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### DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

#### RESEARCH TITLE:

AN ANALYSIS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS AN EMERGING THREAT TO HUMAN SECURITY, “CASE OF ZIMBABWEAN WOMEN TO KUWAIT: 2010-2016”

BY

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## Declaration

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Joyce Chiratidzo Chikosa

.....

Date.....

## **Dedication**

I dedicate this research to the joy and abundance of life in my son Jayden. I also dedicate this research to the eternal memory of my mother. Lastly I dedicate this research to all of my family and friends.

## **Acknowledgements**

I acknowledge the steadfast guidance of my supervisor Dr Sadiki Maeresera, my friends and the rest of the lecturing staff of Midland State University that had a hand directly or otherwise in the production of the research and completion of studies to which it is but one component. Above all I acknowledge the omnipresent God Almighty.

## **Abstract**

The research investigated human trafficking as an emerging threat to human security with a special focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait between 2010 and 2016. The research was guided by the following objectives: to analyse human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait during the period 2010-2016, to examine the dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe and to offer scholarly policy recommendations on national strategic solutions in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat not only in Zimbabwe but at a regional and international level. The research distributed 50 questionnaires to 50 women, victims of human trafficking that had been rescued from Kuwait and returned home. The research also conducted 3 key informant interviews on an official from the Immigration Department of Zimbabwe, an official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and an official in the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe. Among the findings of the research is that: Poverty is a significant factor that has made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat. High unemployment and underemployment are significant factors that have made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat. The weakness in law enforcement is a factor that has increased the potential for Zimbabwe women to be trafficked to Kuwait. The trafficking for sexual exploitation is one of the forms of human trafficking that have emerged as a human security threat for Zimbabwe women. None of the respondents experienced trafficking for body parts or for moving drugs or weapons. Personal security is one form of human security deprived or violated by human traffickers on Zimbabwe women who are trafficked to Kuwait. Health security is a form of human security that is violated or deprived of the Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait. Political security is one of the human security facets violated or deprived of Zimbabwe women that are trafficked to Kuwait. Food security component of human security of the Zimbabwe women is violated during the stay in restricted conditions in Kuwait. Among the recommendations proffered by the research are: that the Zimbabwe Trafficking of Persons Act of 2014 be amended to define, as part of human trafficking, all forms of exploitation that arise from it to include domestic servitude, slave labour, sexual exploitation, deliberate starvation, physical assault and verbal insult, that all Zimbabwean embassies around the world have law enforcement attachés that deal primarily with issues to do with human trafficking of Zimbabwe nationals, that airlines present brochures of country profiles including risks to human security found therein to travellers who intend to visit those countries not as a means to discourage but to instil vigilance, that local law enforcement receives training and resources with which to combat the evolving and growing threat of human trafficking.

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

DFID	Department for International Development
WOZA	Women of Zimbabwe Arise
NGOS	Non-Governmental Organisation
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
ATIMC	Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee
INTERPOL	International Police
UNCHS	United Nations Commission on Human Security (UNCHS)
ILO	International Labour Organization (ILO)
SVAW	Stop Violence Against Women
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MIDSA	Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa
SADCTIPNet Network	Southern Africa Development Community Trafficking Persons Network

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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

The chapter provides a background to the study of human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. In it the knowledge gaps that the research sought to help bridge are identified. The chapter provides a problem statement, the research aim, the research objectives, research questions, significance of the research, the delimitations of the research, the limitations of the research, the assumptions of the research and the definition of key terms. The chapter also outlines in detail the research design and methods of data collection used. The population and sample of the study are clearly indicated in this chapter and rational for preferred methods given. The chapter also gives a broad overview of the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. In doing so the chapter discusses how and when the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait emerged, the push and pull factors that have made Zimbabwean women vulnerable to trafficking to Kuwait, The response of Zimbabwean authorities to the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait and the constraints met in curbing human trafficking in Zimbabwe and identifies existing policy and capacity gaps.

### 1.8 Background to the study

While attention and combative effort against the threat of human trafficking is fairly recent, emerging in the last quarter of the 20th century, the trafficking of people has grown consciously and systematically for over a century to the point that it now is an endemic feature of national and international crime the world over. According to Ochab (2017), the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates that there are around 21 million trafficked people around the world each year.<sup>1</sup> Ochab (2017) further reports that this includes about 5.5 million children and that human trafficking is a crime that is gendered, meaning that the primary victims are women and girls.<sup>2</sup> Ochab (2017) also notes that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's report Global Report on Trafficking in Persons

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<sup>1</sup> Ochab, U. W. (2017) The World's Fastest Growing Crime  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/ewelinaochab/2017/07/29/the-worlds-fastest-growing-crime/2/#69f409c16547>.  
Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>2</sup> Ochab, U, W. (2017) Ibid

2016 reports that women constitute 51% of trafficked persons, men 21%, girls 20%, and boys 8%.<sup>3</sup> The International Organization for Migration (IOM 2016) estimates that up to 800,000 people on average are trafficked across international borders each year.<sup>4</sup> According to IOM (2016), over 800 000 suffer an assault to their human security in one form or the other due to human trafficking.<sup>5</sup> The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2016), reports that 45 per cent of victims are trafficked within the same sub-region while 27 per cent are trafficked within the same country and 24 per cent across different regions.<sup>6</sup> UNODC (2016) observes that a common trend is that of the trafficking of victims from less developed countries to more developed countries.<sup>7</sup> According to Wooditch and Steverson (2017), human trafficking usually begins in origin countries, namely, Southeast Asia, eastern Europe, and sub-Saharan Africa, where recruiters seek migrants through various mediums such as the Internet, employment agencies, the media, and local contacts.<sup>8</sup> Wooditch and Steverson (2017) also suggest that middlemen who recruit from within the origin country commonly share the cultural background of those migrating.<sup>9</sup> Wooditch and Steverson (2017) opine further that migrants view the services of a smuggler as an opportunity to move from impoverished conditions in their home countries to more stable, developed environments.<sup>10</sup>

Saeed (2015) posits that trafficking is one of the largest profit makers for organized crime in the world, and this rings true also in Africa.<sup>11</sup> According to Saeed (2015), economic differentials make poor countries, regions and cities attractive to traffickers.<sup>12</sup> Saeed (2015) reports also that because of conflicts, there is a demand for soldiers and sexual and domestic services.<sup>13</sup> Other types of trafficking are connected to trade with organs and body parts for rituals. Adoption trade is also a factor. Saeed (2015) further asserts that the supply factors, the push factors, are poverty, human deprivation, bad living conditions, unemployment, gender

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<sup>3</sup> Ochab, U. W. (2017) Ibid

<sup>4</sup> International Organisation of Migration (IOM 2014) Human Trafficking in the 21st Century, Geneva

<sup>5</sup> International Organisation of Migration (IOM 2014) Human Trafficking in the 21st Century, Geneva

<sup>6</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime UNODC (2017). Southern Africa: A regional response to smuggling of migrants. [https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa\\_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html](https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html) Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>7</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime UNODC (2012). Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Wooditch, A. C. and Steverson, L. A. (2017). Human Trafficking. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/human-trafficking> Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>9</sup> Wooditch, A. C. and Steverson, L. A. (2017). Ibid

<sup>10</sup> Wooditch, A. C. and Steverson, L. A. (2017). Ibid

<sup>11</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Human Trafficking in Sub Saharan Africa: Untold stories of the silenced <http://www.untoldstoriesonline.com/human-trafficking-in-sub-saharan-africa/> accessed 10 April 2010

<sup>12</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Ibid

<sup>13</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Ibid

discrimination, harmful socio-cultural practices, low education and lack of legislative and policy frameworks.<sup>14</sup> According to Saeed (2015) the most common type of trafficking experienced in Africa is sex trafficking which involves bride trafficking, forced prostitution, child prostitution and child pornography.<sup>15</sup> AfricaNews reports that the African countries with the highest year on year frequency of human trafficking over the last decade are Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, South Sudan and Sudan.<sup>16</sup>

Cases of human trafficking have increased in southern Africa so much that according to the Southern Africa arm of UNDOC, in partnership with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) in June of 2017 launched Southern Africa Development Community Trafficking in Persons Network (SADCTIPNet), a new regional network for trafficking in persons in Lobamba, Swaziland.<sup>17</sup> The increased vulnerabilities and exposure to human trafficking faced by Zimbabwean citizenry culminated in one of the most severe assaults to human security posed by human trafficking yet. In 2016 200 Zimbabwean women were trafficked to Kuwait. While they were rescued by Kuwait officials USDSOMCTP (2016) however reported that the Zimbabwean Government did not prosecute or convict any trafficking offenders during the reporting period.<sup>18</sup> An Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee (ATIMC) was however set up though its effectiveness is yet to be evaluated. The research investigates the human security risks, influencing factors and effects that arise from this trafficking of Zimbabwean women in particular as gateway to the whole phenomenon of human trafficking.

## **1.2.1 An Overview Of The Trafficking Of Zimbabwe Women To Kuwait**

### **1.2.1.1 Emergence of Human Trafficking of Zimbabwe Women to Kuwait**

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<sup>14</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Human Trafficking in Sub Saharan Africa: Untold stories of the silenced <http://www.untoldstoriesonline.com/human-trafficking-in-sub-saharan-africa/> accessed 10 April 2010

<sup>15</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Ibid

<sup>16</sup> AfricaNews, (2017) Africa dominates U.S. list of worst human trafficking offenders. <http://www.africanews.com/2017/06/30/africa-dominates-us-list-of-worst-human-trafficking-offenders/> Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>17</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime UNODC (2017). Southern Africa: A regional response to smuggling of migrants. [https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa\\_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html](https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html) Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>18</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

The trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait has not occurred in a vacuum but against the backdrop of more traditional and local as well as regional forms of human trafficking. The USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that human trafficking has had a recognizably large presence in Zimbabwe since as early as 2007 but Zimbabwean Authorities have lacked the capacity and consciousness to monitor and respond to the phenomenon until 2014.<sup>19</sup> Human trafficking had also always occurred regionally, but mostly to the most vulnerable groups of Zimbabwean society and in areas that were strategically located to facilitate easy transit and holding of persons against their will. USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that women and girls from Zimbabwean towns bordering South Africa, Mozambique, and Zambia have for long been subjected to forced labor, including domestic servitude, and sex trafficking in brothels catering to long-distance truck drivers on both sides of the borders.<sup>20</sup> The USSDOMCTP (2016) also reports that adults have for long recruited girls for child sex trafficking in Victoria Falls. Children are subjected to forced labor in the agricultural and mining sectors and are forced to carry out illegal activities, including drug smuggling.<sup>21</sup> USSDOMCTP (2016) reports too that there were increased reports of children from Mozambique being subjected to forced labour in street vending in Zimbabwe, including in *Mbare*.<sup>22</sup> Additionally, the practice of *ngozi*, giving a family member to another family to avenge the spirits of a murdered relative, creates a vulnerability to trafficking.<sup>23</sup> It appears that because these forms of trafficking occurred locally and regionally they could be dealt with by utilizing the mainstream criminal codification laws and local as well as regional law enforcement. However the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait presented complex challenges that local authorities were not prepared to immediately manage or respond to.

Official documentation of individual human trafficking cases in Zimbabwe is neither meticulous nor elaborate. Furthermore personal accounts of victims are rarely archived in written records or notes due to the sensitive nature of the experiences that they would have gone through and need to protect identities, avoid stigma or prevent reprisals from traffickers.

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<sup>19</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>20</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

<sup>21</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>22</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

<sup>23</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

However there is agreement among government officials that attention towards the trafficking of Zimbabwe women by Zimbabwe authorities was drawn first by victims themselves in their attempt to be rescued. There lacks clarity on when actual trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait began as this is unknown to officials but trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait veered into the public domain and national discourse in a huge way when the first batch of repatriated women arrived in Harare during the first quarter of 2016 as is reported by several media outlets.

- **The Lure of Employment Prospects**

The promise of employment that has the prospect of paying salaries that are considerably more than the average salaries in Zimbabwe usually lures Zimbabwe women to the hands of traffickers. Studio 7 for instance reported on the 19th of May 2016 that women had been lured by advertisements on social media such as Facebook and Whatsapp of domestic work in hospitality and catering and households that would pay as much as US\$1500 to US\$2000.<sup>24</sup>

- **Travel**

Victims and other witnesses such as immigration officials privy to how women targeted for trafficking travel to Kuwait have suggested that often the ease of travel is facilitated by traffickers who utilise corrupt means to expedite the producing of travel documents such as passports and visas and pay for all the travel expenses. Several newspapers have reported of how agents, some of whom are impalnted within the immigration department and the Embassy of Kuwait in Zimbabwe, facilitate travel documents expeditiously and incur all expenses to fly the women to Kuwait. The 19 May 2016 article of Studio 7, reports how the women having beome property of the traffickers in Kuwait may also be rtrafficked to other Arab countries such as Egypt and Iraq.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

<sup>25</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Ibid

- **Bondage**

Reports indicate that on arrival in Kuwait the women have their identity and travel documents withheld by traffickers and by virtue of being turned into illegal immigrants without any money and in a country whose culture and law enforcement are lackluster in responding to the exploitation of women. The Herald issue of 19 May 2016 reported of how the women in giving testimony before the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee in Zimbabwe narrated that they had been held against their will like prisoners and measures had been taken to physically stop them from escaping.<sup>26</sup>

### **1.2.1.2 Nature of Exploitation suffered by Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait**

Domestic slave labour and sexual abuse are the common forms of exploitation that have been frequently reported by women that have experienced trafficking to Kuwait.

- **Domestic Slave Labour**

It is generally believed by Zimbabwean authorities that in excess of 200 women have been trafficked to Kuwait. Of these 121 are reported by USSDOMCTP (2016) to have been rescued and repatriated to Zimbabwe while many are still in bondage in Kuwait.<sup>27</sup> The Zimbabwean issue of 23 May 2016 reports that all of the returned women narrate of how they were forced into domestic slave labour after their identity and travel documents had been withheld from them.<sup>28</sup>

- **Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**

The Zimbabwean issue of 23 May 2016 reports for instance that one Zimbabwean woman related how she was raped and forced to sleep with 5 to 10 men a day in order to compensate for the money that her new boss or oppressor had paid to the traffickers that had brought her

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<sup>26</sup> See The Herald, 18 January 2017, Govt acts on human trafficking fears <http://www.herald.co.zw/govt-acts-on-human-trafficking-fears/> Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>27</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>28</sup> See The Zimbabwean, 23 May 2016. Kuwait set free human trafficked Zimbabwean Women & punish perpetrators. <http://www.thezimbabwean.co/2016/05/kuwait-set-free-human-trafficked-zimbabwean-women-punish-perpetrators/> Accessed 01 August 2017

to the country.<sup>29</sup> Studio 7 also reported on 19 May 2016 that one of the first batches of women that had been rescued from Kuwait and who had been promised lucrative jobs before they left Zimbabwe, by employment agents in both countries, were allegedly abused by their employers. They were forced to do menial jobs and in some instances sexually abused.<sup>30</sup>

### **1.2.1.3 Push and Pull Factors that Have Been Identified**

This section discusses the push and pull factors that made Zimbabwe women vulnerable and more susceptible to being trafficked to Kuwait among which include desperation by Zimbabwe women to find a better quality of life and the high demand for cheap labour in Kuwait.

- **Desperate Longing for a Better Quality of Life among Zimbabwe Women**

The desperation of Zimbabwe women to find a better quality of life has left them even more vulnerable to being trafficked to Kuwait and not exercising caution and diligence in assessing the offer of employment. This desperation is caused and worsened by worsening poverty in Zimbabwe that disproportionately affects women more than men, limited employment opportunities in Zimbabwe, gullibility of Zimbabwe women caused by a lack of awareness of the threat of human trafficking and low level of education, as well as the ease of travel to Kuwait as the travel documents and expenses are facilitated by the traffickers.

- **Worsening Poverty**

The World Bank (2016) reports that poverty disproportionately affects more women than men and is worse among them as well by comparison.<sup>31</sup> The poverty datum line set by ZIMSTAT at US\$ 645,54 as at 3 November 2017 is beyond the reach of many.<sup>32</sup> The World Bank describes poverty as living on less than US\$2 a day and a vast majority of Zimbabwean fall

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<sup>29</sup> See The Zimbabwean. 23 May 2016. Ibid

<sup>30</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. 19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

<sup>31</sup> The World Bank (2016) Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. World Bank

<sup>32</sup> ZIMSTAT Statistical databases (2017). <http://www.zimstat.co.zw/search/node/poverty%20datum%20line> Accessed 3 November 2017

within this group.<sup>33</sup> To escape poverty Zimbabwe women then fall prey to traffickers to Kuwait who promise such jobs as waitressing in the hospitality and catering industry with salaries of up US\$1500 to US\$2000 as is reported by the NewsDay issue of 29 June 2017.<sup>34</sup>

- **Limited Employment opportunities**

Zimbabwe has experienced a contraction of the employment sector for the greater part of three straight decades. According to Studio 7 also reported on the 16 May 2016 of that women were lured to Kuwait with the promise of employment as traffickers falsified information that there were lucrative jobs in hotels and where they would work as waitresses been paid \$1,500 to \$2,000 a month.<sup>35</sup>

- **Gullibility**

Indications are that most of the women that are lured to Kuwait are of a rural background and limited education which significantly increases their vulnerability to the economic hardships in Zimbabwe and in turn their gullibility. USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that a lack of exposure through education or pop culture keeps some of Zimbabwe women ignorant of global human security threats and modern criminal tendencies.<sup>36</sup>

- **Ease of Travel**

Immigration officials suggest that the deceptive approach with which the traffickers approach their targets makes the women trust them. The traffickers appear professional especially because they can facilitate the expeditious processing of travel documents and foot the bill for all travel expenses. The whole process has the appearance of an efficient employment agency that is legitimate and professional. This earns the trust of the women just so as to be able to

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<sup>33</sup> The World Bank (2016) Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> See NewsDay .29 June 2017. Zimbabwe improves in human trafficking rankings

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2017/06/zim-improves-human-trafficking-rankings/> Accessed 3 August 2017

<sup>35</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>36</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

lure them to Kuwait were they would be easier to oppress because they would now be in a foreign country where they know no one or nothing about anything there.

