arrested. Finally the court room had taken such measures up on these two criminals.”

As per the personal story aforementioned above by the respondent, the researcher can conclude that the crime of theft was frequently committed in the area by youths.

4.1.5 Factors contributing to youths crime in Hawzien town

There were various factors that initiate youths to commit crimes. According to the view of the respondents there was no single factor which contributes to youths criminal actions. However, there were multiple of factors for youths to commit petty and severe types of crimes in the study area. Depending on assessing the major factors of youth's crime the researcher used different data gathering instruments and analyzed as follows.

Part-I-open ended questions on the major factors of youth's crime in Hawzien town

Open ended questions were distributed for youth affairs office, first instance court and justice office of Hawzien town in order to find the determinant factors of youth's criminal actions of the area.

Accordingly, the first instance court justified that as there were several factors that initiated youths to engage in criminal activities. Depending on their response factors like unemployment, peer pressure, drop out of schooling, addiction of alcohol and many other drugs were the major causes of youth's crime in Hawzien town. As their description unemployment is a global, continental as well as a national problem that requires a collaborative solution. Thus huge number of unemployed youths leads for committing crimes in the study area.

Peer influence is also another determinant factor of youth crimes. AS many studies shown that antisocial peer groups played vital roles in development of youth's crime and social insecurities. Therefore the influences of peer groups have played an important role in increasing crimes. Moreover to this dropout of schooling was also a major factor for delinquency and criminal activities of youths. The other factor of crime was addiction of alcohol and other narcotic drugs like drinking many types of alcohols, chewing chats, using Timbaho and other drugs leads them to involve in criminal actions. As per the respondents

whenever the addicted youths fail to get their interests, they decided to engage in criminal acts like theft and hanging.

As per the youth affairs office idea, socio-economic Factors like poverty, lack of job opportunities, increasing migration rates, increasing population number, increasing street children, shifting from rural to urban areas, low guidance of parents and many more factors contributed for criminal actions of youths. Similarly both the judges and public prosecutors of the court room as well as justice office stated as all matters are depending on economy, the economic factors of crime than all other factors were dominantly initiate youths to commit crimes in the area. According to their response unemployment, low income level, poverty, addiction, peer pressure and other socio-economic factors werewolf considered as the major initiative causes of youths crime.

The socio-economic condition and the sense of materialism in which the youths live that makes them vulnerable to criminal behavior. Materialism can be defined as a dominating sense of desire to pursue wealth and other tangible things that can provide physical comforts that ignores the norms and values of a society. The characteristics of such materialistic people are greed for money, tendency to become rich quickly even if it involves a lot of risk. It also involves the desire to live in plush houses, driving flashy cars and wearing highly expensive clothes and jewelry. From their prior experiences most criminal cases were seen in youths than other groups and huge number of youths had not got job opportunities. As a result so as to satisfy their basic necessities and wants they engaged to criminal acts. Therefore lack of job opportunities of youths were one of the dominant factor of youth crimes.

As per the justice office argument poor parental control over their children and poor legal judgment over suspected criminals has also considered as a major factor of crime in the area. Because parents had lack of providing guidance and counseling service for their children so as to shape and reshape them well. The judges also suggested that the courtroom has also limitations on providing legal judgments on the offenders in order to make court structure strong and to maintain peace and order in the society.

Part-II- Semi structured interview on the major factors of youth crime inHawzien town

An interview was made with religious leaders, elder parents, youth dwellers, and militia officers of the Hawzien town in order to obtain reliable information about the determinant factors of youth's crime. All the above aforementioned respondents had provided their own arguments in relation to factors of youth crimes.

According to the Orthodox Christianity and Muslim religious leaders

Opinion crime is an illegal, immoral and religiously an accepted activity and which can be taken as a sin in all religions. As per the Orthodox Christianity leaders (priests) failing to respect the ground rules of their religion was the major cause of crime.

Therefore failing to follow and respect the religious rules leads for youths criminal actions. Muslim religious leaders also stated the major factors of crimes in a similar way. They told that every religion condemned crime because crime is considered as a sin in their religion too. For instance theft, corruption, hanging, robbery, physical violence and all other forms of crime are accepted activities in their religion. Thus failing to obey the religious rules and principles leads to youth crimes.

