

Non-Profit Organizations Interventions And Children's Rights Protection In Rwanda: A Case Of Save Our Souls Children's Villages Rwanda

* UMURERWA Laurence & ² Kirabo Joyce, ²Dr. Safari Ernest

¹Master's student, in Development studies, Mount Kenya University

²Lecturer, Development studies Mount Kenya University

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to assess the Non-Profit Organizations Interventions and Children's Rights Protection in Rwanda, a case study of SOS children's village Rwanda Kigali. The objectives of the study were to determine the role of SOS health interventions on Children's rights, to evaluate the influence of SOS education interventions on Children's rights and to evaluate SOS Nutrition interventions on children's rights. A descriptive research design was adopted to get results related to the study; the target population and the sample size were 105. Census sampling was applied, and the data sources were primary and secondary. The questionnaire was used to collect primary data, and a documentary review for secondary data. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistical analysis using frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation, and inferential statistics using Pearson correlation (r) and multiple linear regression analysis. The presentation of findings was done using tables; the pilot test was performed to ensure the validity and reliability of the instrument used in data collection. After collecting data, the following results were obtained; the interventions of SOS Children's Villages in the promotion of health and nutrition for children, 41.5% strongly agreed and 43.1% agreed that medical insurance provided by non-profit organization maintains children's rights protection. SOS Children's Village contributes to the health intervention for children to improve children's rights protection at correlation of .868. Further, the influence of SOS education interventions on Children's rights, the results showed that 43.1% of respondents and 49.2% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that awareness policies and advocacy promote children's rights protection. There is strong positive correlation between SOS education intervention and children's rights protection at $r = .825$. For the interventions of SOS nutrition on children's rights, 40.0% strongly agreed and 50.8% agreed that provision of domestic animals improve children's rights protection, there is positive correlation of interventions of SOS nutrition on children's rights at $r = .837$. The study concluded that SOS Children's Villages contribute to the children's right protection through promoting health intervention, improving education and nutrition. The study recommended that non-profit organizations need to put more efforts in surveillance and reporting the children malpractices which hinder the children's right protection.

Keywords: Non-profit organization, Children's right and children's right protection.

Date of Submission: 13-09-2023

Date of Acceptance: 23-09-2023

I. Background of the Study

On the aspects of development, the environment, humanitarian action, human rights, and many other fields of public action, non-profit organizations/non-governmental organizations (NGO/NPOs) are today recognized as the main third sector performers. Since the stake-2004 tsunami reform initiatives in Indonesia, India, Thailand, and Sri Lanka, the year 2005 has been known as the Mark Poverty History campaign for assistance and trade transformation and developing country duty termination.

According to Unicef through Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2013 studied global patterns of violence, along with its causes, offenders, and social norms, sheds light on a problem that has mostly gone unreported. It will be easier to comprehend the scope and nature of violence against children and its various effects by using data to highlight it, as well as to suggest prevention strategies.

RNP in partnership with MIGEPROF, RIB, World Vision Rwanda and other partners discussed measures to emphasize the prevailing appliances in ending GBV and CA. The combined national child protection reflection meeting held on Tuesday, May 24, looked at the management of lawbreakers, reporting appliance, accountability of relevant organizations in response to the problem, and to share involvements on investigation, evidence collection, protection and challenges in solving child sexual violence.

Representatives from the Ministry of Education, prosecution, Legal Aid, RCS, NRS, UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan International and CLADHO, an Umbrella Human Rights Organization, also joined it.

Statement of the Problem

In 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states explained clearly that every child has the right to be protected. Many initiatives have been undertaken at the national, regional, and international levels to reduce children's vulnerability and to cover them under the social protection net. Dabir and Nigudkar (2021) indicated that at global level millions of children are not yet covered by any of the social protection mechanisms, resulting in multiple vulnerabilities in their lives. They added that nearly two-thirds of children worldwide (1.3 billion) are unprotected, with the majority of these children living in Africa and Asia. Peter conducted research in Malawi about children rights protection. The findings indicated that 25% children suffered by food insecurity, 19% were not accessed to health services while 22.6% did not get education services. In his recommendation stated that Government needs to encourage non-profit organizations to invest in children rights protection. The study done by Buningwire (2023) showed that primary school dropout increased from 7.8% to 12.1% in 2019 to 2022 respectively while in secondary school dropout rose from 8.2% to 10.3% in 2019 to 2021 respectively. In Rwanda, Kaime (2022) showed that 6.75% of primary students did not attend schools in 2021 due to inadequate school facilities and family conflicts while 8.1% children are violated by their rights. Therefore, the problem of children's rights protection still exists where children are still being abused sexually which is one of the main causes of school dropout the same as poverty and neglect.