- **High Demand for Cheap Labour in Kuwait and other Middle Eastern Countries**

The high demand for cheap and disempowered labour and the large profits that can be made for delivering trafficked women to their would be oppressors makes it that much more difficult to combat the practice. Immigration officials have suggested that the trafficking syndicates have a set a hegemony in Kuwait society that would be difficult to dismantle as it is also intricately married to corrupt officials in immigration and law enforcement institutions. USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that human trafficking is somewhat of a underground yet sprawling industry of the dark trade of human beings that is firmly etched in the society of the country of Kuwait and is a source of livelihood to many traffickers.<sup>37</sup>

#### **1.2.1.4 Response of Zimbabwe Authorities to the Trafficking of Zimbabwe Women to Kuwait**

The USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that some of the notable achievements by Zimbabwe include co-ordinating with Kuwait to repatriate and refer to care 121 female trafficking victims, and also repatriating five victims from Sudan, as well as launching its first national action plan and implementing several key activities in the plan.<sup>38</sup> This section discusses how Zimbabwe authorities and institutions have responded to the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait through the actions of the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait, the Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee (ATIMC), Parliamentary portfolio committees, Law Enforcement and Prosecution, protest and lobby groups and partnering with the United States of America Department of State.

##### **i. The Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait**

Reports indicate that the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait first alerted authorities back in Zimbabwe of the emergence of women being trafficked to that country. The embassy

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<sup>37</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>38</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

officials led by the Zimbabwe Ambassador to Kuwait Mr Grey Marongwe has resorted to predominantly informal and discreet methods of assisting trafficked Zimbabwe women in that country to escape their abusers. A June 2016 article of the NewsDays reports that the Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait has set up a shelter at its premises for women it helps rescue from Kuwait and has engaged Kuwait authorities to try and identify human trafficking syndicates that were disguising themselves as maid or waitress employment agencies in that county.<sup>39</sup> Informal reports given by victims also suggest that were the Kuwait authorities are reluctant to assist (and this is in most cases) the embassy officials help the victims that contact them with directions and sometimes money so that they are able to at least run away from their captors to the sanctuary of the embassy. Studio 7 for instance carried an article on 19 May 2016 that reported one of the repatriated women suggesting that she was grateful to the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait, which through one of its employees Francis Ngwenya, assisted the women to escape from their abusive employers.<sup>40</sup>

## **ii. Anti Trafficking Inter Ministerial Committee (ATIMC)**

In 2015 the Zimbabwe Government set up an inter-ministerial committee to actively combat human trafficking and assist rescued victims. The USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that the government appointed the permanent secretary of home affairs to chair the ATIMC in December 2015.<sup>41</sup> ATIMC met twice and led the development of the country's first national action plan in September 2015, which was pending cabinet approval by the end of the reporting period. The national action plan provides for a review of the current anti-trafficking legal framework. Currently ATIMC meets quarterly (that is four times a year) and according to the Zimbabwean issue of 2 October 2017, the 2017 U.S. trafficking in persons report the Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee developed terms of reference to guide front-line responders in a victim-centered approach, and established two provincial taskforces to implement the national action plan at the provincial level.<sup>42</sup> The Committee also conducted

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<sup>39</sup> See NewsDay. 2 June 2016. Trafficking agent attempts suicide at Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2016/06/trafficking-agent-attempts-suicide-zim-embassy-kuwait/> Accessed 4 August 2017.

<sup>40</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

<sup>41</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>42</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

training-of-trainers for police on victim identification interview procedures. The Zimbabwean also reports that as a result, Zimbabwe was upgraded from Tier 3- among countries assessed as not meeting the minimum standards nor making significant efforts to meet them- to Tier 2 Watch List.<sup>43</sup>

### **iii. Parliamentary Portfolio Committees' response**

The scourge of human trafficking particularly of that of trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait has gradually drawn the attention and some effort by parliament to combat it. A Newsday Issue of 29 June 2017 reported that a batch of women that had been returned from Kuwait narrated their account to the parliamentary portfolio committee on gender in its fact finding and appraisal initiative over the emergence of Human trafficking as a significant human security threat particularly among Zimbabwe women.<sup>44</sup> The chair of that committee honorable Rita Nyamupinga, MP, stated:

*“Some women and men from both the ruling party and the opposition have been angered by the reports we have been receiving on how women and girls who were trafficked to Kuwait by employment agents were abused by their so-called employers, We have heard harrowing reports of how some of the women were abused beyond measure and we hope that they will receive the help they need from both the Government and other organizations”<sup>45</sup>*

It appears that concern among parliamentarians in Zimbabwe over the scourge of human trafficking particularly that of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait has drawn bi-partisan support from legislators and genuine commitment to its fight.

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<sup>43</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

<sup>44</sup> See NewsDay .29 June 2017. Zimbabwe improves in human trafficking rankings <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2017/06/zim-improves-human-trafficking-rankings/> Accessed 3 August 2017

<sup>45</sup> See Marvellous Mhlanga-Nyahuye article and Interview with Rita Nyamupinga - Goromonzi West MP (chairperson of the parliamentary committee on gender): Zimbabwe Lawmakers Cross Party Lines to Fight Human Trafficking May 18, 2016 <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3336165.html> Accessed 01 August 2017



**Photo: Tawanda Mudimu/Herald: National Assembly members sit on the floor in protest of the abuse of Zimbabwean women in Kuwait. 19 May 2016**

The Herald reported on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 that members of parliament had staged a sit in, in parliament to protest women trafficking and the continued enslavement of Zimbabwean human trafficking victims in Kuwait<sup>46</sup> as is shown in the picture above.

#### **iv. Law Enforcement and Prosecution**

Zimbabwe law enforcement and Justice system has only very recently, as early as 2016, began to seriously apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of traffickers of women to Kuwait. The Herald issue of 18 January 2017 reports that a number of Zimbabweans, including some workers at the Kuwait embassy, have since appeared in court facing several charges of human trafficking.<sup>47</sup> Existing law however does not provide for penalties and sentencing that is comprehensive enough to adequately punish perpetrators of human trafficking in a manner that is commensurate with the seriousness of the crime and that does not do enough to deter other would be traffickers. The USSDOMCTP (2016) reports that, inconsistent with international law, the 2014 Trafficking in Persons Act defines trafficking in persons as a movement-based crime and does not adequately define, exploitation, a key element of effective trafficking laws generally defined under international law as forced prostitution or

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<sup>46</sup> The Herald. 17 May 2016. Zimbabwe: MPs Stage Floor Sitting Demo Inside Parly in Protest Over Human Trafficking. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201605180161.html> Accessed 3 August 2017.

<sup>47</sup> See The Herald, 18 January 2017, Govt acts on human trafficking fears <http://www.herald.co.zw/govt-acts-on-human-trafficking-fears/> Accessed 01 August 2017

other forms of forced labor.<sup>48</sup> Furthermore the USSDOMCTP (2016) also suggests that, the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act prohibits and prescribes penalties of up to two years' imprisonment for procuring a person for unlawful sexual conduct, inside or outside of Zimbabwe; this penalty is not sufficiently stringent when applied to cases of sex trafficking. The act also prohibits coercing or inducing anyone to engage in unlawful sexual conduct with another person by threat or intimidation, prescribing sufficiently stringent penalties of one to five years' imprisonment.<sup>49</sup> Pledging a female for forced marriage to compensate for the death of a relative or to settle any debt or obligation is punishable under the act, with penalties of up to two years' imprisonment. These penalties are not commensurate with penalties prescribed for other serious crimes, such as rape.<sup>50</sup>

#### **v. Move to Ban Article 20 Visas**

The herald reported on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 that the Zimbabwe government had applied to th Kuwait Government that it stops issuing article 20 Visas to Zimbabwe nationals as a way to curb human trafficking.<sup>51</sup> The report suggests that under Kuwaiti immigration laws, an Article 20 visa restricts one to being a domestic worker. In the same report the Herald reported that the Zimbabwe Government also wanted the Kuwait government to arrange compensation for the period Zimbabwean human trafficking victims were forced to work without pay. However the application was yet to be actioned or implimented.<sup>52</sup>

#### **vi. Protest and Lobby Groups**

Non-Governmental organisations have protested and lobbied the Government to show more initiative in combating the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. Some of the groups have assisted in the repatriation of rescued women, for example VOA (2017) reports that twenty-one women and girls were repatriated last with the assistance of the Young Women's

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<sup>48</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

<sup>49</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

<sup>50</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Ibid

<sup>51</sup> The Herald. 18 May 2016. Zimbabwe: Govt Seeks Ban On Kuwait Visas <http://allafrica.com/stories/201605180137.html> Accessed on 2 August 2017

<sup>52</sup> The Herald. 18 May 2016. Ibid

Christian Association led by *Nyaradzayi Gumbodzvanda*.<sup>53</sup> A number of other gender based and development oriented NGOs have been vocal in lobbying the government to take more resolute action against perpetrators of human trafficking including Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA), The Girl Child Network, *Padare* Men's Forum and the Zimbabwe Women in Politics Alliance (ZWIPA). Studio 7 issue of 16 May 2016 reported that Linda Masarira, the founder and national coordinator of ZWIPA suggested that they would confront the Kuwait embassy over the issue of human trafficking.<sup>54</sup>

#### **vii. Partnership with the American State Department**

The United States of America of Department of State that was headed sent a delegation to Zimbabwe headed by their foreign services officer Haley Wright in order to find ways to partner local government institutions and other stakeholders in the fight against human trafficking. During that visit, Torrie Higgins, the Program Advisor at the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the U.S. Department of State declared:

*“Our foreign assistance (in Zimbabwe) is going to be focusing a lot on legislative amendments including bringing the 2014 anti- trafficking law into alignment with the Palermo Protocols and we do that through partnerships with international organizations. We are also going to be looking at partnering on upgrading some shelter services and training shelter staff on how to provide services for trafficking in persons victims.”<sup>55</sup>*

Indications are that Zimbabwe will benefit from intellectual and material resource support from the United States of America whose law enforcement arm is far reaching. The U.S state department has already conducted awareness summits and workshops in the country with stakeholders in order to educate and help formulate preventive measures.

#### **1.2.1.5 Constraints in Curbing Human Trafficking In Zimbabwe**

This section discusses the constraints met in combating the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. Among these are the high volumes of voluntary migration due to worsening

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<sup>53</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

<sup>54</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Ibid

<sup>55</sup> Statement by Torrie Higgins, Program Advisor at the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the US Department of State.

poverty and unemployment that make it difficult to then monitor, trace, identify and reduce trafficking victims, lack of awareness of human trafficking by Zimbabwe women particularly those that are from rural areas and are uneducated, the profitability of human trafficking in Kuwait and weak law enforcement in Kuwait.

#### **a) The High Volume of Voluntary Migration**

Zimbabwe has been saddled by a plethora of socio-economic challenges that continue to influence high volumes of voluntary migration to other countries in pursuit of a better quality of life. There is concern that human trafficking victims may be lost in the milieu of voluntary migrators. ATMIC (2016) reports that one of the indicators of an increase of human trafficking would be an increase of upsurge in migration to certain countries that would alert officials as to the need to investigate.<sup>56</sup> However Zimbabweans already regularly migrate to foreign countries on their own and at times the volume of migration disguises suspicious migration tendencies. Furthermore, the willingness to migrate by Zimbabweans as a means to escape poverty and unemployment complicates steps to curb migration.

#### **b) Criminal elements in The Immigration Department and Embassy of Kuwait**

Both Zimbabwe and Kuwait nationals have been implicated in the trafficking of women to Kuwait. Some Zimbabwe nationals travel to and from Kuwait with victims to facilitate the trafficking as is revealed by a NewsDay article in the 29 June 2016 issue.<sup>57</sup> These officials have their cohorts within the immigration department and some of the corrupt officials are at the Kuwait Embassy in Zimbabwe. Studio 7 reported on 19 May 2016 that the former secretary to the Ambassador of Kuwait who is a Zimbabwe national, had been arrested as part of a group of four traffickers that had facilitated the trafficking of young Zimbabwe girls to

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<sup>56</sup> Zimbabwe ATMIC, Quarterly Report, 1ST Quarter. 2017

<sup>57</sup> See NewsDay .29 June 2017. Zim improves in human trafficking rankings

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2017/06/zim-improves-human-trafficking-rankings/> Accessed 3 August 2017

Kuwait.<sup>58</sup> There is also a general belief among local law enforcement and officials at the Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait that the scale of human trafficking in Kuwait is facilitated also by widespread corruption in which law enforcement is bribed by traffickers to not only turn a blind eye to the trafficking but in some instances facilitate it. AllAfrica (2016) reported that former Kuwait ambassador to Zimbabwe, Ahmed Al -Jeeran, has been implicated in the human trafficking syndicate that has seen hundreds of female jobseekers lured to Kuwait and used as cheap labourers and sex workers.<sup>59</sup>

### **c) A Seeming reluctance to Clamp Down on Human Trafficking by Kuwait Law Enforcement**

The Zimbabwean issue of 23 May 2016 reports that In Zimbabwe the perpetrators including Kuwaiti embassy official have been arrested. But in Kuwait no single suspect has been arrested.<sup>60</sup> This is largely due to the fact that on the Kuwait end, the response to trafficking of women by the authorities there have been weak. Kuwait must arrest the perpetrators of this human trafficking. There appears to be a reluctance of law enforcement in Kuwait to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking. Scholars in such as Rwebangira (2015) have theorized that culture and corruption have converged to blunt the Middle Eastern countries' law enforcement response to the trafficking in women.<sup>61</sup> Middle Eastern countries are characterised by a culture that does not apply the same rights to women as they do to men, as such the response to the trafficking of women, let alone African women is lackluster. Officials at the Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait have expressed that at face value the Kuwait's Ministry of Interior's Anti-Human Trafficking Department, the Domestic Worker Agency there, and the Public Prosecutors Office appear to be committed to combating human trafficking but reality shows large gaps in implementation of law enforcement.

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<sup>58</sup> See Marvelous Mhlanga-Nyahuye Studio 7. VOA. .19 May 2016. Six Zimbabwean Women Trafficked to Kuwait Arrive in Harare <https://www.voazimbabwe.com/a/zimbabwe-kuwait-human-trafficking-africa/3337838.html> Accessed 4 August 2017

<sup>59</sup> AllAfrica. (2017). Zimbabwe Accuses Kuwait Diplomat of Human Trafficking. <http://allafrica.com/view/group/main/main/id/00042055.html> Accessed 3 August 2017.

<sup>60</sup> See The Zimbabwean. 23 May 2016. Kuwait set free human trafficked Zimbabwean Women & punish perpetrators. <http://www.thezimbabwean.co/2016/05/kuwait-set-free-human-trafficked-zimbabwean-women-punish-perpetrators/> Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>61</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

#### **d) Zimbabwe Women's Lack of Awareness on the Dangers and Threat of Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking of the scale that is realized in the trafficking of women to Kuwait had been generally unknown and obscure in Zimbabwe and in many parts of the country it still is. Most Zimbabwe women are ignorant of the extent of the threat and scope of human trafficking of the nature that is posed by Kuwait traffickers. According to the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP), Victim Friendly Unit (VFU, 2016), police encourages that when a threat has a foreign origin and local law enforcement can only intercept rather than eliminate the criminal elements, the first line of defense should be the targeted victim.<sup>62</sup> ZRP's VFU (2016) further suggests that the reality however is that the usually targeted victims, that is, Zimbabwe women are normally ignorant of the threat of human trafficking to identify for themselves the typical characteristics of traffickers.<sup>63</sup> They fail to recognise suspicious behaviour such as the traffickers' heightened helpfulness, willingness to expedite travel arrangements and assume all travel expenses and in particular the persistence with which they pursue the targeted victim. It appears that had more Zimbabwe women known more about the trends of human trafficking and deceptive characteristics of traffickers, significantly less women would have been trafficked to Kuwait. They would be able to identify traffickers.

#### **e) Policy and Capacity Gaps**

This section discusses two glaring policy and capacity gaps that have been identified by scholars and government officials alike in the combat of human trafficking in Zimbabwe particularly as it concerns the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait.

- **Alignment of domestic law and policy to the Palermo Protocols**

According to the United Kingdom (UK) chapter of the End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT, 2017) the Palermo protocols are three protocols that were adopted by the United Nations to supplement the 2000

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<sup>62</sup> Victim Friendly Unit Report on Women Victims of Human Trafficking, 20 October 2017. Zimbabwe Republic Police.

<sup>63</sup> Victim Friendly Unit Report on Women Victims of Human Trafficking, 20 October 2017. Ibid

Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Palermo Convention).<sup>64</sup> They are: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition.<sup>65</sup> ECPAT (2017) also suggests that these protocols and convention fall within the jurisdiction of the UNODC.<sup>66</sup>

The Palermo protocols are elaborate in the definition and scope of human trafficking and there is a general inclination among regional and global institutions that individual countries should adopt the Palermo protocols so as to thoroughly deal with human trafficking in all its forms. The USSDOMCTP (2016) recommends that Zimbabwe amends the 2014 anti-trafficking legislation to incorporate a definition of trafficking consistent with the 2000 UN Trafficking In Persons (TIP) Protocol set in Palermo.<sup>67</sup>

- **Establishment of a joint law enforcement task force**

Coordination at policy level through the ATIMC has not translated to coordination among law enforcement. Rather it appears the ATIMC has actually tied the hand of innovation and initiative on the part of law enforcement in combating human trafficking as the action plan has become centralized. Civil society groups have suggested that there be a police presence and intelligence operatives in immigration and embassy departments to specifically vet what may be trafficking syndicates.

### **1.3 Statement of the problem**

Cases of human trafficking have risen rapidly in Zimbabwe in the last decade posing increased threat to human security of a social, economic and political nature. What has made human trafficking a particularly dangerous threat is that it appears the government of Zimbabwe, law enforcement, the rest of Zimbabwe and Africa are ill prepared and

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<sup>64</sup> ECPAT UK (2017) The Definition of Trafficking <http://new.ecpat.org.uk/content/definition-trafficking>  
Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>65</sup> ECPAT UK (2017) The Definition of Trafficking <http://new.ecpat.org.uk/content/definition-trafficking>  
Accessed 01 August 2017

<sup>66</sup> ECPAT UK (2017) Ibid

<sup>67</sup> United States State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, (USSDOMCTP) 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe

incapacitated to effectively respond to human trafficking. Push and pull actors such as the growing demand for cheap and disempowered labour, poverty and unemployment, have left Zimbabweans and Africans susceptible to international and regional trafficking syndicates, gangs or individual criminals. Victims of this scourge have been reported to be subjected to sexual exploitation, forced labor or mutilation for organ harvesting in an assault to their human rights, civil liberties and freedom. This study of human trafficking as an emerging security threat focuses on the trafficking of a group of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait between 2010 and 2017 in order to shed light on why and how human trafficking has emerged as a human security threat and ultimately recommend solutions.