Parent dwellers (elders) also stated that even if there were many more causes of crime,

as per the elders view parental inadequacy to satisfy the needs of their children (youths), parental conflict, parental separatism (divorce), poor parent-youth relationship, academic failure, inconsistent discipline of youths, lack of respect to youths and anti-social attitudes were considered as the major factors of youths crime in the study area. According to the response of parents, most youths were engaged in criminal actions because of low parental care and control their children.

Some other youths also involve in crimes like corruption, hanging, theft, land related crimes, traffic related and other crimes so As to change their life style in a short period of time. Thus socio-economic factors such as unemployment, low income, poverty, alcoholism, drug abuse, peer pressure and others were the main factors of youth's crime.

Militia officers on the other hand justified

That youth's crime was common in their area and that's why is the organized groups of militia keep peace, security and stability of the entire community of the study area. They always have a program to keep each kebelles and blocks of the sub city every day and night. While they were looking at different areas of the sub city, they were faced a number of challenges by many more individuals especially youths. Among these youths criminal action was the major challenge that hinders the social, economic, political and moral aspect of both the governor and the governed.

This was caused due to many factors like lack of job opportunities, idle mind of youths, harsh behavior of youths, neighborhood disorganization, poor parental managements, drop out of schooling, lack of hope/ambition, lack of basic necessities, increasing street children, alcoholism and drug abuse were some of the initiative factors of youths criminalities. To sum up socio-economic factors such as poverty, unemployment, addiction and influence of peers were prevalent factors contributing for criminal acts of youths in Tigray the case of Hawzien town.

Part- III- key informants interview on the major factors of youth crime in Hawelti Subcity

As it mentioned in the methodology part of the study, the researcher indicated that a key informant interview was also a source of data for the research. Therefore an interview were conducting with principal judges, public prosecutors and police officers by purposefully assigning these groups based on the knowledge, competency and relevance about the issue.

The first instance court judges Hawzien town replied that as crime is largely a young man's game and they usually commit personal and property related crimes in the concerned area. With regard to the root causes of youth's crime, there may have several factors that push youths to commit criminal actions. Among the different causes of crime the judges were mentioned some of the commonly existed socio-economic factors like parental neglect, family breakdown, poverty, low self-esteem, unemployment, alcohol abuse, peer influence, conflict of interests, unclear laws/regulations, political instability, economic inflation, high rate of migration and over population were some of the determinant factors of youths crime in the concerned study area.

The public prosecutors who worked in the justice office of Hawzien town were also stated as the motivating factors of youth's crime in Hawzien town includes being intoxicated by high rate of alcohols and narcotic drugs, being selfish to rich in a short period of time, lack of job opportunities, low income level of individuals, poor parental management, involving in mafia groups to show a sign of modernity, drop out of schooling and other political and socio economic factors were forced youths to participate in criminal actions.

As per the respondents argument there was an influence of declaration of state of emergency against the civil war in Tigray for three years ago. As a result of this there was an economic and socio political instability in the recent time. Therefore the civil war (Genocide in Tigray) in frightening rate leads to declare state of emergency both at the national and regional level. So this declaration leads to restrict some rules and regulations in all aspects of the social community. For instance vehicles were restricted to limit the traveling area and number of passengers, hotels, bars and other business centers were allowed to do on the basis of the restricted laws in the declaration and civil war. These all lead to lowering the amount income and lack of job opportunities for the entire community especially to the productive members of the society who were youths. Because of these restrictions the criminality rate like traffic related crimes exaggerated in these recent times than ever before.

Almost all police officers of key informants were also expressed as the increasing number of population, increasing street children, huge number of unemployed youths, poverty, low rate of wages, addiction of drugs, drinking overnight, poor parental styles, compatible interests to attain something useful and many other were considered as the most dominant factors that lead youths to engage in criminal offenses.