To fight against the issue of the child rights violation, various stakeholders including nonprofit organizations same as governmental organizations needs to work together. It is against this background that this study come out to assess the intervention of nonprofit organization towards child rights protection in Rwanda through SOS health intervention, SOS education and SOS nutrition intervention on children's rights.

Objectives of the Study

1. To determine the role of SOS health intervention on Children's rights
2. To evaluate the influence of SOS education intervention on Children's rights
3. To evaluate the effect of SOS Nutrition intervention on children's rights

II. Literature Review

Theoretical Framework

The researcher used various theories to support the research as way of strengthening the quality of the study. Theories supported researcher to get adequate information, opinions related to the researchable topics.

Maslow's hierarchy needs theory

Maslow's hierarchy of needs has been developed in 1943, which is commonly known as the theory of human motivation, is an essential part of our understanding of what motivates us. It is still widely used today to form and define other theories related to motivation and behavior. The theory states that we all have a set of essential needs that must be met, such as biological and psychological requirements, safety, companionship/love, self-respect, and self-fulfillment. After these fundamental needs are taken care of - for instance, having a secure home and feeling loved we can concentrate on our higher-level requirements like cultivating our self-esteem and self-actualization (Werker and Ahmed, 2021)

Human right theory

Human rights are fundamental principles designed to protect every individual against extreme political, legal, and social violation. Examples of human rights include the freedom to practice one's own religion, a fair trial in case of criminal charges, freedom from torture, and access to education. Generally, these rights are regarded as granting entitlements that impose on their recipient's certain obligations. Rights bestow certain freedoms, protections, statuses or other forms of benefit to their beneficiaries (Beitz, 2009).

The duties associated with these rights often require respect for them, protection of them or provision and facilitation of them. In general, such human rights are obligatory in the sense that they require the addressees to hold up to the standards they set; however, some legal human rights only serve as declarations of high-priority objectives and assign responsibility for realizing them gradually.

The Protection Motivation Theory

Theory looks at how people handle and decide on what to do in dangerous or challenging scenarios. It's essentially a way of safeguarding oneself from perceived risks. This theory attempts to explain and forecast why individuals change their behavior (Gateway ,2013). Therefore, it holds that in order for a person to take up a healthy habit, they must believe there is a serious risk that is likely to occur, and that by adopting the new behavior,

they can effectively reduce the threat. Additionally, people should be convinced they have the capacity to perform said task with minimal costs (Mamdani *et al*, 2017). The theory of protection motivation was developed to help understand individual human responses to fear appeals.

Empirical Literature

Empirical literature enabled a researcher to capture the necessary information supporting the research basing on the previous researchers and scholars who conducted the similar or slightly different research in different countries. Empirical literature is structured as follows:

The role of non-profit organizations health interventions on Children's rights

Trygg (2015) conducted research about contribution of non governmental organization on the children health in Swedish. The study applied both quantitative and qualitative approach while the population was 567 including managers, coordinators, staff and children ,the sample size adopted was 237 selected using probability and non probability sampling techniques. The data was collected using questionnaires, interview for gathering primary data and documentary review for obtaining secondary data. The findings showed that majority of respondents agreed that non governmental organization contributed to the provision of medical insurance for vulnerable children at 54% strongly agreed and 43% agreed. On other hand responses were confirmed at strong mean of 4.3 and low standard deviation of 0.3.

The study concluded that non-profit organization perform numerous activities facilitate children and community to improve their standard life. Further, they added that assistance provided by non profit organization such as contribution in school feeding program and mobilization in alcoholic use prevention make community to have good health. In recommendation, due to high food insecurity affect mainly women and children specifically in poor and developing countries, governments and non profit organization require to play their roles effectively as the of improving health and nutrition for children affected by food issues.