#### **1.4 Aim of the research**

The study aims to draw attention as to why and how human trafficking has emerged as a human security threat by assessing the causes and nature of the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait and how it has affected their lives.

#### **1.5 Research objectives**

The objectives of this research study are as follows:

- To analyze human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait during the period 2010-2016
- To examine the dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe.
- To offer scholarly policy recommendations on national strategic solutions in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat not only in Zimbabwe but at a regional and international level.

#### **1.6 Research questions**

The research questions of this research study are as follows:

- In what ways has human trafficking emerged as a human security threat particularly for Zimbabwean women migrating to Kuwait for labor during the period 2010-2016?
- What are the dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe?
- What are the possible scholarly policy recommendations on national strategic solutions in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat not only in Zimbabwe but at a regional and international level?

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

The significance of the study is realised in the study's potential benefits to a host of stakeholders namely girls and women in Zimbabwe, The Government of Zimbabwe, Regional and International Law Enforcement agencies and the Midlands State University as is illustrated below;

**To girls and women in Zimbabwe** the study will alert them as to the strategies and scope of human trafficking so that they exercise caution in responding to and accepting job offers from foreign agents particularly those from Kuwait. This would help to significantly lower the cases of human trafficking of Zimbabwe girls and women.

**To the Government of Zimbabwe** the study will help policy makers of relevant Ministries such as that of Justice and Home affairs, Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Health and Child Welfare and Women Affairs, Gender and Community Affairs to craft policies that enforce more protections of potential trafficking victims by addressing the vulnerability factors that this research highlighted. The research will also alert the legislature, judiciary and law enforcement as to the legal and law enforcement shortcomings in the fight against human trafficking so that capacity and policy gaps will be addressed.

**To Regional and International Law Enforcement Agencies** such as INTERPOL the study will provide a Knowledge base as to the evolving strategies and growing cases of human trafficking particularly in Southern Africa and Zimbabwe so that they may better equip themselves to combat human trafficking from an informed perspective.

**To Academia** the study adds to the knowledge repository in the field of Social Sciences and more specifically in the field of human security and how it relates to the phenomenon of human trafficking that will aid future researchers in their own research.

### **1.8 Scope of the Study**

The study focused on the ordeal of Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait between 2010 and 2017 so as to establish why and how human trafficking had emerged as a human security threat. The study sought to investigate the factors that had made Zimbabwe women more vulnerable to being trafficked, the nature of exploitation that rose from the trafficking and how such trafficking could be combated.

### **1.9 Assumptions of the study**

The study assumes there is a fluid flow of people in and out of Zimbabwe and between and among many other nations' borders for a variety of reasons at any given moment. The study undertakes that lasting harm has been inflicted on a number of Zimbabweans as a result of the villainous trafficking syndicates, gangs and individual criminals that traffic people.

### **1.10 Definition of key Terms**

#### **Human trafficking**

This research shall adopt the definition of human trafficking spelt out in Article 3 of the UN Palermo Protocol (2003) which defines human trafficking in persons to mean: the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.<sup>68</sup> Consent is not necessary where exploitation, fraud, deception, and abuse of vulnerability have been involved. The various stages at which human

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<sup>68</sup> United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, (2003) United Nations General Assembly, Palermo.

trafficking for involuntary prostitution occurs are followed to build a multi-theoretical approach to human trafficking of young women and girls for involuntary prostitution.

## **Human security**

Human security according to the Rwebangira (2015) is an emerging paradigm of understanding global vulnerabilities whose proponents challenge the traditional notion of national security by arguing that the proper referent for security should be the individual rather than the state.<sup>69</sup> This research also applies the definition of human security spelt out by The United Nations Commission on Human Security (UNCHS 2010) which defines human security as the protection and safeguard of the vital core of all human lives in such a way as to enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment.<sup>70</sup> The UNCHS (2010) then delineates the dimensions of human security which are economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security and political security.<sup>71</sup>

## **Forced Labour**

Forced labour in this research shall refer to that defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO 2003) as situations in which persons are coerced to work through the use of violence or intimidation or by more subtle means such as accumulated debt, retention of identity papers or threats of denunciation to immigration authorities.<sup>72</sup>

## **Sexual exploitation**

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<sup>69</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>70</sup> United Nations Commission on Human Security UNCHS (2010). Freedom from Fear, Freedom from Want, Freedom to live in Dignity <http://www.un.org/humansecurity/content/human-security-now> Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>71</sup> United Nations Commission on Human Security UNCHS (2010). Freedom from Fear, Freedom from Want, Freedom to live in Dignity <http://www.un.org/humansecurity/content/human-security-now> Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>72</sup> International Labour Organisation. ILO (2003) Forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking. <http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/lang--en/index.htm> Accessed 10 April 2017

Sexual exploitation in this research shall mean the same as is defined by Article 3 of the UN Palermo Protocol (2003) which defines sexual exploitation to include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation such as forced marriages, sexual slavery or servitude and mail order brides.<sup>73</sup> For the purpose of this paper, reference is only made to women and girls sexual exploited through involuntary prostitution. Therefore prostitution, which is a voluntary sex work performance, is not equated with sexual exploitation. This paper also recognizes that prostitutes could be trafficked but is concerned with young women and girls forced into prostitution by human traffickers.

## **1.11 Organisation of the Rest of the Study**

### **Chapter two: Literature Review and Theoretical Framework**

The second chapter reviews the rational choice theory, the feminist theory, the conflict theory and the human rights approach as a means to establish which of them adequately guided the research of poverty guiding the research incidentally reflecting how the theories apply to the subject of human trafficking and how it affects human security. The chapter also reviews literature on the concept of human security. The chapter will review literature on the concept and types of human trafficking, The factors that facilitated human trafficking were also reviewed, the scale of human trafficking in Africa, the convergence of human security and human trafficking, then analyses the global and African response to human trafficking before highlighting the solutions that have been suggested in other literature to the scourge of human trafficking.

### **Chapter three: Research Design and Methodology**

The third chapter discusses the case study research design that was employed in the research, focusing on 50 women victims of human trafficking as well as 3 key informants. The chapter discusses the sampling techniques used to arrive at the sample size of 53 respondents and the data collection methods utilised. The data collection instruments used are shown in the chapter to be survey questionnaires and key informant interviews. The chapter also discusses the delimitation of the study, its limitations and ethical considerations that were made to

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<sup>73</sup> United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, (2003) United Nations General Assembly, Palermo

protect respondents and retain credibility of the research. The methods of data presentation and analysis uses are also discussed.

#### **Chapter four: Data presentation, analysis and discussion of findings**

The chapter presented and analysed data. Data was be categorized according to characteristics of respondents, research instruments used to derive data and themes that were discussed and from which conclusions will be drawn.

#### **Chapter five: Summary, conclusion, recommendations and areas for further research**

The chapter summarized the research and provided conclusions and recommendations of the research in the context of guiding objectives, research method and findings. Areas for further research will also be covered.

### **1.12 Research Budget**

**Table 1.1: Research budget**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost US\$</b>
Stationary and printing	20
Food	20
Transport	20
Internet	20
Counselling	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>

### **1.13 Conclusion**

The chapter provided a background to the study of human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. The chapter also provided a problem statement, the research aim, the research objectives, the research questions, the significance of the research, the delimitation of the research, the limitations of the research, the assumptions of the research and the definition of key terms. The chapter also outlined in detail the research design and methods of data collection used. The population and sample of the study were clearly indicated in this chapter and rational for preferred methods given. The following chapter discusses the theoretical framework that

guided the research and why it best suits a research of this nature. The chapter also gave a broad overview of the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. In doing so the chapter discussed how and when the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait emerged, the push and pull factors that have made Zimbabwe women vulnerable to trafficking to Kuwait, The response of Zimbabwe authorities to the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait and the constraints met in curbing human trafficking in Zimbabwe and identified existing policy and capacity gaps.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

The chapter presents the considerations made in the theoretical framework that would best guide the research so as to adequately magnify the human security threat posed by human trafficking. The chapter illustrates that after considering the rational choice theory, the feminist theory and human trafficking and the conflict theory to human security the study settled for the human rights approach to human security as a guiding framework. The chapter also reviews both Eurocentric and Afro centric perspectives on the concept of human security, the features of human trafficking, why human trafficking has emerged as human security threat, how human trafficking has emerged as a human security threat and the challenges associated with combating human trafficking.

## **2.2 Theoretical Framework**

This section assesses the suitability of four theories as a guiding theoretical concept to the study of the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait. The study as is shown below ultimately settled on the human rights approach to human trafficking.

### **2.2.1 The Rational choice theory**

According to Lanier and Henry (2014) the rational choice theory is by origin an economic principle that posits that individuals always make prudent and logical decisions.<sup>74</sup> These decisions provide people with the greatest benefit or satisfaction, given the choices available, and are also in their highest self-interest. Lutyia and Lanier (2014) argue that, applied to human trafficking it posits that criminals, in this case the traffickers, solicitors of trafficking or willing enablers are rational beings who make decisions to commit crime based on the costs and benefits involved in the process of crime perpetration.<sup>75</sup> Van Impe, (2000) Suggests that the rational choice theory assumes that the motive to action is prospective benefit which provides, to the conscience of the perpetrator, justification of the means.<sup>76</sup>

Lanier and Henry (2014) argue that the rational choice theory is deterministic in nature, criminal decision making process is based on free will, which necessitates observation

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<sup>74</sup> Lanier, M and Henry, S. (2014). *Essential Criminology*. New York; Avalone Publishing.

<sup>75</sup> Lutyia, T. M. and Lanier, M. (2014) *An Integrated Theoretical Framework to Describe Human Trafficking of Young Women and Girls for Involuntary Prostitution*. Geneva: INTEC.

<sup>76</sup> Van Impe, K. (2000). *People for Sale: The Need for a Multidisciplinary Approach towards Human Trafficking*. International Organisation for Migration (IOM) , 38, (3). 113–191

of opportunities, circumstances and situations that could affect the successful perpetration of the planned crime.<sup>77</sup>

According to Luty, and Lanier (2014) the rational choice theory is essentially an operational theory that surmises that rational decision making pertaining to crime involves the choice of the victims determined by the type of crime in this case the type of trafficking, modus operandi which may involve abduction methods or transportation choice, where and when to commit the crime and what to do afterwards.<sup>78</sup> That means the criminal traffickers may first observe the accessibility to potential victims, location, the time at which they are at most vulnerable, the appropriate method that could provide entry with ease and how to safeguard their criminal activities from criminal justice authorities and other capable guardians.

However, Simic (2010) suggests that the rational choice theory is limited in scope.<sup>79</sup> It only presents to the fore the perspective of a perpetrator of action and never that of the subject of the action. The rational choice theory would therefore lead us to understand the motives and methods of traffickers and not the effects trafficking bring on the victims and society. Furthermore while the rational choice theory would be able to explain human trafficking as an act committed for instance, in order for the perpetrator to trade the person or use them for forced labour, sexual gratification or organ harvesting, not all action is rational and predicated upon some very important gain. For instance the rational choice theory would not be able to cater for the trafficking that goes on in war torn zones for instance where barbaric torture may be the only rational behind trafficking that would lead to murder. Furthermore that rational choice theory does very little to explain the risk factors that give rise to trafficking such as weak law enforcement, lacklustre border control, war and other conflict as social inequalities. It would therefore not be adequate to base the research on.

### **2.2.2 The Feminist theory and human trafficking**

Lobasz (2009) posits that feminist theory of human trafficking challenges the traditional security framework, prioritizing the security of trafficked persons and recognizing the manner

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<sup>77</sup>Lanier, M and Henry, S. (2014). Ibid

<sup>78</sup> Luty, T. M. and Lanier, M. (2014) An Integrated Theoretical Framework to Describe Human Trafficking of Young Women and Girls for Involuntary Prostitution. Geneva: INTEC.

<sup>79</sup> Simic. O. (2010). Boys will be boys!: Human trafficking and UN peacekeeping in Bosnia and Kosovo. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217\\_%27Boys\\_will\\_be\\_boys%27\\_Human\\_trafficking\\_and\\_UN\\_peacekeeping\\_in\\_Bosnia\\_and\\_Kosovo](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217_%27Boys_will_be_boys%27_Human_trafficking_and_UN_peacekeeping_in_Bosnia_and_Kosovo) Accessed 10 April.

in which victims are threatened by both traffickers and the State itself<sup>80</sup>. Stop Violence Against Women (VAW), (2008) argues that the feminist approaches to human trafficking are essential for understanding and combating the phenomenon.<sup>81</sup> According to Lobasz (2009) feminists identify the ethical and pragmatic grounds for broadening the analytical focus from States to people.<sup>82</sup> Lobasz (2009) further suggests that feminists' most important contribution, however, lies in the investigations of the social construction of human trafficking, which highlight the destructive role that sexist and racist stereotypes play in constructing the category of trafficking victims.<sup>83</sup>

**Table 2.1 Traditional and Feminist Security Approaches to International Human Trafficking** (Lobasz 2009)

Approach	Security referent	Security threat	Policy focus
Traditional security	States	Traffickers, undocumented immigrants	Border security migration controls, international law enforcement cooperation,
Feminist	People	Traffickers, border patrol and law enforcement officials, abusive employers and clients	Social services, human rights, safe migration, worker protections, attention and status of prostitution.

Truong (2001) postulates that the feminist theory to human trafficking aids in a more in-depth understanding of vulnerabilities of women in human trafficking as it points to fact that gender

<sup>80</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>81</sup> Stop Violence Against Women (2008). Taking action on violence against women. <http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/vaw/overview.htm> Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>82</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Ibid

<sup>83</sup> Lobasz, J. K. (2009) Ibid

as a social construct causes a deliberate targeting of women and girls.<sup>84</sup> Simic (2010) suggests furthermore that in recognising that the threat for trafficking may be perpetrated even by the state itself the feminist theory ascribes security responsibility to the individual and not the state.<sup>85</sup> According to Hughes (2004) the state according to the feminist theory is sometimes part of the problem.<sup>86</sup> The feminist does indeed help explain the causes and impact of human trafficking only when the victim is a woman or child.

The feminist theory however does not explain human trafficking that is not instigated by sexist motive or gender stereotypes. Furthermore there are crimes of chance where trafficking is committed against a woman but not because of her gender but simply because it was convenient at the time. The theory also fails to cater for female traffickers as it only views women as the victim and not the perpetrator. Lanier and Henry (2014) suggest also that viewing the state as part of the problem is self-defeatist as much of law enforcement and physical protection, issuance of immigration documents, prosecution of illegal immigrants is done by the state.<sup>87</sup> The feminist view while helpful in explaining some aspects of the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait would be inadequate on its own to guide all of the aspects of the research.

### **2.2.3 Conflict theory to human security**

The conflict theory, as posited by Van Impe, (2000), is a theory propounded by Karl Marx that claims society is in a state of perpetual conflict due to competition for limited resources.<sup>88</sup> It holds that social order is maintained by domination and power, rather than consensus and conformity. According to Lobasz (2009) conflict theory to human trafficking ascertains that power and equality build socially constructed differences through

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<sup>84</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>85</sup> Simic, O. (2010). Boys will be boys!: Human trafficking and UN peacekeeping in Bosnia and Kosovo. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217\\_%27Boys\\_will\\_be\\_boys%27\\_Human\\_trafficking\\_and\\_U\\_N\\_peacekeeping\\_in\\_Bosnia\\_and\\_Kosovo](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217_%27Boys_will_be_boys%27_Human_trafficking_and_U_N_peacekeeping_in_Bosnia_and_Kosovo) Accessed 10 April.

<sup>86</sup> Hughes, D. (2004) The Internet and Sex Industries: Partners in Global Sexual Exploitation. *Technology and Society Magazine*, IEEE 19 (1) 35-42

<sup>87</sup> Lanier, M and Henry, S. (2014). *Essential Criminology*. New York; Avalone Publishing.

<sup>88</sup> Van Impe, K. (2000). People for Sale: The Need for a Multidisciplinary Approach towards Human Trafficking. *International Organisation for Migration (IOM)*, 38, (3). 113–191

which harm and deprivation is imposed on the subordinated group.<sup>89</sup> Simic (2010) further suggests that the interconnectedness of societies which cannot be seen outside of cultural and structural contexts, determines the types of crimes that are likely to be perpetrated in specific geographical communities.<sup>90</sup> The conflict theory therefore perceives criminals as excessive investors in crime who could use any means necessary to achieve the desired outcomes whereas a victim is often the disabled party who experiences pain, loss and denied humanity.

The conflict theory posits that capitalist motives of self-enrichment influence human trafficking. As inter-continental trade agreements become a profitable way of conducting business, relations between countries expand. Business executives and non-governmental organizations travel frequently inter- and intra-continently. Lanier and Henry (2014) posits that under theory with the world connecting on global scale immigration, traveling and tourism opportunities are now more accessible.<sup>91</sup> Power and inequality, interconnectedness, investment in crime and loss and pain experienced by victims during the perpetration of human trafficking are identifiable variables important to build an integrated theoretical framework to explain human trafficking of young women and girls for involuntary prostitution. The conflict theory also suggests that perpetuation of crime is the fault of weak governments. The theory though explains cultural and structural contexts within which potential victims emanate as important to describe victim vulnerability to human traffickers.

The conflict theory however fails to cater for trafficking crime committed on the poor by the rich for mere sardonic pleasure and is not driven by any structural conflict. The poor may also commit human trafficking crime against the poor. Furthermore even strong governments may fail to curb the scourge of human trafficking. The conflict theory on its own is also inadequate to guide the research on all its aspects.

## **2.2.4 The human rights approach**

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<sup>89</sup> Lobasz, J. K. (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, *Security Studies Journal*, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>90</sup> Simic, O. (2010). Boys will be boys!: Human trafficking and UN peacekeeping in Bosnia and Kosovo. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217\\_%27Boys\\_will\\_be\\_boys%27\\_Human\\_trafficking\\_and\\_UN\\_peacekeeping\\_in\\_Bosnia\\_and\\_Kosovo](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217_%27Boys_will_be_boys%27_Human_trafficking_and_UN_peacekeeping_in_Bosnia_and_Kosovo) Accessed 10 April.

<sup>91</sup> Lanier, M and Henry, S. (2014). *Essential Criminology*. New York; Avalone Publishing.