As one of the police officer said that as there would be a group of gang membership of youths called "**Gujile Salsay Alem**" which is to mean "*Third world group*" in the concerned area. According to him this gang membership is the collection of mafia style youths who engaged in various criminal activities and they also create the senses of fear and insecurity in residents of in Hawzien town. So, the subjugations of innocent youth to the group lead to learn offending behavior from their friends. Therefore the involvements of youths in such an illegal and anti-social groupings are also contending factors of youth's crime.

4.2 Approaches and strategies adopted to reduce youths crimes

Crime obviously undermines the overall development of human life such as economic, social, political, cultural, psychological and moral aspects of human race in all over the world. Crime laid all individuals especially youths to become hopeless, idle minded, poor and remain dependent in their life. However the coming progress and developmental change of human race depends in large part on the productivity and wellbeing of the young people. Having these all in mind adopting effective approaches and strategies to prevent and reduce criminal actions is very critical in all global, national and local areas in order to minimize the victimization rate of the society. That's why was the researcher wanted to deal with the approaches and strategies that enable to reduce the criminal offenses in the study area. Thus different approaches and strategies were suggested by respondents so as to prevent and reduce youth's crime as follows.

Part-I-Open ended questions on approaches & strategies of crime reduction in Hawzien town

Open ended questions were distributed for youth affairs, judges and public prosecutors of the sub city to deal with the approaches and strategies of youth's crime prevention and reduction techniques. Each of the respondents have provided their own crime prevention and reduction methods as follows.

Members of youth's affairs office also advised that to reduce youth criminal actions it is better to integrate a positive youth development frame work in the policy, strengthen the youth affairs office by organize youths to the right direction via increasing budget allocation, provide training of life skills in collaboration with NGOs, introduce crime prevention projects, increase youth clubs that intended to provide leisure and recreational centers, work with street children and gang groups by creating projects are some of the strategies stated by the youth affair officers.

Both the public prosecutors and judges in the similar sense justified that to reduce criminality rate of youths in the area, first it was better to identify the major factors of crime and address accordingly. Then early intervention techniques in minor offenses during their early ages were also advisable to reduce criminality rate. Moreover enhancing good parenting style to develop smooth interpersonal relationships and educate parental supervision is also another

way of crime reduction strategy. The police officers also said that creating awareness about the worst effect of crime and provide appropriate measures with their degree of offenses is also another solution to reduce crimes because taking punishments over offenders is vital to prevent other innocent youths from committing crimes.

In addition to this the local government (Kebelle) administration have a crucial role to play in crime prevention and reduction mechanisms by empowering the entire community to participate in reducing youth crimes and by organizing youth dwellers, militias, elders, NGOs and other responsible members of the society. These are all about the argument of kebele leaders regarding crime prevention and reduction strategies’

CHAPTER FIVE

Summary, conclusions and recommendations

5.1. Summary of Major Findings

The Summary of major findings of this study was as follow based on the above study the following major findings are drawn:

Depending the analyzed data which was gathered from documents of police office, justice office and first instance court of Hawzien the criminality rate of youths were increasing in an alarming rate in these recent three years than ever before. In relation to gender, male youths were highly engaged in criminal activities than females in the sub city.

There were several types of criminal actions committed by youths in the area. However theft, physical injury/violence and hanging were the most frequently perpetrated forms of youth crimes in the sub city.

Youth's crime had caused by different economic, social, psychological and cultural factors. But the socio economic factors like unemployment, peer pressure, drop out of schooling, poor parental management, and addiction of alcohol and drug abuse were the dominant factors that push youths to commit crimes in the study area.

There is no single strategy and approach to prevent as well as reduce youth crimes. The respondents mentioned diverse crime prevention and reduction strategies. However as per the most respondents argument organize and create awareness to all stake holders in crime prevention, creating job opportunities, empower youth affairs by allocating budget to mobilize youths, provide life skills training, amending unfair laws, taking appropriate measures up on offenders and providing vocational and technical training were advisable to minimize criminality rates.