The influence of non-profit organizations education interventions on Children's rights

Kijange (2019) examined the practices performed by non profit organizations to reduce school drop out in Kenya. The research adopted longitudinal research design for population of 4591. After performing sampling techniques of multistage a sample size of 1824 was selected. During data collection questionnaires, interview and documentatry review were applied to get the adequate information. The questionnaires were formulated using likert scale ranging form strongly agreed to strongly disagreed while analysis were done using descriptive statistical, measurement of tendency and inferential statistics to indicate relationship between variables. The findings indicated that non profit organizations performed differen practices making significance to school drop out. The results showed that 32% strongly agreed and 56% agreed that non profit organizations contribute to the provision of scholarship, 36% agreed and 41% strongly agreed that non profit organization contribute to the school drop out through provision of school facilities and establishment of relationship between NPO members , parents and students. The study concluded that engage and partner with parents , school feeding program, schorship practices preduce school drop out. However, the study recommended other researchers to assess the contribution of government and parents on the school drop out.

The non-profit organizations Nutrition Interventions on children's rights

The study done by Kaime (2018) about the contribution of nonprofit organization on the nutrition interventions. The objective was to assess the role of non-profit organization on the provision of food. The study used descriptive research design and correlational research design. The population was 345 while sample size was 142 respondents. The data collection was questionnaires and documentary review were done using secondary review. The findings showed that 56% of respondents revealed that contribution of non-governmental organization improve availability of food for children and 41% strongly agreed and 43% agreed that that non-profit organization train the beneficiaries about the making kitchen garden while 82% revealed that non-profit organization provides domestic animal for poor children. The study recommended that contribution of non-profit organization on the policies awareness and problem identification should be assessed to reduce the malnutrition of children

Shirur (2018) studied the contribution of non-profit organization on the provision of food in Ghana, a case study was 5 primary schools and 7 secondary schools. The data was collected using both quantitative and qualitative approaches for the sample size of 824 participants. The results showed that 78% of respondents indicated that non-profit organization provided food for students, 69% revealed that they get training about balanced diet.

III. Research Methodology

The study was qualitative and quantitative methods through quantitative approach research; the researcher used descriptive statistical elements such as frequencies, percentages. On the other hand, measures of central tendency were used as a statistic that represents the single value of the entire population or a dataset. Lastly, inferential statistics by the use of Pearson correlation (r) and multiple linear regression analysis was applied as the way of testing effect of independent variable on the dependent variable. The target population was 65 employees and 115 total population was 180 beneficiaries, therefore who are active in children's rights protection in SOS Village while sample size was 124 selected using stratified random sampling. Both primary and secondary data were employed in the study.

Research Findings and Discussion

The results were collected using both social demographical and findings related to the specific objectives to achieve on the research objectives.

Presentation of Findings

Each objective was handled chronologically as presented in chapter one of this research.

Correlation of between non-profit organizations interventions and the children's rights protection in Rwanda.

Researcher applied correlational analysis to measure the relationship between independent variables and dependent variable. The results are shown in the below table.

Table 4. 1: Correlation Matrix.

		Health	Education	Nutrition	Rights Protection
Health intervention	Pearson Correlation	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)				
	N	124			
Education intervention	Pearson Correlation	.894**	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000			
	N	124	124		
Nutrition intervention	Pearson Correlation	.892**	.895**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		
	N	124	124	124	
Rights Protection	Pearson Correlation	.868**	.828**	.837**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	
	N	124	124	124	124

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Source: Primary data (2023)

The table 4.1 indicates how independent variables correlated with dependent variable, the results showed that there is high positive relationship between health and children's rights protection because of the positive value for correlation coefficient. The role performed by SOS Children's Villages in health intervention has 0.868 correlations value with children's rights protection variable. Thus, non-profit organization play key role in children's rights protection due to the various practices performed by organization. Further, the findings indicate that there is strong correlation between education and children's rights protection the results generated by software computed .828 (82.8%), this value confirmed that SOS Children's Villages play great role to the children's rights protection where SOS Children's Villages provides various facilities to the children which increase the number of children attend schools.