The human rights approach to human trafficking sometimes referred to as the person centred approach has gained popularity in recent times. According to Van Impe, (2000) the approach simply views human trafficking as a deliberate violation of one's human rights.<sup>92</sup> The theory has proved effective in explaining the push and pull factors that facilitate human trafficking as they often have to do with political, social and economic well-being. The approach applies as well to the effect or harm that is inflicted on the victim of the trafficking by the perpetrator as it often entails the suppression, violation or denial of that victim's rights for instance free movement, freedom against torture, sexual assault, sometimes mutilation or the right to food, decent work and decent wage.

Van Impe, (2000) asserts that the links between human rights and the fight against trafficking are well established.<sup>93</sup> Hughes (2004) postulates that human rights law has unequivocally proclaimed the fundamental immorality and unlawfulness of one person appropriating the legal personality, labour or humanity of another.<sup>94</sup> According to Lobasz (2009) human rights law has prohibited discrimination on the basis of race and sex and age. It has also safeguarded or provided for equal or at least certain key rights for non-citizens and migrants.<sup>95</sup> Lanier and Henry (2014) notes that human rights law has also outlawed arbitrary imprisonment, detention, torture, abduction, forced labour, debt bondage, forced marriage, and the sexual exploitation of children and women, forced child labour and it has championed freedom of movement and the right to leave and return to one's own country without illegal restriction to movement.<sup>96</sup>

Human rights most relevant to trafficking include:

- The prohibition of discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status
- The right to life
- The right to liberty and security
- The right not to be submitted to slavery, servitude, forced labour or bonded labour

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<sup>92</sup> Van Impe, K. (2000). People for Sale: The Need for a Multidisciplinary Approach towards Human Trafficking. International Organisation for Migration (IOM), 38, (3). 113–191

<sup>93</sup> Van Impe, K. (2000). People for Sale: The Need for a Multidisciplinary Approach towards Human Trafficking. International Organisation for Migration (IOM), 38, (3). 113–191

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<sup>95</sup> Lobasz, J. K. (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>96</sup> Lanier, M and Henry, S. (2014). Essential Criminology. New York; Avalone Publishing.

- The right not to be subjected to torture and/or cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment
- The right to be free from gendered violence
- The right to freedom of association
- The right to freedom of movement
- The right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
- The right to just and favourable conditions of work
- The right to an adequate standard of living
- The right to social security
- The right of children to special protection

According to Simic (2010) the human rights approach is flexible as different human rights will be relevant at different points in the trafficking cycle.<sup>97</sup> Some will be especially relevant to the causes of trafficking (for example, the right to an adequate standard of living); others to the actual process of trafficking (for example, the right to be free from slavery); and some to the response to trafficking (for example, the right of suspects to a fair trial). Some rights are broadly applicable to each of these aspects. Truong (2001) asserts also that the human rights approach caters for the difference in demographic as there are specific rights for women and for children. The research was therefore guided by the human rights approach to human trafficking.<sup>98</sup>

### **2.3 Human Security: concept, features and practice**

The United Nations Commission on Human Security (UNCHS 2010) defines human security as the protection and safeguard of the vital core of all human lives in such a way as to enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment.<sup>99</sup> From this perspective human security is a concept that entails an environment that guarantees not only the safety of individuals or groups of people but that facilitates their pursuit and attainment of the richest quality of life. The council on human security further explains that human security means protecting people

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<sup>97</sup> Simic, O. (2010). Boys will be boys!: Human trafficking and UN peacekeeping in Bosnia and Kosovo. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217\\_%27Boys\\_will\\_be\\_boys%27\\_Human\\_trafficking\\_and\\_UN\\_peacekeeping\\_in\\_Bosnia\\_and\\_Kosovo](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/50514217_%27Boys_will_be_boys%27_Human_trafficking_and_UN_peacekeeping_in_Bosnia_and_Kosovo) Accessed 10 April.

<sup>98</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>99</sup> United Nations Commission on Human Security UNCHS (2010). Freedom from Fear, Freedom from Want, Freedom to live in Dignity <http://www.un.org/humansecurity/content/human-security-now> Accessed 10 April 2017

from critical and widespread threats and situations as well as using processes that build on people's strengths and aspirations. UNCHS (2010) declares also that human security means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity.<sup>100</sup>

According to Lobasz (2009) the characterisation of human security moves away from traditional, state-centric conceptions of security that focused primarily on the safety of states from military aggression. Instead it expands and specifies its focus to concentrate on the security of the individuals, their protection and empowerment.<sup>101</sup> The UNCHS' description of human security also broadly embraces nearly every aspect of human life. Adepoju (2016) observes that UNCHS's description of human security accounts for a multitude of threats that cut across different aspects of human life and thus highlighting the interface between security, development and human rights and promoting an integrated, coordinated and people-centred approach to advancing peace, security and development within and across nations.<sup>102</sup> Human security therefore takes on any one or more of the following features: people-centred, multi-sectorial, comprehensive, context-specific or prevention-oriented.

According to Rwebangira (2015) as a people-centred concept, human security places the individual at the 'centre of analysis.'<sup>103</sup> Consequently, it considers a broad range of conditions which threaten survival, livelihood and dignity, and identifies the threshold below which human life is intolerably threatened. Human security is also based on a multi-sectorial understanding of insecurities. Therefore, human security entails a broadened understanding of threats and includes causes of insecurity relating for instance to economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security.

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<sup>100</sup> United Nations Commission on Human Security UNCHS (2010). Ibid

<sup>101</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>102</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>103</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

**Table 2.2 Possible Types of Human Security Threats**

Type of Security	Examples of Main Threats
Economic security	Persistent poverty, unemployment
Food security	Hunger, famine
Health security	Deadly infectious diseases, unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic health care
Environmental security	Environmental degradation, resource depletion, natural disasters, pollution
Personal security	Physical violence, crime, terrorism, domestic violence, child Labour
Community security	Inter-ethnic, religious and other identity based tensions
Political security	Political repression, human rights abuses

The research determined the extent to which Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait experiences human security violations of an economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community or political nature as discussed in this section by the views of UNCHS (2002), Lobasz (2009), Adepoju (2016) and Rwebangira (2015).

#### **2.4 The Concept of Human Trafficking**

Interpol (2014) describes human trafficking as referring to the process through which individuals are placed or maintained in an exploitative situation for economic gain.<sup>104</sup> Interpol (2014) notes also that trafficking can occur within a country or may occur across

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<sup>104</sup> International Criminal Police Organization, (INTERPOL) (2014) Trafficking of Human Beings, Lyon

countries were movement transcends borders.<sup>105</sup> Furthermore trafficking affects all demographics to varying degrees. According to Lobasz (2009) women, men and children are trafficked for a range of purposes, including forced and exploitative labour in factories, farms and private households.<sup>106</sup> Human trafficking may also involve sexual exploitation such as forced prostitution, and forced marriage. Truong (2014) observes that trafficking affects all regions and most countries of the world.<sup>107</sup> Torres and Swanström (2014) argue that the exploitation of individuals for profit has a long history through which it has evolved and grown.<sup>108</sup> Worldwide attention it and international efforts to combat it dates back to little over a century. Human trafficking preceded modern human rights system and some global humanitarian organisations such as the United Nations itself. Truong (2014) notes however, that in most countries, regions or continents, it is only over the past several decades that trafficking has become a major concern.<sup>109</sup>

According to Rwebangira (2015) in response to this emerging human security threat a comprehensive legal framework and in some cases multinational taskforces, have developed to combat the phenomenon.<sup>110</sup> These developments point to a fundamental shift has taken place in how the international community thinks about human exploitation. Lobasz (2009) posits that the responsibilities for governments have dramatically increased as expectations from their citizenry for protection and law enforcement also soars.<sup>111</sup> Adepoju (2016) suggests that a surge in the victim-centred approach that has garnered increased support from the international community is attributed to the emerging consciousness towards human trafficking.<sup>112</sup> Rwebangira (2015) opines that human rights form a central plank of the new understanding and there is now widespread acceptance of the need for a human rights-based approach to trafficking.<sup>113</sup> It is understood that human trafficking in its

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<sup>105</sup> International Criminal Police Organization, (INTERPOL) (2014) Ibid

<sup>106</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) *Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking*, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>107</sup> Truong, T (2014) *Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April

<sup>108</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) *Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis* No. 10

<sup>109</sup> Turong, T. (2014) Ibid

<sup>110</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) *Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective-* -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>111</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) *Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking*, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>112</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) *Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa* <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>113</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) *Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective-* -University of KwaZulu-Natal

many forms violate several rights and freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the African Charter on people and Human Rights.

## **2.5 Why Human Trafficking is an Emerging Human Security Threat**

This section reviews literature on the reasons that have made human trafficking an emerging human security threat.

### **2.5.1 Rapid Increase in Human Trafficking Cases**

INTERPOL (2016), UNDOC (2017) and IOM (2016) are among the organisations that have reported that human trafficking is rising rapidly and spreading to areas that it had hitherto not been a significant human security threat. UNDOC (2017) suggests that southern Africa in particular has experienced a rapid increase in the cases of human security and this has pointed to the emergence of human security as significant human security threat in that region.<sup>114</sup>

The research determined whether a rapid increase in human trafficking has been experienced among Zimbabwean women enough to suggest that human trafficking is an emerging human security threat.

### **2.5.2 Significant Increases in Vulnerability**

There are many factors that increase individual vulnerability to trafficking including poverty, violence and discrimination. The most basic of the factors that facilitate human trafficking are:

#### **2.5.2.1 Growing demand for cheap, disempowered labour**

The Institute of Security Studies (ISS, 2015) notes that as most countries in Europe and the United States try to compete globally with Asian countries such as China that do not engage in fair labour practices there is growing demand for cheap labour.<sup>115</sup> Most big corporations

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<sup>114</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime UNODC (2012). Southern Africa: A regional response to smuggling of migrants. [https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa\\_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html](https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html) Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>115</sup> Institute of Security Studies ISS (2015) The state of human security in Africa; An assessment of institutional/preparedness [https://issafrica.s3.amazonaws.com/site/uploads/Mono\\_185\\_Complete.pdf](https://issafrica.s3.amazonaws.com/site/uploads/Mono_185_Complete.pdf) Accessed 10 April 2017

flout labour laws by engaging immigrants that they do not have to pay as much as they would local citizens. Torres and Swanström (2014) suggest that this exploitation is not always voluntary and may also start as exploitative work and end up in sexual exploitation.<sup>116</sup> The global competition of multinational corporations has led to a demand for cheap, disempowered labour that is often drawn from trafficked persons.

The research found out whether the growing demand for cheap, disempowered labour had led to an increase in the potential to be trafficked for Zimbabwe women in the same manner that is described by the IMF (2014) AND Torres and Swandstrom (2014)

### **2.5.2.2 Weak local and regional law enforcement**

According to Truong (2014) ease of transit across borders usually decides that target group for human traffickers as areas with the least effective enforcement of immigration laws is always an alluring hunting round for them.<sup>117</sup> Adepoju (2016) asserts that Africa, because most of its economy is heavily dependent on its tourism has the most relaxed laws and enforcement of immigration laws.<sup>118</sup> The ease of transit facilitates a comprehensive network of trafficking syndicates.

The research established whether weak local and regional law enforcement had increased the potential for the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait, making it one of the reasons why human trafficking had emerged as human security threat.

### **2.5.2.3 Armed conflict**

Rwebangira (2015) rates armed conflict as being among the most common source of trafficking both within a country and across countries particularly where an entire region is at war.<sup>119</sup> Rwebangira also suggests that an environment of armed conflict is

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<sup>116</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis No. 10

<sup>117</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April

<sup>118</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>119</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

particularly dangerous as there occurs a high degree of lawlessness that leaves especially women and children vulnerable to trafficking.<sup>120</sup>

The research determined how regional and armed conflict played a role, if at all, in increasing the potential for the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait as is posited by Rwebangira (2015)

#### **2.5.2.4 Increasingly Intrusive Nature of the Internet**

According to Torres and Swanström (2014) a smaller scale of trafficking is facilitated by social media.<sup>121</sup> The intrusiveness of social media significantly increases the reach of traffickers with a wide array of possible victims. Adepoju (2016) posits that traffickers pose as someone else on the internet to establish contact with potential victims and at times build a relationship to the point that their victims agree to meet with them in person at which point they are abducted and trafficked to be never heard from again.<sup>122</sup>

The research found out whether or not the increasingly intrusive nature of the internet had contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat by expanding the reach of traffickers to potential victims as is described by Torres and Swanström (2014) and Adepoju (2016).

#### **2.5.2.5 Worsening Poverty**

Rwebangira (2015) asserts that inequalities within and between countries or communities of the same country are probably the number risk factor in the face human trafficking.<sup>123</sup> Lobasz (2009) suggests that the desperate desire to escape the clutches of poverty is the number one luring factor for entrapment in trafficking hence the movement trends are invariably from developing states to developed states or from poor communities to more affluent communities.<sup>124</sup> The prospect of a better life may cause people to ignore all the red flags that would have otherwise alerted them to the suspicious signs of their would-be traffickers.

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<sup>120</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Ibid

<sup>121</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis No. 10

<sup>122</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Ibid

<sup>123</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>124</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

The credibility of the Lobasz (2009)'s notion that worsening poverty has contributed to the emergence of human trafficking was tested against the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait.

#### **2.5.2.6 High Unemployment and Underemployment**

According to Rwebangira (2015) one of the leading push factors in human trafficking is the high level of unemployment and underemployment that afflicts countries of origin in cases where the trafficking is transnational.<sup>125</sup> Truong (2014) suggests that a common lure for victims is the promise of decent employment with significantly high incomes.<sup>126</sup> Lobasz (2009) posits that the prospect of being gainfully employed is apparently worth the risk of travelling to foreign countries without a complete knowledge of the prospective employer or the country of destination.<sup>127</sup> Rwebangira (2015) asserts that, often, the victims of this kind of deception are usually of limited education that is significantly much more desperate to secure employment and escape poverty.<sup>128</sup>

The research found out whether high unemployment and underemployment were push factors in the luring of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait in the same manner than is described by Rwebangira (2015), Truong (2014) and Lobasz (2009) above.

### **2.6 Forms of human trafficking**

According to INTERPOL (2016) there are many forms of trafficking that are mainly described by the impulses that drive them.<sup>129</sup> For example trafficking for forced labour in a form of trafficking driven by the impulse by traffickers to coerce victims into forced labour as forced labour on its own is not necessarily trafficking. Truong (2014) notes that human trafficking is a concept, which partially overlaps or coincides with a number of other issues and phenomena, such as people smuggling, migration, prostitution and child labour.<sup>130</sup> Rwebangira (2015) goes on to opine that, although the primary challenge is trafficking of

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<sup>125</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Ibid

<sup>126</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April

<sup>127</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Ibid

<sup>128</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Ibid

<sup>129</sup> International Criminal Police Organization, (INTERPOL) (2016) Trafficking of Human Beings, Lyon

<sup>130</sup> Turong, T (2014)

human beings, the harm to people is inflicted on them by the impulses that drive the trafficking<sup>131</sup> and some of the most common of these are:

### **2.6.1 Smuggling of human beings and illegal migration**

According to Lobasz (2009) the smuggling of human beings may be defined as the transportation of people to countries for which they lack visas or the necessary entry permits in order to obtain a financial or other material benefit.<sup>132</sup> The transaction normally takes place at the initiative of the smuggled person or with his/her consent. Adepoju (2016) asserts that people smuggling is a crime, primarily against the state.<sup>133</sup> Migration of workers refers to the voluntary movement of people to other parts of the same country or other countries in search of work or a livelihood. Although it does not per se involve unwarranted use of pressure or influence, or the pursuit of financial or material benefit, the need or desire to migrate can encourage the proliferation of human trafficking activities and create a market for people smuggling. Rwebangira (2015) opines that people infrequently become the objects of smuggling operations while travelling in search of work.<sup>134</sup>

In support of this notion Torres and Swanström (2014) suggest that closely connected to trafficking in human beings is the issue of people smuggling.<sup>135</sup> This has taken on new proportions in recent months, especially in the Mediterranean region, and it is clear that organized criminal networks are taking advantage of the humanitarian crisis for financial gain. According to Adepoju (2016) Lobasz (2009) trafficking is not the same as migrant smuggling.<sup>136</sup> Migrant smuggling involves the illegal, facilitated movement across an international border for profit. While it may involve deception and/or abusive treatment, the

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<sup>131</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>132</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>133</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>134</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>135</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis No. 10

<sup>136</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>,

purpose of migrant smuggling is to profit from the movement, not the eventual exploitation as in the case of trafficking.

The research determined whether human smuggling and illegal immigration was among the forms of human trafficking that Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait had experienced in a manner posited by Lobasz (2009), Adepoju (2016), Rwebangira (2015) and Torres and Swanström (2014).

### **2.6.2 Trafficking for forced labour**

Rwebangira (2015) suggests that forced labour may be defined as work performed under compulsion and subject to a penalty.<sup>137</sup> Victims of human trafficking are frequently forced against their will to perform various kinds of work, in households or in agriculture, where their rights and movement are circumscribed. Victims of this widespread form of trafficking come primarily from developing countries. According to Truong (2014) they are recruited and trafficked using deception and coercion and find themselves held in conditions of slavery in a variety of jobs.<sup>138</sup> Men, women and children are engaged in agricultural, fisheries and construction work, along with domestic servitude and other labour-intensive jobs. Lobasz (2009) is of the view that child labour refers to the exploitation of minors in hazardous or harmful occupations, i.e. the work itself may be physically or mentally damaging or it may prevent the child from exercising his or her right to education or development in general.<sup>139</sup>

The extent to which the Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait were exposed to forced labour similar to that described by Rwebangira (2015), Truong (2014) and Lobasz (2009) as part of the human security violations perpetrated against them was determined by the research

### **2.6.3 Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation**

According to Rwebangira (2015) this prevalent form of trafficking affects every region in the world, either as a source, transit or destination country.<sup>140</sup> Women and children from developing countries, and from vulnerable parts of society in developed countries, are lured

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<sup>137</sup> Rwebangira, J. (2015) Ibid

<sup>138</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April

<sup>139</sup> Lobasz, J. K., (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

<sup>140</sup> Rwebangira, J. (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

by promises of decent employment into leaving their homes and travelling to what they consider will be a better life. Lobasz (2009) argues that victims are often provided with false travel documents and an organized network is used to transport them to the destination country, where they find themselves forced into sexual slavery and held in inhumane conditions and constant fear.<sup>141</sup> In support of this notion Adepoju (2016) suggests that sexual exploitation, in particular prostitution, is among the predominant forms of exploitation for which human beings are trafficked.<sup>142</sup> The demand for sexual services is thus one of the most important causes of this type of trafficking Commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism. According to Torres and Swanström (2014) this crime type has been apparent in Asia for many years and has now taken hold in Africa as well as Central and South America.<sup>143</sup> The phenomenon is promoted by the growth of inexpensive air travel and the relatively low risk of prohibition and prosecution in these destinations for engaging in sexual relations with minors.