5.2. Conclusions

Regarding the findings discussed earlier the researcher was conclude the following major points. Crime is one of the anti-social problems which undermine the overall development of the local community, the region and the nation at large. This very sensitive social challenge

was the major issue in the study area and which requires systematic and sensitive intervention mechanisms so as to address this societal problem.

As the researcher's document analysis shown, the criminality rate of youth offenders in the case of Hawzien town was uprising in an alarming rate. Depend on the data gathered from the police office; justice office and first instance court of the town, the number of criminals were increasing in these consecutive recent years. Therefore this dramatic intensification of youth's criminal activities was considered as a major challenge on the social security and stability of the town.

Most male youths engaged in many types of criminal activities than the other social groups. As per the respondents argument there were several types of criminal offenses committed by youths in the area. However most of the respondents considered that property crimes (like theft and robbery) and personal crimes (like hanging and physical violence) were highly and frequently committed by youths in the town.

As crime has not a single factor, the respondents were also mentioned variety factors that initiated youths to engage in criminal activities. Even if the respondents stated many social, economical, psychological and cultural factors; they considered as the socio-economic factors of youths crime like unemployment, peer influence, addiction of alcohol and drugs, drop out of schooling and poor parental supervision were the major causes of crime.

It is obvious that crime could exist when ever and everywhere else and which can never be eliminated as long as we humans existed in this real life. But it can be really reduced and prevented its degree of severity or victimization rate using several crime prevention strategies. According to the research participants, strengthening police community service, empowering youth's association to share and divert offenders' right way, creating job opportunities, increasing vocational and technical centers, enhance recreational centers, creating awareness about the worst effect of crime, organize stake holders and devise crime prevention frame works were some of the crime reduction strategies.

5.3. Recommendations

Crime is one of the big social issues however it has never been gotten especial attention by the government and other concerned bodies either to reduce crime rates or to find preventive

solution for societies who suffered by its effect. From these points of view, the followings are recommended concerning the role of the different concerned bodies.

Government should devise a crime prevention and reduction frame work in order to sustain peace and security of the entire community. Government in collaboration with private institutions should provide job opportunities by hiring the jobless youths. Government should reform the laws, decrees, rules and regulations to improve the effective implementation of criminal procedures and the justice system.

Judicial agencies should work strongly and independently so as to prevent crimes and keep the social wellbeing well. the issue of crime was not studied in the study area and in many other parts of the nation so; the organs of justice system and other professionals should have an interest to conduct researches about the causes and its victimization rates of crime so as to arrange preventive techniques and appropriate measures.

The justice system in collaboration with other stake holders should genuinely work to minimize crime rates using preventive and curative approaches in its internal structures. the organs of justice; the police should work with the public cooperatively, courts should realize restorative justice and public prosecutors should also assist by taking best options to legal prosecutions to prevent and reduce crimes.

The ministry of education should design a curriculum in collaboration with higher institutions to be given as course initially from the primary up to Universities and vocational and non- vocational educational institutions on crime prevention mechanisms. Universities and colleges should play their vital role in teaching students initially about what the causes of crime, how it minimizes degree of victimization and it's deceive effect on wellbeing of the society. Educational institutions at all levels should work at lowering the rate of drop out of students so as to reduce criminal activities.

Civic & ethical clubs in collaboration with other stake holders should arrange different programs like dramas, panel discussions, conferences and other workshops about the causes and effects of youth's crime.

The local government should create awareness about the severe effects of crime especially on societal economic, social and psychological wellbeing. Basically Hawzien town Administration office concerned sectors such as justice office, first instance court, police, youth affairs, kebelles and other sectors should play their vital role in creating awareness about the worst effects of crime on the criminals themselves as well as on the wellbeing of

the community by paving conference, workshops , inviting University social science educators and lawyers, etc.

Both the kebele administration and youth affairs office should cooperatively provide life skills training, expand youth centers, provide vocational and trainings for the jobless youths of the sub city to minimize the severe effect of youth's crime. Encouraging those governmental and non-governmental institutions who are participating in support for youths through material and financial assistance to make them independent.

Mass Medias should create awareness always with schedule time table through on line programs by providing evidence about the causes & effects of crime to minimize criminality. Media should openly show for law enforcement programs by providing direct/first hand information about the issue of youth's crime so as to learn and prevent others from criminal participation.