About the relationship between nutrition interventions and children's rights protection the results showed that there is positive high correlation between effect of SOS Children's Village for nutrition intervention on the children's rights protection at .837 (83.7%) According to the findings there is strong positive correlation through consideration of all sub-variables of independent to the dependent variable. Hence Non-profit organization contributes highly to the children's rights protection. The results were in line with Trygg (2015) conducted research about contribution of non governmental organization on the children health in Swedish which means there correlation between non-profit organization and children right protections.

Regression analysis between independent variable and dependent variable

The regression analysis determines the non-profit organizations interventions as independent variable and children's rights protection as dependent variable. In this study model summary, variances and coefficients of variables were determined as follow.

Table 4. 2: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.851 ^a	.724	.619	1.01618

Source: Primary Data (2023)

a. Predictors: (Constant), health intervention, education intervention and nutrition intervention

The table 4.2 shows that regression analysis revealed (R = .851) which is a favorable connection while the R coefficient of 0.851 indicated that the model's predictors, health, education and nutrition computes an 72.4% correlation with the dependent variable as children's right protection. Combination of variables promote children's rights protection. Hence Non-profit organization enhances protection of children's rights. The findings were supported by results of Kellen (2021) who indicated that non-government organization contributes to the children rights protection in Germany at regression analysis of .87 which is in range of this study where SOS contributes to the children right's protection at 83.5%.

Table 4. 3: Analysis of Variance

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	1334.610	39	511.537	495.377	.000 ^b
Residual	262.990	85	1.033		
Total	1597.600	124			

a. Predictors: (Constant), Health intervention, education intervention and nutrition intervention

b. Dependent variable

Source: Primary data (2023)

The findings in Table 4.3 show analysis of variance between independent variable and dependent variable whereby F=495.377 and p value of 0.000<0.05 which is significance level confirming the contribution of non-profit organizations initiatives and the children's rights protection. Non-Profit Organization provides food for children, scholarship and school facilities, perform advocacy for children issues which improve the level of children's rights are protected.

Table 4. 4: Regression Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.687	.659		-2.558	.000
Health intervention	.545	.271	.984	-2.011	.000
Education intervention	.315	.350	.523	2.900	.000
Nutrition intervention	.478	.287	.739	2.016	.000

Dependent Variable: Children's right protection

Source: Primary data (2023)

Table 4.4 shows the responses of the regression coefficients. The children's rights protection was established through determination of standardized coefficients (Beta). In reference to the T-statistics, the higher participation of Non-Profit Organization in children interventions, education and nutrition is directly proportional to the children's rights protection. Where the results indicated that Non-Profit Organization contributes to children's rights protection through health intervention, education and nutrition. The results showed that health intervention (= .984), education intervention (= .523), nutrition intervention (= .739).

In addition to, a unit change in Non-Profit Organization interventions in health improve children's rights protection at multiple of 0.984, the greatest predatory of the study, any factor change in education would maintain children's rights protection at 0.523 times, and a section change in nutrition leads to children's rights protection at 0.723 times. The results are in agreement of Shephard and Mugwenh (2014) who indicated that non-profit organization contributes to the children right protection through provision of health intervention, education and nutrition. All p-values in the research were less than 0.05, it explains that variables are statistically confirming independent variables influence children's rights protection as dependent variables significantly.

IV. Conclusions

Based on the findings from this study, study concluded that SOS Children's Villages play great interventions in the promotion of health for children such as SOS provides food to the vulnerable children, participating in alcohol use prevention and making surveillance on the children malpractices to enhance children's rights protection.

SOS Children's Villages contribute to the children's right protection through promoting health intervention, improving education level and stimulating nutrition level. The children's right protection is done in various angles provision food and health services, helping children to get education services, protecting children from food insecurity, therefore SOS Children's Villages contribute highly to the children's right protection particularly in Rwanda.

V. Recommendations

The findings in this study have reemphasized the contribution of non-profit organizations interventions and children's rights protection in Rwanda with a case of SOS Children's Villages. Therefore, this study is significant to many interested parties in the children's right protection. The researcher recommended SOS Children's Villages to extend the program by helping children to report on time their issues affecting their rights since delaying to report reduce ability to handle issue on time. The findings showed that some children malpractices are not surveyed and reported. Hence, research recommended that non-profit organizations need to put more efforts in surveillance and reporting the children malpractices which hinder the children's right protection.

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