Whether or not trafficking for sexual exploitation as described by was part of a form of human trafficking Rwebangira (2015), Lobasz (2009), Adepoju (2016) and Torres and Swanström (2014) was part of the human security violations met by Zimbabwean women trafficked to Kuwait was established by the research.

#### **2.6.4 Trafficking for tissue, cells and organs**

According to Adepoju (2016) trafficking in humans for the purpose of using their organs, in particular kidneys, is a rapidly growing dimension of the scourge as the need to circumvent normal protocols of organ waiting lists increases.<sup>144</sup> Lobasz (2009) observes that in many countries, waiting lists for transplants are very long, and criminals have seized this opportunity to exploit the desperation of patients and potential donors.<sup>145</sup> The health of victims, even their lives, is at risk as operations may be carried out in clandestine conditions with no medical follow-up. An ageing population and increased incidence of diabetes in

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<sup>141</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Ibid

<sup>142</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa  
<https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>143</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia  
Perspective and Analysis No. 10

<sup>144</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa  
<https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>145</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies  
Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

many developed countries is likely to increase the requirement for organ transplants and make this crime even more lucrative.

The research determined if Zimbabwean women trafficked to Kuwait suffered trafficking for the purposes of tissue, cells and organs as human security violations posed by ever increasing cases of human trafficking.

## **2.7 An Overview of human trafficking in Africa**

Rwebangira (2015) is of the view that human trafficking in the African context is still very complex.<sup>146</sup> What makes it more complicated is the intricate interconnectedness of a multidimensional and multi-sectorial on which the trafficking operates ultimately affecting both individuals and nations across Africa on many fronts. Rwebangira (2015) stresses further that in human trafficking affects people in Africa beyond just the scope of international and criminal law but also affects human rights, labour, migration, public health, socio-economic development, morality as well as public and private sector service delivery.<sup>147</sup> Truong (2014) observes that despite the evidence that trafficking affects most countries in the world and is a growing illicit industry with devastating impacts, very few African countries have comprehensive policy related to human trafficking and one that deals specifically with the emerging security threat.<sup>148</sup> Torres and Swanström (2014) suggest that in an attempt to contribute towards the creation of human trafficking policy, some countries in Africa have made some commendable progress in terms of the crafting legislation and expanding the ambit of constitutions to now cover human trafficking but this has been with improved methods enhanced by the assistance from institutions of power.<sup>149</sup> Lobasz (2009) concedes that there is a considerable gap in Africa's response to human trafficking in areas of knowledge, structural capacities in law enforcement, technological advancement and push and pull factors in the economy such poverty and unemployment that increase vulnerability to human trafficking.<sup>150</sup> According to Rwebangira (2016) in Africa human trafficking has taken many faces including commercial sexual exploitation, slave labour, bride selling, debt

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<sup>146</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>147</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Ibid

<sup>148</sup> Truong, T (2014) Poverty, Gender and Human Trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa: Rethinking Best Practices Migration Management <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001432/143227e.pdf> Accessed 10 April

<sup>149</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis No. 10

<sup>150</sup> Lobasz, J. K, (2009) Beyond Border Security: Feminist Approaches to Human Trafficking, Security Studies Journal, Taylor & Francis Group, 1556-1852

bondage, organ harvesting, forced begging, and forced drug dealing, exploitation during armed conflict and the use of child soldiers.<sup>151</sup> Victims of trafficking in Africa can be exploited throughout many industries such as agriculture, construction, manufacturing, tourism, domestic service and the sex industry.

## **2.8 The challenging obstacles met against human trafficking in Africa**

Adepoju (2016) notes that most regions in Africa like Southern African Development Community (SADC) had as recent as 2007 been without anti trafficking policy and laws and relied upon different laws, policies and regulations to tackle the problem.<sup>152</sup> The Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA 2014) postulated that the fact that most countries were signatories of trafficking-related protocols had not yet parlayed itself into domestic law.<sup>153</sup> In addition to rights-based regional instruments, South Africa ratified two predominant international charters that speak to trafficking: the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (also commonly referred to as the Palermo Protocol or the Trafficking Protocol). Other relevant international charters were also ratified. UNDOC (2016) suggested also that a lack of awareness and knowledge increased the vulnerabilities of persons to be trafficked as unsuspecting victims.<sup>154</sup> INTERPOL (2014) suggested also that weaknesses in local law enforcement of both countries of origin and destination countries made it easier for traffickers to operate.<sup>155</sup> AfricaNews (2017) reports that poverty and unemployment are long standing factors that make it difficult to deal with human trafficking as for as long as these two phenomenon exist the vulnerability of those affected by them to human trafficking would persist too.<sup>156</sup> The MIDSA (2014) also suggests that corruption within immigration apparatus of countries causes there to be oversight and increase of illegal trafficking of people as corrupt official expedite fraudulent travel documents and bypass checkpoints that would act

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<sup>151</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>152</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Review of Research and Data on Human Trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa <https://www.mensenhandelweb.nl/system/files/documents/04%20feb%202014/ReviewOfResearchInSubSaharanAfrica.pdf>

<sup>153</sup> Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA 2014). Global Compact for Migration: International Organisation for Migration, IOM.

<sup>154</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime UNODC (2012). Southern Africa: A regional response to smuggling of migrants. [https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa\\_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html](https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/stories/southern-africa_-a-regional-response-to-smuggling-of-migrants.html) Accessed 10 April 2017

<sup>155</sup> International Criminal Police Organization, (INTERPOL) (2014) Trafficking of Human Beings, Lyon

<sup>156</sup> Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA 2014). Global Compact for Migration: International Organisation for Migration, IOM.

as defences to human trafficking.<sup>157</sup> Adepoju (2016) suggest also that weaknesses in the repatriation and rehabilitation support systems of rescued trafficked persons are also challenges met in the fight against human trafficking as most victims find it difficult to fully reintegrate into society and resume normal life due to psychological trauma and the loss of material and financial resources.<sup>158</sup>

The research established whether the dynamics of the challenges faced in combatting human trafficking discussed in this section through the views of Adepoju (2016), UNDOC (2016) INTERPOL (2014), AfricaNews (2017) and MIDSA (2014) are also experienced in Zimbabwe.

## **2.9 Human Trafficking in other Parts of the World**

### **2.9.1 Human Trafficking in Latin America**

Rwebangira (2015) suggests that human trafficking in Latin America takes places inside the countries involved and is closely linked to the sex trade<sup>159</sup>. However, cross-border trafficking is reported and victims are sold as far away as the USA, Canada, Japan and Western Europe. The principal countries of origin are Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and Mexico, while Argentina, Venezuela and Costa Rica are the main destination countries. Data has been compiled on exploitation in the mining industry, agriculture, forestry, domestic service and the drug trade. There are also indications of trafficking in children for adoption, mainly from Guatemala and Bolivia.

### **2.9.2 Human Trafficking in the United States of America**

Torres and Swanström (2014) observe that the USA and Canada are major destination countries for trafficking victims, primarily from Latin America but also from Central and Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia.<sup>160</sup> The purposes are mainly prostitution, forced labour and mail order bride selling.

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<sup>157</sup> Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA 2014). Global Compact for Migration: International Organisation for Migration, IOM.

<sup>158</sup> Adepoju A, (2016) Ibid

<sup>159</sup> Rwebangira, J, (2015) Human Trafficking- A Contemporary African Perspective- -University of KwaZulu-Natal

<sup>160</sup> Torres, S, and Swanström N, (2014) Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century Focus Asia Perspective and Analysis No. 10

### **2.9.3 Human Trafficking in Asia**

According to Saeed (2015) human trafficking in Southeast Asia have long been a problem for the area and still is prevalent today.<sup>161</sup> It has been observed that as economies continue to grow, the demand for labour is at an all-time high in the industrial sector and the sex tourism sector. A mix of impoverished individuals and the desire for more wealth creates an environment for human traffickers to benefit in the Southeast Asia region.

### **2.10 Summary**

The chapter presented the considerations made in the theoretical framework that would best guide the research so as to adequately magnify the human security threat posed by human trafficking. The chapter illustrated that after considering the rational choice theory, the feminist theory and human trafficking and the conflict theory to human security the study settled for the human rights approach to human security as a guiding framework. The chapter also reviewed both Eurocentric and Afrocentric perspectives on the concept of human security, the features of human trafficking, why human trafficking has emerged as human security threat, how human trafficking has emerged as a human security threat and the challenges associated with combating human trafficking. The following chapter discusses the research design and methodology used in the research.

## **CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

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<sup>161</sup> Saeed, T, (2015) Human Trafficking in Sub Saharan Africa: Untold stories of the silenced <http://www.untoldstoriesonline.com/human-trafficking-in-sub-saharan-africa/>

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter discusses the research design that of a case study of Zimbabwean women trafficked to Kuwait that was used to conduct the research. The chapter also discusses the sampling methods utilised to arrive at a sample size of 53 respondents. The sampling techniques used are shown in the chapter to have been purposive sampling and simple random sampling. The chapter also outlines the methods that were employed in the data gathering process, which included survey questionnaires and key informant interviews as well as their validity and reliability as credible tools of research. The chapter then highlights the methods of data presentation and analysis employed.

### **3.2 Research Approach**

The research used a mixed methodology of both a quantitative and qualitative paradigm. According to Creswell (2013) qualitative research is the study that is descriptive and at times abstract and thematic units of inquiry and findings are determined.<sup>162</sup> It seeks clarity on attitude, opinions or effect of phenomenon usually of a social nature. Quantitative research on the other hand according to Dooley (2012) is study that is numeric and seeks specific scientific evidence of the subject matter which is sought and presented by exact calculation or near approximation.<sup>163</sup> This particular research however employed a mixed methodology which, while predominantly qualitative, had an invaluable quantitative dimension. A mixed methodology was ideal as some significant conclusions could only be extrapolated by analysing statistical data such as the biographical data of some respondents or the frequencies of trafficking of women and related trends, showing that both paradigms of research were all integral elements of the research as is propounded by Morehead (2012).<sup>164</sup>

### **3.3. Research Design**

The research took the form of a case study in which a group of fifty women recently rescued from having been trafficked to Kuwait from Zimbabwe were the centre of focus. A research design according to Creswell (2013) is a usually predetermined framework or broad structure

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<sup>162</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Third Edition): London. Sage publications.

<sup>163</sup> Dooley, R. (2012). *Research methods in education*. London: Groom Helm.

<sup>164</sup> Morehead, C.(2010), *Research Methods in Social Development*, California, Mayfield Publishing Company.

from which the actual procedures of the research are espoused.<sup>165</sup> Haralambos and Holborn (2012) define a case study as the deliberate isolation of a single element that possesses all the attributes of the subject area for a controlled study from which generalisations of all other elements may be drawn.<sup>166</sup> Yin (2012) suggests that isolation of a single case study as the basis of research enables thorough and all-round research on the research area.<sup>167</sup> The research settled on a case study design of a single group of rescued women as it will enable greater control of research parameters and allow for generalisations on the trafficking of women from Zimbabwe as this case personifies the nature of human trafficking emerging in Zimbabwe.

### **3.4 Study Population and Sampling**

#### **3.4.1 Target population**

The study population was the entire group of 70 women that were a single group of women rescued at the same time in May of 2016 after having been trafficked to Kuwait between 2010 and 2016. Dooley (2012) defines a study population as the entirety of a group or collection of units usually with similar characteristics that a research is interested in studying.<sup>168</sup> It was ideal that the entire group of women be the target population as they facilitated a credible and reliable study of the phenomenon of human trafficking.

#### **3.4.2 Sampling procedure**

In this study simple random sampling and purposive sampling were used to select respondents

#### **3.3.4 Purposive sampling**

The research used purposive sampling to include; an official from the Immigration Department in the Ministry of Home Affairs of Zimbabwe, an official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and an official in the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe. Purposive sampling according

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<sup>165</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). Ibid

<sup>166</sup> Haralambos, M., & Holborn, M. (2012). *Sociology Themes and Perspective*. London: Collins Educational.

<sup>167</sup> Yin, R. (2012). *Qualitative Research in Sociology*, New Delhi, Sage Publications.

<sup>168</sup> Dooley, R. (2012). *Research methods in education*. London: Groom Helm.

to Creswell (2013) is a process of deliberately targeting persons with specific or expert information for inclusion in the research so as to gather the most relevant data for tabulation of credible results.<sup>169</sup> The research opted for purposive sampling as the subject matter of human trafficking require responses from specific people particularly the officials under whose purview the trafficking of people falls hence they would have first-hand knowledge of the issues as is posited by Morehead (2012).<sup>170</sup>

### 3.4.5 Simple random sampling

The simple random sampling technique which according to Haralambos and Holborn (2013) is the best known and most widely used method where every member has a known and equal chance of being selected will be used as well.<sup>171</sup> According to Creswell (2013) an advantage of simple random sampling is its lack of bias and the likelihood of acquiring as diverse a viewpoint as possible.<sup>172</sup> The researcher included the first fifty (50) names of women drawn out of a hat from a list of 70 women rescued at the same time after having been trafficked to Kuwait from Zimbabwe between 2016 and 2016.

### 3.4.6 Sample size

The research used Google sample size calculator to rest on a sample of 53 respondents with at 95% significance level with 5% confidence intervall to ensure that information was only collected and collated from those relevant to the study. A sample according to Husey and Husey (2010) is a segment of the research population which represents the main attributes and interests of the study.<sup>173</sup> The sample was delineated as in the table below:

**Table 3.1 Sample Size**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
Rescued female victims of human trafficking	50	94
Official from the Immigration Department In the Ministry	1	2

<sup>169</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Third Edition): London. Sage publications.

<sup>170</sup> Morehead, C. (2010), *Research Methods in Social Development*, California, Mayfield Publishing Company.

<sup>171</sup> Haralambos, M. and Holborn, M. (2012). *Sociology Themes and Perspective*. London: Collins Educational.

<sup>172</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Ibid*

<sup>173</sup> Husey, A. and Husey, G. (2010), *Business Research*, New York, McMillan.

of Home Affairs of Zimbabwe		
Official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare	1	2
Official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.5 Data Collection

The research used both primary and secondary data collection techniques and instruments.

#### 3.5.1 Primary sources of data

According to Creswell (2013) primary sources of data are methods and instruments that facilitate and require the researcher to personally investigate phenomenon and acquire first hand and objective data.<sup>174</sup> According to Creswell (2013) the advantage of primary is that it is verifiable and not subjective as compared to secondary data.<sup>175</sup> The two primary sources of data in this research were survey questionnaires and key informant interviews.

#### 3.5.2 Survey questionnaires

A survey questionnaire according to Saunders (2010) is a list of questions distributed to a wide spectrum of respondents seeking mostly qualitative responses to the subject matter.<sup>176</sup> Saunders (2010) suggests that an advantage of a survey questionnaire is that many respondents can be reached in a short space of time and it allows the respondent to be more sincere in their answers as they do not have to be watched while answering them.<sup>177</sup> The research distributed 50 survey questionnaires to 50 female victims of human trafficking. The questionnaires sought responses to the nature of trafficking experienced by 50 female victims

<sup>174</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Third Edition): London. Sage publications.

<sup>175</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Ibid*

<sup>176</sup> Saunders, K (2010), *Research Methods for Business Students*, London, Pearson Professional Limited.

<sup>177</sup> Saunders, K (2010), *Ibid*

that were trafficked from Zimbabwe to Kuwait 2016. The survey questionnaires were ideal as they enabled collection of data from many respondents in a short space of time, eliminate prejudice and bias as all different women of the case study were issued the exact same questionnaire. Anonymity was retained, which allowed for a secure environment that increased the likelihood of honest and sincere responses and feedback as it eliminated inhibition associated with being watched or observed.

### **3.5.3 Key informant interviews**

Key informant interviews according to Nueman (2012) are in-depth question and answer meetings between the researcher who is the interviewer and the respondent who is the interviewee in order to collect data that only that particular respondent can supply<sup>178</sup>. A key informant according to Creswell (2013) is a respondent from whom specific or expert information can be drawn.<sup>179</sup> Creswell (2013) further suggests that key informants are usually purposively sampled by the research.<sup>180</sup> The research sought from key informants, pertinent information on the factors raising vulnerabilities to human trafficking in Zimbabwe, the frequency with which people are being trafficked, the nature of the trafficking, the harm brought to the victims of trafficking and the measures being taken by Government and regional partners to combat this emerging threat to human security. The three (3) key informants were; officials from the Immigration Department in the Ministry of Home Affairs of Zimbabwe, The Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe as they have access to essential information needed for the study.

### **3.5.4 Secondary sources of data**

Secondary sources of data according to Morehead (2010) are those that provide data that would have been collected by someone else or data already in existence.<sup>181</sup> These can be research findings, journals or newspaper articles. Research will make use of documentary search.

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<sup>178</sup> Nueman, R. (2012), *Social Research Methods*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.

<sup>179</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches* (Third Edition): London. Sage publications.

<sup>180</sup> Creswell, J.W. (2013). *Ibid*.

<sup>181</sup> Morehead, C.(2010), *Research Methods in Social Development*, California, Mayfield Publishing Company.

### **3.5.5 Documentary search**

Documentary search of case files or less classified reports on human trafficking from the Immigration Department that the researcher was permitted to review were used as well as media reports on the very same women that the research studied. Documentary search enabled the researcher to acquire data on past events that the researcher had no opportunity to witness and this also augmented the data drawn from respondents as is propounded by Morehead (2010).<sup>182</sup>

### **3.6 Validity and Reliability**

Validity according to Dooley (2012) is the extent to which a research instrument measures what it is intended to measure.<sup>183</sup> Dooley (2012) posits too that reliability of a research instrument is the extent to which it is able to capture data from as wide and as representative a spectrum as possible.<sup>184</sup> Validity and reliability were insured by conducting a pilot test prior to conducting actual research, distributing the same copy of a survey questionnaire to all respondents and using simple understandable language that was legibly written.