All religious leaders and religious educators should teach about the worst effects of crime in social wellbeing continually at church or mosque when they preach their followers. Provide guidance and counseling service starting from their early ages in order to shape and reshape youths with good ethical performances.

The Non-governmental organizations/NGOS/ should support financially and encourage for researchers, policy makers and other investigators to study this problem and pave a way to present their findings at workshops to create awareness about the effects of crime. the different stock holders, donors such as nongovernmental organizations should support financially and encourage morally for youths to feel them as capable, valuable and productive members of the society.

5.4. Directions for Further Research

This thesis was covered only Hawzien town and also the sample size was only 27 it focused on exploring examining the factors of criminal behavior in Hawzien town. Therefore, it is better for any forthcoming researcher who wants to investigate similar studies including all other exists at Kebele (District or Woreda) levels and taking considerable sample size. Furthermore, it is also better if comparative study will be conducting among Criminal Behavior, police office (Judges) and other public Organizations in Hawzien town on similar issues to find out other examining factor criminal behavior 'satisfaction

Reference

- Abraham Genet. (2010). *An exploratory study on the experience of out-of-school youths in Arada Sub city, Addis Ababa city administration*. A thesis conducted for the completion of MSW at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.
- Agbor , J., Taiwo, O., & Smith, J. (2012). *Sub-Saharan Africa's youth bulge: a demographic dividend or disaster? The Brookings Institution, Africa Growth Initiative*
- Agnew, R.(2013). *Criminology: An Overview*. Department of Sociology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, United States.
- Alemu, M., &Teshome, T. (2020). Substance abuse and criminal behavior among youth in Tigray. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 15(4), 234-248
- Amnesty International. (2021). *Ethiopia: Pervasive impunity for human rights violations and abuses amidst conflict in Tigray region*. Retrieved from <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr25/3553/2021/en/>
- Andargachew Tesfaye. (2004). *The Crime Problem and its Correction, (Vol. II)*. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Addis Ababa University press.
- Anderson, C. A., & Dill, K. E. (2000). Video Games and Aggressive Thoughts, Feelings, and Behavior in the Laboratory and in Life. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 78(4), 772-790.
- Ashley. C. (2016). *Types of crimes*. Retrieved from About.com: Very well, The Balance& Life wire.
- Beccaria, C. (1764). *On Crimes and Punishments*. (Trans. 1986). Hackett Publishing Company.
- Bennett, W. L., & Hess, K. M. (2016). *Criminal Justice (10th ed.)*. Cengage Learning.
- Bimal.K.N. (2013) *juveline delinquency: its magnitude and impact at Gonder town Ethiopia*, volume 2, No.9.
- Bohm, R. M. (2001). *A primer on crime and delinquency theory (2nd ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
- Bohm, R. M. & Haley, K. (2005). *Introduction to Criminal Justice (2nded.)*. New York, USA.
- Bolger, A., & Patterson, C. (2020). *Risk factors for youth violence*. Prevention Research Center, University of Illinois at Urbana.
- Bryman, A. (2016). *Social Research Methods (5th ed.)*. Oxford University Press.

- Bunting, L., et al. (2019). The impact of conflict on children in South Sudan. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 20(3), 45-63
- Buonanno, p (2003). The socio economic determinants of crime. "A review of the literature". Working number 63.
- Cahill, J., Hawley, A., and Williams, L. (2017). Exploring the relationship between war and crime: A comparative study of youths' criminal behavior in peaceful versus post-war periods. *Crime & Delinquency*, 63(1), 118-135.
- Carter, D. (2005). *Community policing and politics* [online]. School of Criminal Justice.
- Curtain, R. (2003). *Youth in extreme poverty: Dimensions and country responses*. In World Youth Report: The Global Situation of Youth. New York: UN
- David M. Buss (2012). The Evolutionary Psychology of Crime: *Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Criminology*, Vol. 1, (USA)
- Dritsakis, N and Gkanas, A. (2007). The effect of socio economic determinant on crime rate: An empirical research in the case of Greece with co integration analysis. Department of applied informatics. University of Macedonia.
- D. Zembroski (2011). *Sociological Theories of Crime and Delinquency*: School of Social welfare, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California, USA
- Ethiopian Federal Police. 2006. *Penal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*. Addis Ababa: BerhaninaSelam Government Press.
- Farrington, D. P., & Loeber, R. (2000). Some benefits of dichotomization in psychiatric and criminological research. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 10(2), 100-122.
- Fowler, F. J. (2014). *Survey Research Methods* (5th ed.). Sage Publications.
- Gimode, E.A. (2001). An anatomy of violent crime and insecurity in Kenya: the case of Nairobi. *Africa development*, 25, (1,2), pp. 295-335.
- Harris, A. (2020). The Psychological and Emotional Impact of Crime: Understanding Victimology and Trauma in Criminal Justice. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 55, 123-130.
- Johnson, M., & Wong, C. (2016). Systematic method triangulation: a novel approach to qualitative research. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 15(1), 1-12.
- Kelly M (2000) Inequality and crime. *Rev Econ stat* 82: 530-539.
- Levin, J., & Cohan, D. (2018). Financial Costs of Crime: A Study of Costs, Implications, and Impacts. *International Journal of Criminology and Sociology*, 7, 15-23.

- Merriam, S. B. (1998). *Qualitative Research and Case Study Applications in Education*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Moffitt, T. E. (2020) Life-course-persistent and adolescent-limited antisocial behavior: A developmental taxonomy. In *Handbook of Antisocial Behavior* (pp. 15-30). Wiley.
- Moser, C. (2004). *Urban violence and insecurity: an introductory road map*. Environment and urbanization.
- Muggah, R. & Del Frate, A. (2007). *More Slums Equals More Violence: Reviewing Armed Violence and Urbanization in Africa*. UNDP.
- Oya, C.(2013). *Rural wage employment in Africa: methodological issues & emerging*
- Pelser, E. (2002). *Crime prevention partnerships: Lessons from practice*. Pretoria: Institute for Security Studies
- Sampson, R. J., &Laub, J. H. (2016). Turning points in the life course: Why change matters for the study of crime. *Criminology*, 54(3), 477-481.
- Sampson, R. J., & Groves, W. B. (1989). Community Structure and Crime: Testing Social-Disorganization Theory. *The American Journal of Sociology*, 94(4), 775-802.
- Schonteich, M. & Louw, C. (2001). *Crime in South Africa: A country and cities profile*. Crime and Justice Program, Institute for Security Studies.
- Shaw, M., van Dijk, J. & Rhomberg, W. (2003). *Determining Trends in Global Crime and Justice: An Overview of Results from the United Nations Surveys of Crime Trends and Operations of CriminalJustice Systems*. Forum on Crime and Society.
- Siegel L. J. *Criminology; the core*; second edition. London; Wads worth publishing
- Singer, E., &Tourangeau, R. (2009). *Survey Methodology*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Stake, R. E. (1995). *The Art of Case Study Research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Stake, R. E. (2006). *Multiple Case Study Analysis*. New York, NY: Guilford Press.
- Tesfaye, A., et al. (2021). Youth perceptions of violence and trauma in post-war Tigray. *Ethiopian Journal of Psychology*, 25(2), 134-147
- Tonry, M. (2019). *Why Punish? How Much? A Reader on Punishment*. Oxford University Press.
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP). (2017). "Youth and violent extremism on social media: A global study of the impact of social media on youth and violent extremism." Available at: [UNDP Report](<https://www.undp.org/publications/youth-and-violent-extremism-social-media>).