#### **3.6.1 Pilot testing**

According to Morehead (2010) a pilot test is essential in ensuring that the research instrument functions as intended before the actual research is conducted.<sup>185</sup> Pilot test was conducted on 10 rescued victims of trafficking from a list retrieved from the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Zimbabwe in order to assess the reliability and accuracy of the research instrument. No adjustments or corrections were necessary.

#### **3.6.2 Data presentation and Analysis**

The research presented data through content analysis and the Statistical Package for the Social Scientist (SPSS) version 22.0.0.0. This is also meant the use of different visual aids as

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<sup>182</sup> Morehead, C.(2010), Ibid

<sup>183</sup> Dooley, R. (2012). Research methods in education. London: Groom Helm.

<sup>184</sup> Dooley, R. (2012). Ibid

<sup>185</sup> Morehead, C.(2010), Research Methods in Social Development, California, Mayfield Publishing Company

tables, pie charts and graphs. Given that the research uses a mixed method (that of qualitative and quantitative means) the methods of data presentation were primarily thematic description as research was predominantly qualitative. Numeric evaluation was used to a lesser extent. The combination of these methods sustained systematic and concise yet thorough analysis of the data from which research findings and conclusions were drawn.

### **3.7 Ethical Considerations**

The researcher obtained permission from the Ministries of Home Affairs, that of Foreign Affairs and that of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and the Midlands State University as well as the gatekeepers of relevant premises to conduct research. The researcher also obtained permission of the gatekeepers to the premises of the various organizations to be included in the research. The researcher also sought the respondents' consent before including them in the research. To protect the respondents the researcher refrained from revealing the names of respondents and ensured anonymity and confidentiality of respondents' identities.

### **3.8 Delimitations**

The research was restricted to the country of Zimbabwe though references were made to events that had occurred to Zimbabwean women in transit to Kuwait, during the stay in Kuwait and the journey back. The research was also limited to events that occurred between 2010 and 2016.

### **3.9 Limitations of the Study**

The study faced the challenge of meeting key informants as their busy schedule made it difficult for them, on numerous occasions, to honour interview appointments but the researcher was persistent and rescheduled the interviews until they were eventually conducted without any significant loss in time from the research schedule. The researcher had trouble persuading respondents to open up about the sensitive experiences they went through while being trafficked but after assurances that information would only be used for academic

purposes and that identities would remain anonymous the respondents committed to the research.

### **3.10 Summary**

The preceding chapter discussed the research design that of a case study of Zimbabwean women trafficked to Kuwait that was used to conduct the research. The chapter also discussed the sampling methods utilised to arrive at a sample size of 53 respondents. The sampling techniques used were shown in the chapter to have been purposive sampling and simple random sampling. The chapter also outlined the methods that were employed in the data gathering process, which included survey questionnaires and key informant interviews as well as their validity and reliability as credible tools of research. The chapter then highlighted the methods of data presentation and analysis employed.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

The chapter presents, analyses and discusses research findings drawn from survey questionnaires and key informant interviews. The chapter is categorised into four main sections, that is, section A: Biographical Data of respondents, section B: human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait, section C: The dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe and section D: Ways to curb the human trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait.

**Table 4.1: Questionnaire response rate (n=50)**

<b>Questionnaires</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
Distributed	50	100
Returned	50	100

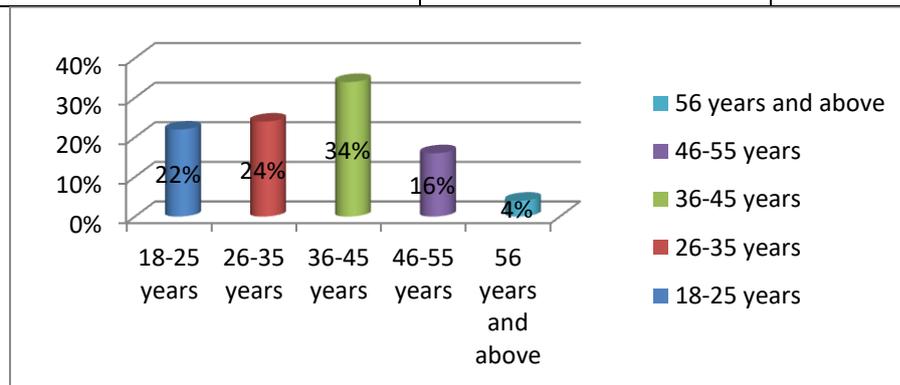
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>
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The information above shows that the questionnaire response rate was a perfect 100% as all 50 questionnaires that were distributed were collected and completely filled out.

#### 4.2 Section A: Biographical data of respondents

**Table 4.2: Age (n=50)**

Age	Frequency	Percentage %
18-25 years	14	28
26-35 years	17	34
36-45 years	9	18
46-55 Ears	8	16
56 years and above	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

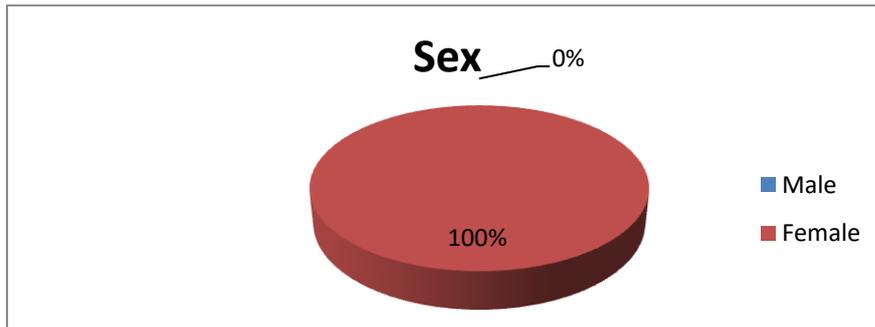


**Figure 4.1: Age (n=50)**

The information in table 4.2 and figure 4.1 above shows that 34% (17) of the respondents were of the age group of 26 to 35 years old, while 28% (14) of the respondents were of the 18 to 25 year age group. 18% (9) of the respondents were of the 26 to 35 year age group while 16% (8) of the respondents were of the 46 to 55 years age group. Another 4% (2) of the respondents were of the 56 years old and above age group. The responses show that the majority of trafficked women are below the age of 35. Young women are therefore disproportionately at more risk of falling victim to human trafficked. The sample indicates also that the least vulnerable women are 56 years or older.

**Table 4.3: Sex (n=50)**

Sex	Frequency	Percentage %
Male	0	0
Female	50	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

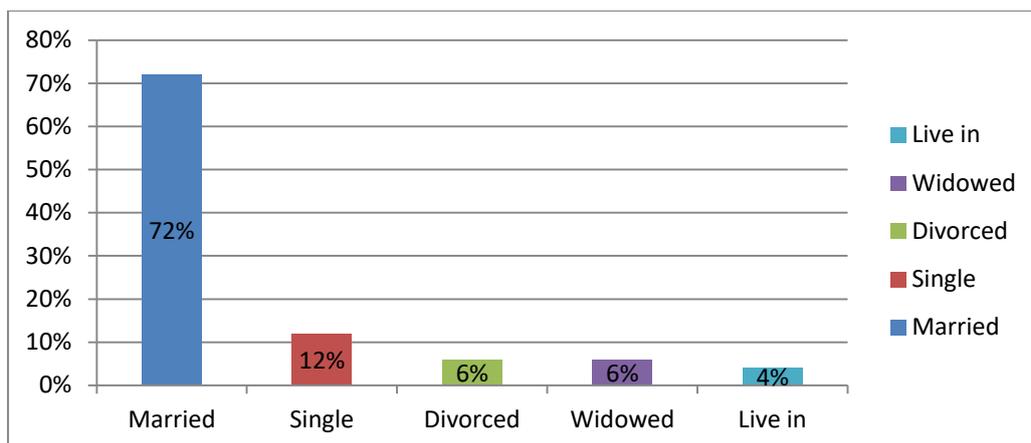


**Figure 4.2: Sex (n=50)**

The information in table 4.3 and figure 4.2 above shows that all the respondents were female while none were male. The research deliberately sampled only women because they are the gender group disproportionately and overwhelmingly affected by human trafficking to Kuwait. The research considered also that the trafficked persons that had so far been known, from media reports, to have been trafficked to Kuwait were all women therefore it was prudent and relevant to study women as it is they that had experienced the trafficking.

**Table 4.4: Marital status (n=50)**

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage %
Married	6	12
Single	36	72
Divorced	3	6
Widowed	3	6
Live in	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>

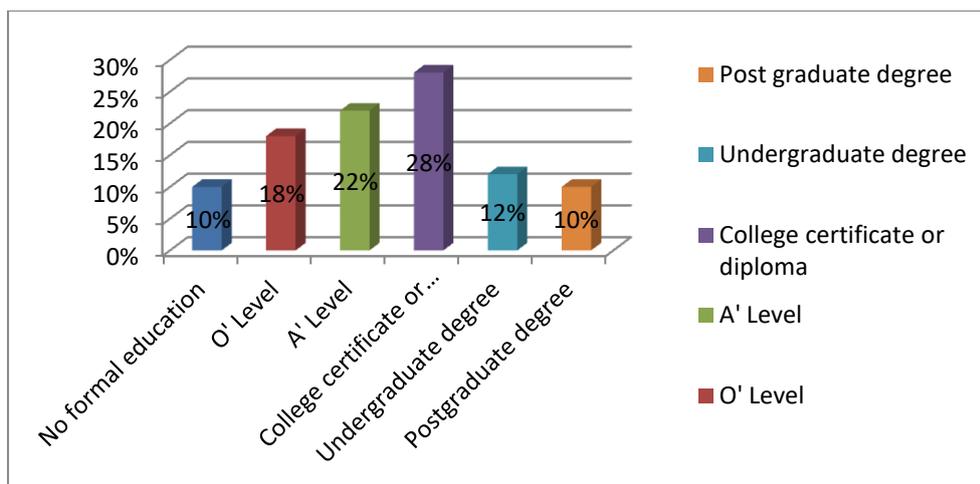


**Figure 4.3: Marital status (n=50)**

The information in table 4.4 and figure 4.3 above shows that 72% (36) of respondents were single while 12% (6) were married. 6% (3) of respondents were divorced while 6% (3) and another 4% (2) were either widowed or live ins respectively. The sample showed that a vast majority of women trafficked to Kuwait are young women that have not yet been married women therefore human trafficking of this nature compromises their prospects of starting their own families and becoming mothers within their families causing social disharmony to those families and communities.

**Table 4.5: Level of Education (n=50)**

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage %
No Formal Education	23	46
O' Level	9	18
A' Level	5	10
College Diploma or Certificate	9	18
Undergraduate Degree	3	6
Postgraduate Degree	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

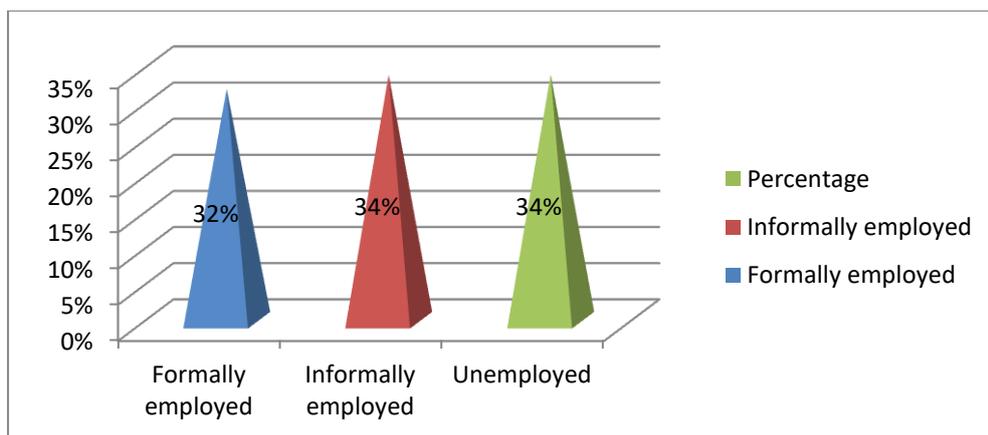


**Figure 4.4: Level of Education (n=50)**

Table 4.5 and figure 4.4 above show that 46% (23) of respondents had attained no formal education while 18% (9) attained an O' Level certificate. Another 18% (9) attained a college certificate or diploma while 10% (5) had attained an A' Level certificate. Another 6% (3), had attained an undergraduate degree while 2% (1) more had attained a postgraduate degree. The research therefore captured information from a spectrum of respondents that comprised of all possible educational levels in the Zimbabwean community. Furthermore the information showed that the majority of respondents possessed either no formal education or a mere O' Level education which increased their desperation to find work and in turn their vulnerability to being trafficked.

**Table 4.6: Employment Status prior to travelling to Kuwait (n=50)**

Employment Status	Frequency	Percentage %
Formally employed	16	32
Informally employed	17	34
Unemployed	17	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>



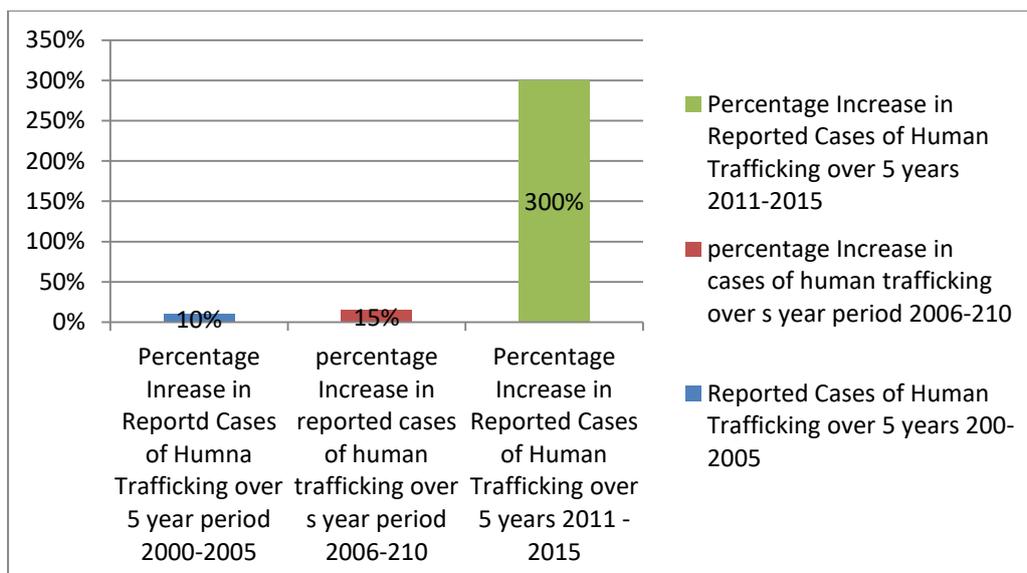
**Figure 4.5: Employment status prior to travelling to Kuwait (n=50)**

The information in table 4.6 and figure 4.5 above shows that 34% (17) of the respondents were informally employed while another 34% (17) were unemployed. 32% (16) of the respondents were formally employed. The sample showed that the majority of trafficked women are either unemployed or informally employed which may be a factor that made them more vulnerable to and spate to seek employment beyond the borders of Zimbabwe.

### **4.3 Human Trafficking as an Emerging Human Security Threat**

This section presents, analyses and discusses findings on the ways in which human trafficking had emerged as a human security threat by assessing the factors that have increased vulnerability, the nature of human trafficking that had actual taken place and continues to spread as well as the forms of human security that had been violated or denied Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait.

#### **4.3.1 An Increase in Reported Cases of Human Trafficking**



**Figure 4.6: An Increase in Reported Cases of Human Trafficking (source: Immigration Department in the Ministry of Home Affairs in Zimbabwe)**

The information in figure 4.6 shows that the number of reported cases of human trafficking have risen rapidly every five years since 2000. The largest spike in human trafficking according to records reviewed at the Immigration Department was realised in the five years between 2010 and 2015 where reported case of human trafficking rose 300% from the five years preceding them.

An official from the Immigration Department said:

*“The cases of human trafficking were almost unheard of to us until a particular case in 2012 were one young woman called home informing her mother of her captivity and eventually contacted the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait from where she was eventually rescued. Our records are a result of a retrospective analysis in which we then began to look at who may have gone missing or been likely trafficked without us having even known and very few cases turned up from the year 2000 onwards. However within the last five years and especially 2016 there was a massive spike in human trafficking cases which alerts us to the fact that the practice is increasingly becoming a significant threat.”*

The statistics drawn from the records of the Immigration Department and the testimony of a key informant from that department showed that human trafficking has in the last five years increased rapidly and in that sense is a significant emerging threat to human security. This is similar to the views of INTERPOL (2016), UNDOC (2017) and IOM (2016) who suggest that southern Africa in particular has experienced a rapid increase in the cases of ha security

and this has pointed to the emergence of human security as significant human security threat in that region as seen in previous chapters.

### **4.3.2 Factors that have Increased Vulnerability to human trafficking**

#### **i. A lack of Punitive Laws in Countries of Destination**

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the lack of punitive laws and commitment to prosecuting human trafficking cases in Kuwait was a key actor that enabled the practice to thrive and made it difficult for trafficked women to extricate themselves from the bondage. The respondent suggested that the suppression of women was not something shunned by the communities in Kuwait and therefore getting help from the authorities in that country.

All three key informants suggested as well that human trafficking syndicates were allowed to operate in countries such as Kuwait where the laws were not as stringent as in other parts of the world. An official from the Immigration Department said:

*“The challenge that is there is that we can only cater for the criminals that operate within our own borders and cannot deploy law enforcement to other countries that are lacklustre in dealing with such crimes. Human trafficking is actually a profitable business in Kuwait to the point that from our observation it is being aided and abated by law enforcement officials there.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“The reluctance of the Kuwait Government to bare down on human trafficking with all the legal and political might of the state is concerning and points to the fact that human trafficking may actually involve government officials in that country. The extent to which Kuwait is a human trafficking hub should not be underestimated, the law is virtually absent with regards to that crime there and human trafficking is actually an insidious yet sprawling economic industry which is not impeded too much by laws”.*

The responses show that the lack of punitive laws that deal with and apply to human traffickers has allowed human trafficking to grow and therefore threaten Zimbabwe women more and more as the reach of human traffickers from countries such as Kuwait has increased rapidly. This is similar to the views of Truong (2014) and Adepoju (2016) reviewed in earlier chapters.

#### **ii. Desperation to Escape Poverty**

All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that worsening poverty and the general economic hardships they faced at home made them more eager and less careful in their acceptance and pursuit of employment in countries beyond the borders of Zimbabwe. All of the respondents noted how their inability to procure even the most basic of life's needs such as food, accommodation or shelter, clothing, healthcare and education on a sustained and consistent basis made them look favourably and with little suspicion on the prospect of earning salaries of between \$1500 and \$2000 advertised by would be traffickers to Kuwait.