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/UNODC/, (2007). Crime, Violence, and Development: Trends, Costs, and Policy Options in the Caribbean. A Joint Report by UNODC and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region of the World Bank .Report No. 37820
- Van der Laan, J., Blom, M., Tollenaar, N., and van der Laan, P. (2010). The impact of war on criminal behavior: A longitudinal study on Dutch youths. *Journal of Peace Research*, 47(6), 731-746. <http://www.causesofcrimepdf> Retrieved from <http://www.causesofcrimepdf>
www.explorarionontypeofcrimes
- Yin, R. K. (2018). *Case Study Research and Applications: Design and Methods*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Babbie, E. (2016). *The Basics of Social Research* (7th ed.). Cengage Learning.
- Kvale, S., & Brinkmann, S. (2015). *InterViews: Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing* (3rd ed.). Sage Publications
- Koss, M. P., & Heslet, L. (2014). Using Focus Groups in Research: The Importance of Handling Difficult Questions. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 11(2), 118-134.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14780887.2014.910298>
- Bowen, G. A. (2009). Document Analysis as a Qualitative Research Method. *Qualitative Research Journal* 9(2), 27-40. <https://doi.org/10.3316/QRJ0902027>
- Berg, B. L., & Lune, H. (2017). *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences* (9th ed.). Pearson.
- Harris, S. & Towl, G. (2006). "Restorative Justice: Theory and Practice." Bristol: The Policy Press.
- Jacobsen, A. J., Møller, M. H., & Smith, M. R. (2017). "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design: A Review of the Evidence." *Australian Institute of Criminology*.
- Kelling, G. L., & Wilson, J. Q. (1982). "Broken Windows: The police and neighborhood safety." *The Atlantic Monthly*.
- Lappi-Seppälä, T. (2008). "Punitiveness in Nordic Countries." *European Journal of Criminology*, 5(3), 305-326.
- Skogan, W. G. (1990). "Disorder and Decline: Crime and Community in the New York City." *University of California Press*

Appendix 1

MEKELLE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES

Dear Participant of the Study

The objective of this questionnaire is for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of art in Civics and ethical studies. This questionnaire is aimed at examining the factors contributing for criminal acts of youths in Tigray ; the case of Hawzien town.

The data collected from this questionnaire will be used for the research purpose only and also all the collected data will be kept only in the hands of the researcher. I hereby request you to be open and honest while responding so that the research could succeed and achieve the intended goal.

Instruction: Please write short answers for the given questions shortly and precisely that closely indicate your feelings.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION!!!

Part I. Background Information

Age: 16-29 30-39 40- 50 >51

Sex: Male Female

Religion: Orthodox Protestant Muslim Catholic Other

Educational level: Illiterate Grade 1-8 Grade 9-12

Certificate Diploma Degree Masters > Master

Occupational status-----

Region/Zone-----/-----Sub city.....

Part II- open ended questions for kebele leaders, police officers, youth affairs office, judges and public prosecutors that targeted to examine the factors contributing for criminal acts of youths in Hawzien town.

1. Are there any criminal actions available in your area? If your answer for this question will be 'yes', at what age level would be dominantly engaged in?

-
.....
.....
2. What types of crimes were committed in your locality
-
.....
.....
3. From all the criminal activities practiced in your locality, which types of crimes were commonly and frequently committed in the sub city?
-
.....
.....
4. What do you think about the major factors that contribute for criminal acts of youths in your area?
-
.....
.....
5. Could you write the possible ways of managing crimes?
-
.....
.....
6. What do you think about the main strategies and approaches adopted to prevent and reduce criminal actions?
-
.....

Appendix 2
MEKELLE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES

Dear Participant of the Study

The objective of this semi structured interview is for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of art in Civics and ethical studies. This questionnaire is aimed at examining the factors contributing for criminal acts of youths inTigray; the case of Hawzien town.

The data collected from this questionnaire will be used for the research purpose only and also all the collected data will be kept only in the hands of the researcher. I hereby request you to be open and honest while responding so that the research could succeed and achieve the intended goal.

Instruction: Please write short answers for the given interview questions shortly and precisely that closely indicate your feelings.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION!!!

Part I. Background Information

Age: 16-29 30-39 40- 50 >51

Sex: Male Female

Religion: Orthodox Protestant Muslim Catholic Other

Educational level: Illiterate Grade 1-8 Grade 9-12

Certificate Diploma Degree Masters > Master

Part I. General Information

Region/zone/..... *Sub city*.....