All three (3) key informants also suggested that poverty is a prominent vulnerability factor that made Zimbabwe women more susceptible to trafficking. An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“For local people in Zimbabwe the mere prospect of earning relatively large amounts of money that would extricate them from the economic hardships being encountered in Zimbabwe outweighs any safety concerns that may be presented by travelling to a foreign country that one would never have travelled to before. Instead of exercising due diligence and contacting departments such as ours for background and assurance, local women wish to expedite their travel abroad quickly to run away from poverty being experienced here at home.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social welfare said:

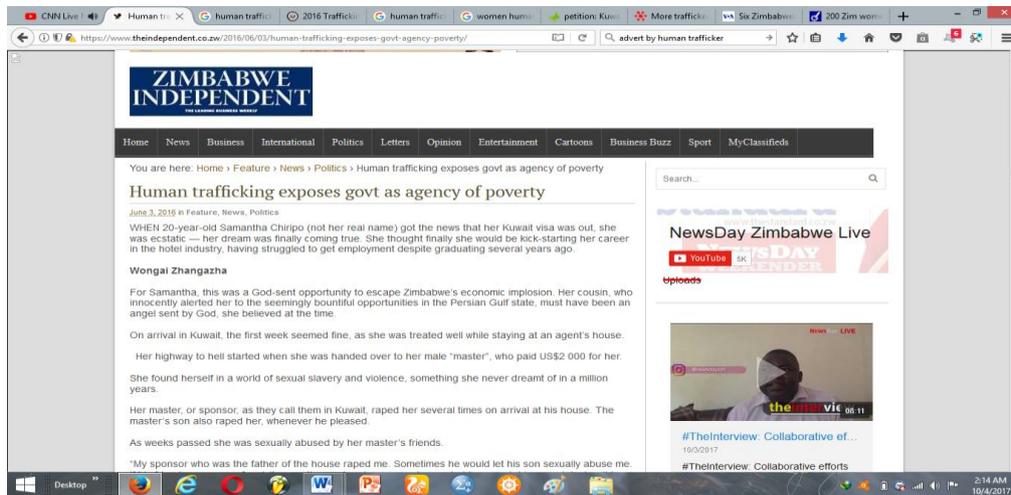
*“It is not only abject poverty that is pushing people towards the jaws of traffickers because even people employed within the public service are falling prey to these avaricious syndicates. Teachers and nurses in particular that are apparently finding it difficult to satisfy their needs on a government salary offered in Zimbabwe also consider the prospect of working in Kuwait for considerably larger salaries as better options to the extent of leaving their jobs here at home.”*

An official from the Immigration Department of Zimbabwe said:

*“The extent to which poverty is a push factor is also realised in the manner that the women who are eventually trafficked leave the country. They do not go through the normal procedural and standardised channels as this is not only costly to them financially but with regards to time as well. They want to leave the clutches of poverty here at home as soon as possible hence they utilised corrupt elements within some embassies that then expedite the process for less cost than normal procedures.”*

The responses from questionnaire responses are supported by secondary data such as an article in the Zimbabwe Independent issue which carried an article which suggested that the same group of women had made known and supporting statistics had shown that increasing poverty was a leading cause of increased vulnerability to

human trafficking of the same Zimbabwean women the research studied. A screen shot of the article is shown below.



The responses show that poverty is a significant factor that has made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat. This is consistent with the views of Lobasz (2009) who as shown in previous chapters posits that the desperate desire to escape the clutches of poverty is the number one luring factor for entrapment in trafficking hence the movement trends are invariably from developing states and poor communities to those that are or just perceived to be developed states and more affluent communities

### iii. High unemployment and underemployment

All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that high unemployment and underemployment is also a significant factor that made Zimbabwe women ore vulnerable to human trafficking. All the respondents suggested that it is not only the lack of jobs but the lack of jobs that provided decent income that would enable one to leave above poverty thresholds that pushed them and others to seek employment in Kuwait.

All three (3) key informants made comments that echoed the assertions of questionnaire respondents. They all suggested that high unemployment and underemployment factors that have increased vulnerability to human trafficking. An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“The lack of employment, job security and the low incomes realised in the informal sector contribute to the ease with which people are persuaded to travel abroad to work in foreign counties such as Kuwait. The challenges in*

*Zimbabwe's employment sector are well documented. In 2009 the Government of Zimbabwe indefinitely seized to be the employer of last resort by putting a job freeze in the public service while the corporate sector and quasi-government institutions such as local authorities have struggled to retain their workforces due to economic hardships. Labour turnover has been very high yet academic institutions release graduates every year. The informal sector is characterised by low income and vulnerable employment such as small scale and artisanal mining which is usually conducted illegally. Other examples are vending or hairdressing and so on which provide low and inconsistent incomes. So job opportunities that offer salaries that are between \$1500 and \$2000 as is usually advertised are more than just tempting."*

An official from the Immigration Department of Zimbabwe said:

*"Our experience so far with human trafficking has shown us that the would-be traffickers exploit the economic situation of countries of origin. They gather information as to employment rate, average monthly incomes and so on so that they know what to offer people they intend to traffic. As an example, right now the poverty datum line Zimbabwe is US\$645.36 which is below the average monthly salary of a formally employed Zimbabwean and way lower than the average monthly income of informally employed people. So when these syndicates try to lure people to their country the tendency is to advertise salaries that are three or four times higher than that, which even the most highly paid Zimbabweans do not earn. People that have decent jobs would even be willing to lower their class of job to earn that money, for instance a school teacher may be willing to go and be a waitress only to find out on arrival that they would be forced into exploitative labour."*

The responses show that high unemployment and underemployment are significant factors that have made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat. This comports with the findings forwarded by Lobasaz (2009) who suggested that high unemployment and underemployment are significant push factors in human trafficking.

#### **iv. Growing demand and affinity for cheap, disempowered labour**

96% (48) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that a growing demand and affinity for cheap and disempowered labour in Kuwait and other destination countries such as Saudi Arabia was a significant pull factor that has increased the vulnerability of Zimbabwe women to being trafficked to these countries. These respondents suggested that from their own observations a culture of soliciting cheap labour of people from poor third world countries such as Zimbabwe is deeply entrenched in societies of destination countries such as Kuwait. Respondents made it known that this was based on the fact that they would not be alone at the

places at which they were forcibly made to work but would be with others from countries such as Uganda, Ghana or Egypt.

All three (3) key informants also suggested that destination countries such as Kuwait had bred a culture of exploiting cheap and disempowered labour from poorer countries and this increased the vulnerability of those in potential countries of origin of trafficked people such as Zimbabwe women. An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“Some countries such as Kuwait have entrenched human trafficking of cheap or forced labour so much that it is viewed there as a waste of resources to employ regular or orthodox labour that they would have to remunerate fairly and utilise under fair conditions of service. Instead whole industries such the hospitality sector or domestic employment have a kind of unofficial yet sector wide accepted tendency to exploit cheap or forced labour from poorer African and third world countries. This ready market for trafficked people raises the vulnerability of potential victims from countries such as Zimbabwe.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“Human trafficking itself has become an industry all on its own in countries such as Kuwait such that there is a long chain of actors from scouts (who may include immigration officials), travel agents, reception and employment agents in destination countries as well as the employers or owners of the trafficked people. Sometimes Kuwait is not even the final country of destination but a stop in transit to other countries such as Saudi Arabia and other parts of the Middle East.”*

Responses show that it not only the increasing demand for cheap and disempowered labour that made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat but also the fact that human trafficking itself has become an industry all on its own acting as a source of informal employment for many actors. This is similar to the assertions of The IMF (2014) which as reviewed in earlier chapters notes that as more countries compete with each other on global markets there is growing demand for cheap labour. The views expressed by respondents also relate to the views of Torres and Swanstrom (2014) who suggest that the global competition of multinational corporations has led to a demand for cheap, disempowered labour that is often drawn from trafficked persons.

**v. Weak law enforcement in countries of destination**

90% (45) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that destination countries such as Kuwait have inadequate laws and weak law enforcement when it pertains to human trafficking. Furthermore the level of corruption causes immigration officials in those countries to not only ignore the trafficking but assist and facilitate it for a payment.

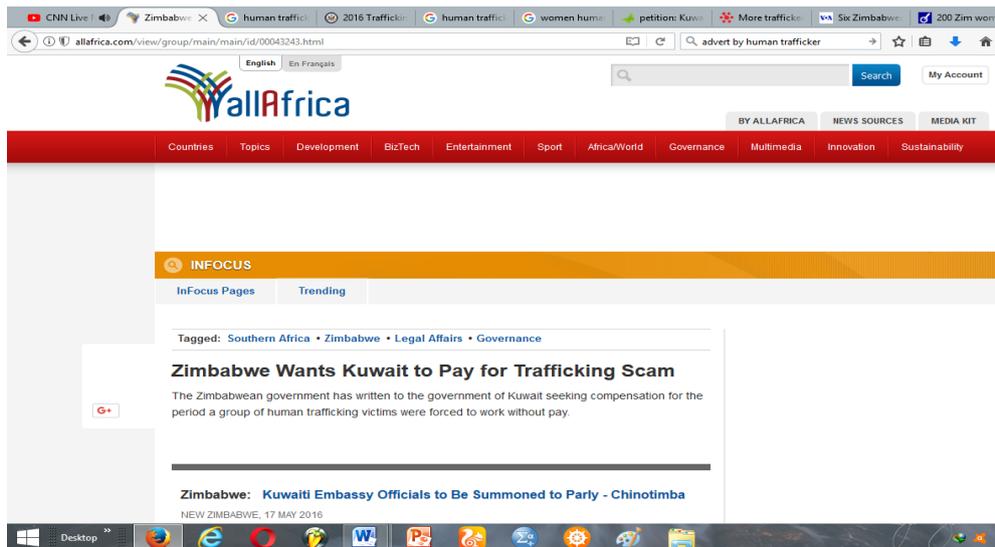
All four key informants suggested that weak law enforcement was a factor that made more people from target countries like women in Zimbabwe more vulnerable to trafficking. An official from the immigration department in Zimbabwe said:

*“Even if the laws of that country, that is, Kuwait, are relatively silent on how to deal with trafficking syndicates, the issue of trafficking is an immigration issue that fits into transnational crime category hence there are provisions in international conventions which Kuwait is a party to and must abide by. They therefore already have a responsibility towards curbing human trafficking whether they acknowledge it or not.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“The problem with countries that are beset by elongated regional conflict such as Kuwait is, in the Middle East, is that law enforcement is lacking and further weakened by instability in the surrounding region. Communication itself is troublesome when we try and coordinate the safe return of our compatriots that would have been trafficked there. While the Kuwait Embassy officials here may be cooperative, coordination with Kuwait officials in Kuwait is a totally different and frustrating ordeal.”*

The responses are supported by secondary data. The online publication on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 published an article that detailed how Zimbabwe authorities and law makers lamented how their counterparts in Kuwait do not punish or apprehend human traffickers even after it had been proven that this particular group of women that this research include as participants had been trafficked and exploited then ultimately rescued. A screenshot of the article is shown below and suggests that Zimbabwean authorities are still waiting for justice from the Kuwait Government over the trafficking of Zimbabwean women.



Responses in the section showed that the weakness in law enforcement is a factor that has increased the potential for Zimbabwe women to be trafficked to Kuwait similar to the views of Truong (2014) and Adepoju (2016) who asserts that Africa, because most of its economy is heavily dependent on its tourism has the most relaxed laws and enforcement of immigration laws. The ease of transit facilitates a comprehensive network of trafficking syndicates.

#### vi. A high Level of Deception by Human Traffickers

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that they were deceived by the veiled sincerity and appearances of a high standard of professionalism by the traffickers. Respondents suggested that from the time they responded to adverts in the newspapers they were treated like royalty with all travel expenses and travel documents facilitated by the traffickers and expediently too.

All three key informants also suggested that the victims were particularly susceptible to deception of the kind that traffickers offered up due to their level of education and the fact that they had never encountered human traffickers before their ordeal.

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“Here in Zimbabwe most of these women are used to being denied employment and meeting their own costs when seeking employment. However when there comes a foreign agent from Kuwait that is polite, helpful and willing meet all the costs of travel and relocation the women are more grateful*

*than they are suspicious hence they easily fall for the deceptive tactics of apparent sincerity and professionalism”*

An official from the immigration Department said:

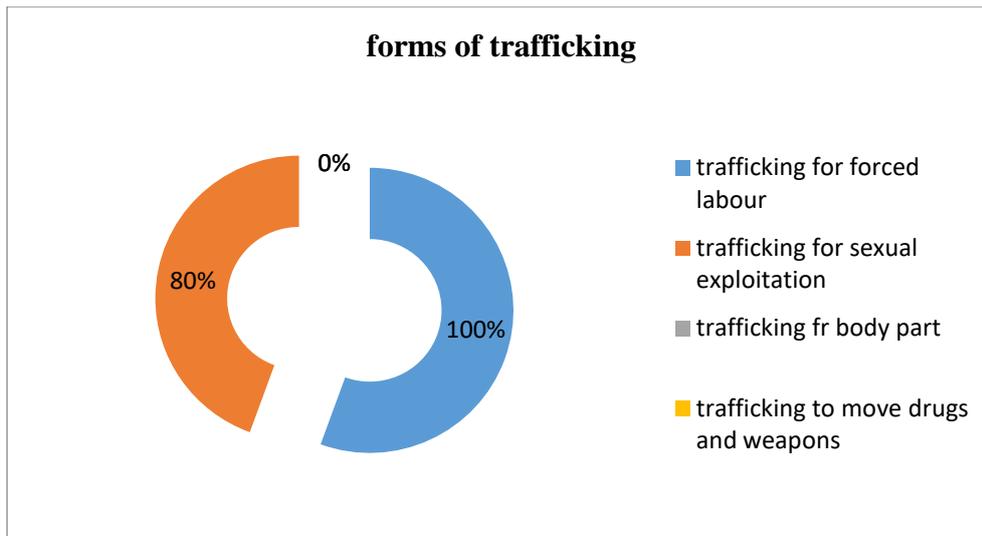
*“One of the red flags that had gone on with us not noticing was that these traffickers utilise travel agents that facilitate travel arrangements and documents expediently and the women are immediately deceived into believing that such professionalism can only be deployed by legitimate employers not knowing that the traffickers go an extra mile just so as to make sure they get the women on a plane as quickly as they can. Once in the countries of destination it in a different matter and their documents are withheld and they are literally ushered into slave labour.”*

The responses showed that the cunning deception that is deployed by traffickers and disguised as professionalism is a key factor in the success that human traffickers meet in luring their victims to Kuwait. The responses also showed that ignorance as to the existence of human traffickers and the low of education of most of these women make the deception more potent. This is unlike any literature that was reviewed.

### **4.3.3 The Nature of Trafficking Being Carried Out**

**Table 4.7 The Nature of Trafficking Being Carried Out**

<b>Nature/purpose for Trafficking</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
Trafficking for Forced Labour	50	100
Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation	0	0
Trafficking for Body Parts	0	0
Trafficking to move Drugs and weapons	0	0



**Figure 4.7 the Nature of Trafficking Being Carried Out**

**a. Trafficking for Forced Labour**

The information in table 4.7 and figure 4.7 above shows that all 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that forced labour is the primary purpose for their being trafficked to Kuwait. All these respondents suggested that once they were in Kuwait their travel documents and identity cards were withheld to force compliance to servitude. The respondents noted that they forced into only two types of employment, that is, either as a waitress or general hand in obscure restaurants or cafes and in domestic quarters or homes. Sometimes these were not exclusive but would alternate since being exchanged between bosses or owners is common. Some of the respondents suggested that they were offered paltry wages presumably to eventually afford transport back home when they could no longer work. Some of the respondents suggested that they were not paid at all.

All three key informants suggested that inn their line of work they too had observed that the trafficking victims including the group of women that this research included as participants would have been forced into one form of forced labour or another. An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“The depraved irony is not lost on us when we realise that our compatriots flee what they view as very poor working conditions here in Zimbabwe only to find that they are subjected to nothing short of slavery when they enter Kuwait with most of them not being paid at all but rather just being given food, shelter or clothing for their subsistence so that they can work.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“These trafficking syndicates hold these poor victims at ransom because they withhold their travel and identity documents until the women have overstayed in those countries and are illegal aliens whom would not be listened to favourably by authorities there. They are also barricaded in fortified homes against their will so that they cannot escape and seek help from the Zimbabwean Embassy. Forced labour is actually a euphemistic term as the accounts of the ordeal these women experience that we hear each time is nothing but harrowing. It is modern day slavery!”*

The responses are supported by secondary data. The same group of women that this research included as participants gave testimonies before a parliamentary select committee in Harare, the account of which was documented in a newspaper article of the 16 May 2016 issue of The Standard in which the women narrated how they had been enslaved in Kuwait.



The responses show that the trafficking for forced labour is one of the forms of human trafficking that have emerged as a human security threat for Zimbabwe women similar to the views of Rwebangira (2015), Truong (2014) and Lobasz (2009) who suggest that victims of human trafficking are frequently forced against their will to perform various kinds of work, in households or in agriculture, where their rights and movement are circumscribed. This is also one significant form of the violation of human security as suggested by the human rights theory.

## **b. Trafficking for sexual exploitation**

The information in table 5.6 and figure 6.6 above also shows that none of the questionnaire respondents suggested that their enslavement in Kuwait also included sexual abuse, assault and exploitation.

All three key informants however suggested that they had found that it is common that forced labour of the kind that is experienced when trafficked to Kuwait is accompanied by sexual exploitation and abuse. The officials suggested that most of the women would not own up to sexual abuse due to fear of stigmatisation, rejection by their families and fear of further victimisation and reprisal from their traffickers. An official from the immigration department said:

*“It is not a coincidence that a disproportionate number of female rather than male Zimbabweans are the ones that are sort by these traffickers pretending to be authentic or sincere employers. Domestication of manual and sexual labour is more often the goal of these predators therefore they usually advertise jobs for women such as waitressing, domestic work, nursing and so on.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“The sexual exploitation is the saddest part of this entire ordeal as it multiplies the occupational risk to the victims as they are exposed to many different diseases, sometimes are forced to terminate pregnancies and so on. The emotional and social scars that result from this experience are enormous and these women have to undergo counselling therapy amid other forms of recovery exercises. Some of these women are married women and often that puts a toll on their family life and sometimes ends marriages. The women are sometimes shunned by their immediate and extended families upon return. This is only speaking of the women that do manage to return, some never do and die there.”*

The responses are supported by secondary data. Officials from the Ministry of Gender in Zimbabwe interviewed the same group of women that this research included as participants and their anonymous narrations of the harrowing exploitation that they were subjected to were published in the 14 June 2006 issue of the Daily News Newspaper. In them most of the women were unwilling to admit to sexual exploitation but a few told of the sexual abuse they encountered during their enslavement in Kuwait, some of them on a daily basis.