Age..... *Sex*.....

Responsibility.....

Organization.....

Educational level.....

Date of interview.....

Signature.....

Part-II-Semi Structured Interview Questions provided for militia officers, youth dwellers, religious leaders, elder parents and business people of Hawzien town.

1. Are you familiar with the term crime? Define the term crime in your own words?
2. Mention some forms and types of crimes that you know?
3. On the basis of your observations, did the crime rates increased or decreased? And why?
4. From these several types of crimes which types of crimes were dominantly practiced in your sub city?
5. Which parts of the social group in your locality were involved in criminal activities?
6. On the basis of age level, who were the most actors of criminal offenses in your area?
7. Based on gender distribution, are they males or females committed crimes frequently and why?
8. What are the determinant factors of crime in the sub city?
9. Based on your observation, what initiated them to engage in crimes?
10. List some of the major causes of crime in your area?
11. What are the approaches and strategies of crime prevention and reduction mechanisms that were frequently practiced by the social group of your sub city?
12. What do you recommend for minimizing the rate of crimes?

Appendix 3
MEKELLE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES

Dear Participant of the Study

The objective of this semi structured interview is for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of art in Civics and ethical studies. This questionnaire is aimed at examining the factors contributing for criminal acts of youths in eastern Tigray; the case of Hawzien town.

The data collected from this questionnaire will be used for the research purpose only and also all the collected data will be kept only in the hands of the researcher. I hereby request you to be open and honest while responding so that the research could succeed and achieve the intended goal.

Instruction: Please write short answers for the given interview questions shortly and precisely that closely indicate your feelings.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION!!!

Part I. Background Information

Age: 16-29 30-39 40- 50 >51

Sex: Male Female

Religion: Orthodox Protestant Muslim Catholic Other

Educational level: Illiterate Grade 1-8 Grade 9-12

Certificate Diploma Degree Masters > Master

Part I. General Information

Region/zone/..... sub city.....

Age..... *Sex*.....

Responsibility.....

Organization.....

Educational level.....

Date of interview.....*Signature*.....

Part II-key informant Interview Questions for judges, public prosecutors, police officers and correctional centers of Hawzien.

1. I hope you have large of things from your prior life and work experience about criminal actions so, can you define crime in your own words?
2. How could you see the vulnerability of crime in Hawzien?
3. As per your view did criminality rate intensified or reduced in these recent periods in your area and why?
4. Who did you think was the major actors of criminal activities in the sub city? Specify in terms of gender and age levels?
5. What types of crimes were available in your area? Justify by stating visible examples?
6. Even if crime exists when ever and everywhere else, which types of crimes were frequently and highly committed in your surrounding areas?
7. Would you list the commonly committed crimes in the area?
8. What was the major cause of these crimes?
9. Which prevention and reduction methods of crime were applicable in the sub city?
10. On your personal opinion what crime prevention and reduction mechanisms are advisable to minimize crimes in the area?

Appendix 4
MEKELLE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

DEPARTMENT OF CIVICS AND ETHICAL STUDIES

Dear participant of life History interviews

The objective of this case or life history questions is for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of art in Civics and Ethical studies. These questions are designed to collect data about the major factors initiated youths to commit crimes in eastern Tigray; the case of Hawzien town.

Therefore, the data collected from these questions will be used for the research purpose only &also all the collected data will be kept only in the hands of the researcher. I hereby request you to be open and honest while responding so that the research could succeed and achieve the intended goal.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION!!!

Part I. General Information

- Sub city.....
- Kebelle.....
- Sex.....
- Educational level.....
- Signature.....
- Date of interview.....

Part II-Life history Questions for victimized groups of Hawzien town residents

1. Could you introduce me by stating your name, personal information, occupation and address?
2. What did you say about crime rate in Hawzien toen?
3. I have heard something about you in relation to victimization of crime? Am I right?
4. Would you tell me the situation/incident that was faced by stating
 - The time of the event
 - How was it happened
 - Who were the actors

- What type of crime was it
- What measures were taken by the concerned bodies and
- How can we prevent crimes?