The responses show that the trafficking for sexual exploitation is one of the forms of human trafficking that have emerged as a human security threat for Zimbabwe women similar to the views of Rwebangira (2015), Lobasz (2009), Adepoju (2016) and Torres and Swanström (2014) who posit that sexual exploitation, in particular prostitution, is among the predominant forms of exploitation for which human beings are trafficked

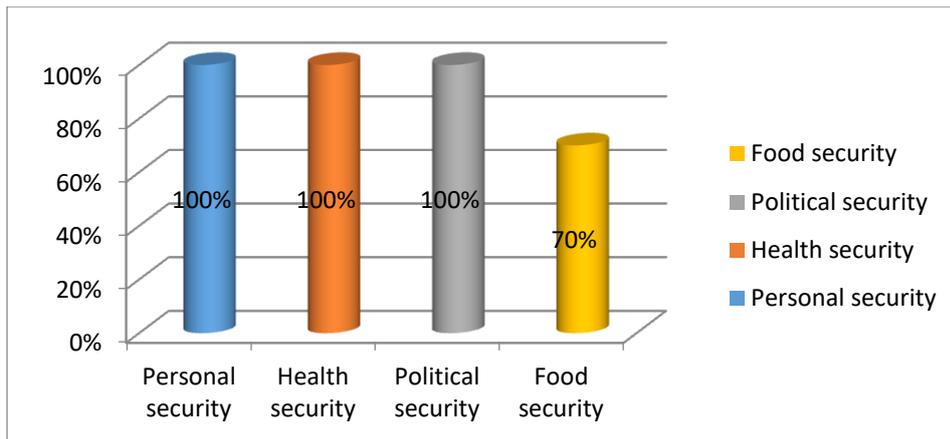
### c. Trafficking for Body Parts, Drugs and Weapons

The responses also show that none of the respondents experienced trafficking for body parts or for moving drugs or weapons. This is in contrast with the views of Adepoju (2016) and Lobasz (2009) who posits that trafficking in humans for the purpose of using their organs, in particular kidneys, is a rapidly growing dimension of the scourge as the need to circumvent normal protocols of organ waiting lists increases.

#### 4.3.4 Forms of Security Threats and Deprivation Being Experienced

**Table 4.8 Forms of Security Threats and Deprivation Being Experienced (multi-response)**

Form of human security violated	Frequency	Percentage %
Personal security	50	100
Health security	50	100
Political security	50	100
Food security	35	70



**Figure 4.8 Forms of Security Threats and Deprivation Being Experienced (multi-response)**

### **I. Personal security**

The information in table 4.7 and figure 4.7 above shows that All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the security aspect most threatened and deprived of them during their stay was personal security which involves physical violence and sexual violence, domestic violence as well as excessive subjection to forced labour with minimal rest. The respondents suggested that they were verbally abused with vulgar curses and racial slurs, sometimes beaten, denied rest and adequate sleep and some were also sexually assaulted.

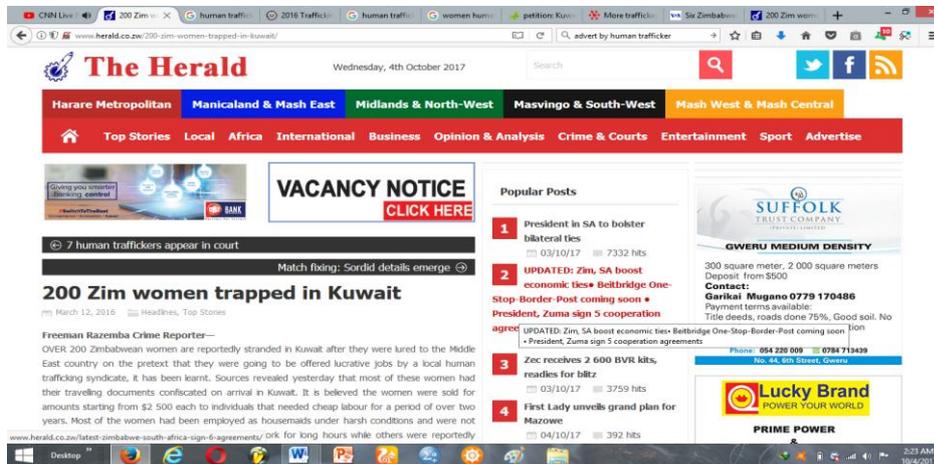
All three (3) key informants also noted that personal security was the first form of security to be taken away and abused. An official from the Immigration department of Zimbabwe said:

*“The traffickers assume all control over the victim by stripping them of their basic personal human rights by turning them into slaves. They physically assault them to instil dominance and compliance, force them to work long inhuman hours and they are afforded very little hours of sleep.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“The traffickers prefer women because they believe because of their own masculinity they can physically dominate and constrain them while at the same time use them for sexual gratification when they please.”*

The responses are supported by secondary data. The same women that the research included as participants in the research gave an interview to The Herald Newspaper issue of 12 March 2016 in which they narrated the physical and sexual violence as well as excessive work they were subjected to. A screenshot of the newspaper article is shown below.



Responses show that personal security is one form of human securities deprives or violated by human traffickers on Zimbabwe women who are trafficked to Kuwait. This is a form of human security that was posited by Rwebangira (2015) as shown in earlier chapters. This also a violation of human security as suggested by the human rights approach to human security.

## II. Health security

The information in table 4.7 and figure 4.7 above also shows that all 100% (50) alluded to a violation of their health security as they were subjected to the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases when they were forced into sexual activity mostly without protection or contraception. The respondents also suggested that they suffered physical injury as a result of physical beatings and assault. The respondents also suggested that they were denied adequate rest and sleep and sometimes punished by being denied food. This exposed them to numerous health risks including malnutrition and compromised immunities.

All three (3) key informants suggested as well that the amount of abuse experienced by trafficked women exposed them to numerous health risks. An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“The kind of work that the women were an those that are still there engage in is mostly forced labour, and that kind of work does not value favourable or healthy working conditions such as humane working hours, provision of*

*protective clothing and freedom from abuse and exploitation. To the contrary a lot of things that are risky to the healthy are actually fixed norms in that environment. Sexual exploitation presents risks of disease and physical injury, physical bodily harm and fatigue owing to long hours of work, little sleep and beatings cause a depreciation of immunity and strength. The emotional and psychological health of these women is also compromised as a number of the victims alert us when they get back that they more than once contemplate suicide as a means of escape”*

An official from the immigration department said:

*“It is a blessing to be rescued in a state of health that can at least can be rehabilitated and brought back to its former state as these women we have here back home are because some of the women do not survive the abuse. There are women that have not been accounted for today. Some are thought to have been trafficked to even further countries such as Saudi Arabia but several more are presumed dead as even the embassy officials that used to communicate with them suddenly lost contact. When the women that are trafficked fall sick their masters do not take them to hospitals to avoid questions and trouble from law enforcement so may release them to places far off so that they get sicker and die.”*

The responses show that that health security is a form of human security that is violated or deprived of the Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait. The health security aspect is similar to that which was posted by Lobasz (2009) as being part of the human security factors violated in human trafficking as is shown in earlier chapters. The right to Health is also a human security aspect, the deprivation of which is a violation of human security according to the human rights approach.

### **III. Political security**

The information in table 4.7 and figure 4.7 above also shows that all 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that they had been subjected to illegal alien status the instant they step foot in the destination country of Kuwait. The respondents made it known that all them had their travel documents and identifying documents withheld. This would be contrary to the initial understanding that the purported employer would facilitate their legal stay and possibly eventual attainment of citizenship in the foreign country. However the women were subjected to restricted movement, denied civic rights and personal freedoms. This is tantamount to them having no political rights or security whatsoever.

All three (3) key informants concurred. An official from the Immigration department said:

*“The most lethal weapon that these traffickers deploy is rendering their victim country less, a virtual persona non-grata who is deprived of all and any political identity or rights. To law enforcement of destination countries these victims are criminals who violated immigration laws. Without any identification and no money it is difficult for them to seek help and travel to the Zimbabwe Embassy where they can be helped.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe of said:

*“Demobilisation and lack of identity in a foreign country are disempowering tools that the traffickers employ as a means to maintain domineering control of the victim. They lack any political rights in the destination country and therefore cannot seek help from authorities who at times are corrupt officials that are bribed by the traffickers.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“The religion and culture in countries such as Kuwait, a Muslim Middle Eastern country, also make it difficult for women to report crimes to local law enforcement who denigrate women and look upon them with disdain particularly when they report sexual crimes.”*

Responses show that political security is one of the human security facets violated or deprived of Zimbabwe women that are trafficked to Kuwait. This is consistent with the views of Torres and Swanstrom (2014) who as shown in earlier chapters suggested that human trafficking has a tendency to diminish and deprive victims of political security and political rights. This also violates human security as prescribed by the human rights approach as movement is a right.

#### **IV. Food security**

The information in table 5.7 and figure 5.7 above also shows that all 70% (35) of the respondents reported deliberate starvation or being fed very little as punishment or part of regular treatment. These respondents suggested that they were made to eat a fixed amount of meals at fixed points in time. The respondents reported a severe decline in body weight, under nutrition and malnutrition.

Two (2) of the respondents suggested that besides being subjected to food that had hitherto been alien to them the women that are trafficked are not fed well at all during their captivity.

An Official from the immigration department said:

*“The women that are trafficked are often subjected to animal like feeding where they only eat when their masters say they eat. The women that have been rescued inform us that the food is rationed and only given at particular times. Even though most of the women suggest that they were fed three times a day they also point out that the food comes in small portions and is sometimes undercooked and of a lesser quality than their traffickers or holders eat for themselves.”*

An official from the Ministry of public service, Labour and Social Welfare said;

*“What really upsets us to hear or get to find out is that most of these women usually do the cooking in those homes but they themselves are not fed with the very same food that they are made to prepare, instead they are fed with low grade starchy foods that are not cooked well. We can only assume that this is a measure to keep control and a strong hold of the women with some semblance of racism maybe because the treatment is dehumanising.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said;

*“Usually the first thing that the rescued women ask for is a decently cooked meal, especially with meat that they would have been used for the duration of time that they would have been subjected to ill treatment under the forced labour. What we have discovered also is that those women that are given a little wages for their work have their movements strictly regulated hence they cannot step out to procure some food for themselves”*

The responses in this section showed that the food security component of human security of the Zimbabwe women is violated during the stay in restricted conditions in Kuwait. Most of the women often become malnourished and most lose weight dramatically. The responses also showed that the captors or holders of the trafficked women appear to only feed the women the bare minimum for them to maintain and sustain strength that is just enough for them to work and survive. It is also clear that the dietary control employed by the holders is a form of control over the women. This violation of food security of the human security component is similar to the views of Lobasz (2009) and Rwebangira (2015) raised in earlier chapters. This is also a violation of human security when set against the human rights approach guiding the research.

#### **4.4 The Dynamics Surrounding The Challenges Encountered In Curbing Human Trafficking As A Human Security Threat In Zimbabwe.**

This section presents analyses and discusses findings on the dynamics surrounding challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking by assessing the immigration factors, law enforcement factors, repatriation and rehabilitation factors and economic factors.

#### **4.4.1 Immigration Factors**

##### **a) Immigration Corruption**

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that human traffickers infiltrate immigration departments and usually elicit the help of some local and diplomatic foreign officials. The traffickers have liaisons in the target countries. Respondents were adamant that most of the time the traffickers connive with some immigration elements to expedite the foreign travel from Zimbabwe to Kuwait. This creates the challenge of the not having the whole immigration department and apparatus fully commit and comply with measures to curb human trafficking.

All three key informants also suggested that immigration corruption is a significant challenge in the combat of human trafficking. Official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said:

*“We experience that some officials at the immigration Department and at local and foreign embassies who are custodians of the legality and integrity of the process of processing travel documents are bribed and influenced by traffickers to subvert the system and fraudulently produce documents that facilitate human trafficking. There is need to weed out corrupt elements and tendencies from the system.”*

This is similar to the views of MIDSA (2014) who suggest that corruption within immigration apparatus of countries causes there to be oversight and increase of illegal trafficking of people as corrupt official expedite fraudulent travel documents and bypass checkpoints that would act as defences to human trafficking.

##### **b) Civic education and awareness**

All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that the awareness of human trafficking among the general Zimbabwe community is still very, very low and most of us are unsuspecting victims. Respondents also suggested that there is a general belief that living conditions in most parts of the world that are outside Africa are considerably better than here in Zimbabwe hence when people hear Kuwait as the country of destination it does not even occur to them that some people there would want to make money out cheap labour due to economic hardship as well.

All three (3) of the key informants shared views that were similar to those of the questionnaire respondents. The key informants suggested that the ignorance over the issue of human trafficking made it virtually impossible for potential victims to be cautious because they would be totally oblivious to the possibility that they would be trafficked. An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said

*“In our line of work abroad and more and more here now because human trafficking has ventured closer from we are just as surprised to find out that some victims of human trafficking would never have even heard or discussed the term human trafficking before being trafficked as they are in finding out that it is now a common occurrence that has been in existence for lots of years. Even today in Zimbabwe I feel that the issue has not yet been taken seriously enough nor publicised to an extent that someone not somehow connected to the trafficked women would know that much about it.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said;

*“Awareness and education really need to be carried from the masses of Zimbabwe that due to the economic hardships and lack of formal employment and lack of decent work in the informal sector are quite vulnerable to the lure of human traffickers. The youth in particular that are graduating from colleges and are as yet unmarried think they have nothing holding them back and are eager to seek employment wherever they can find it.”*

An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said

*“Like with any crime the first preventive measure is exercising personal caution but without knowing that a particular kind of crime may be taking place there is no way that a person could take caution against it.”*

Responses showed that a lack of awareness of the growing phenomenon of human trafficking among ordinary Zimbabweans is a significant challenge in trying to fight or guard against it. The respondents expressed the need to conduct wide spread awareness to educate people on the existence of the crime and how to identify it. It is however apparent from the responses that the issue of human trafficking has not yet quite taken hold of national social and political discourse therefore has not yet been taken seriously. It has however on several occasions been reported in print media as some of the secondary data discussed above has shown. The notion that civic education and awareness is a significant aspect of the effort to curb human trafficking is similar to the views of UNDOC (2016) who suggested that a lack of awareness

and knowledge increased the vulnerabilities of persons to be trafficked as unsuspecting victims.

**c) Regional conflict**

68% of the respondents suggested that the Middle East region in which Kuwait is located is one that is engulfed in armed conflict of different kind. As such respondents suggested that while Kuwait itself could not necessarily be classified a war zone, the area surrounding it was politically and militarily unstable and therefore law enforcement in these regions was not as effective especially on matters such as human trafficking. Respondents also suggested that personal safety in this region is not a universal liberty as the risk to life was significantly increased by many other factors such as religious fundamentalist terrorism and insurgent groups in the area. This, respondents said complicated matters of coordinating rescue efforts of trafficked Zimbabwe women with the law enforcement and diplomatic officials in that country.

All three (3) key informants also suggested that the regional conflict within the middle east made authorities there less vigilant in monitoring organised crime prioritising resource and energy towards restricting potential violent or armed attack at their airports and public spaces. An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said

*“The country of Kuwait already has culture where the treatment of women is not particularly on that is admirable. Women in their culture are subordinate to men so that coupled with a background of armed conflict there is little prioritisation of such organised crime as the trafficking of women among that country’s law enforcement.”*

An official from the Immigration department said;

*“From what we have observed and heard the people in these countries are uneasy speaking to strangers particularly of other countries due to the conflict of that region and the language barrier is another factor that makes it difficult for the trafficked women to communicate with the people they would meet in order to get help. Due to the cloud of terror threats and other forms of insurgence there is a general mistrust of strangers among the locals, even by law enforcement therefore their willingness to pursue crimes of human trafficking is greatly diminished.”*

Responses in this section showed that a cloud of armed conflict in the area surrounding the country of Kuwait affects law enforcement’s vigilance and prioritising of such organised

crime as human trafficking. The responses also showed that the cultural treatment of women and the language barrier also inhibits the women from being able to seek help from the locals that they meet there. The concept of regional conflict contributing to the difficulty in investigating, apprehending and prosecuting human trafficking is similar to the views of Truong (2014), Adepoju (2016) who suggest that

#### **4.4.2 Economic Factors**

##### **i. Underemployment and Unemployment**

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the contraction of the jobs sector had to be addressed if human trafficking was going to be combated effectively. Respondents suggested that for as long as there were push factors such the high unemployment and underemployment here at home there would always be vulnerability to human trafficking.

All the Three (3) key informants also suggested that unemployment and underemployment were sticking points in the fight against human trafficking. One of the key informants suggested that unemployment and underemployment did not only create a susceptibility of Zimbabweans to being trafficked but could turn them into traffickers a well. An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“It is no coincidence that the emergence and rise in human trafficking has coincided with an unrelenting free fall of economic vitality in the Zimbabwe job sector that has maintained a downward trajectory ever since the late 90’s and has become acutely critical over the last decade or so.. The unemployed college graduates are languishing in an unrewarding informal sector that provides neither decent work nor decent income. The desperation to find some way to earn a decent living makes people vulnerable and if that is not addressed traffickers will always have a persuadable target population.”*

An official from the Immigration department said;

*“We have realised that the pattern is that the victims of human trafficking look forward so much to earning a relatively higher income abroad that would extricate them from the poverty they face here at home that they sell everything that they would have owned here at home just to facilitate their travelling abroad. This shows us that the desperation for a better livelihood and quality of life is actually a hazard that needs to be addressed. There needs to be short term policies to address unemployment and underemployment so that people do not remain susceptible to human trafficking.”*

The responses in this section showed that the need to address employment and unemployment in the short term to curb a need to travel to foreign lands to seek employment

is a significant dynamic in the challenges toward the combating of human trafficking. Responses seemed to suggest that just making people aware of human trafficking and trying to deal with crime itself without dealing with the push factors and vulnerability issues was not enough. Respondents showed that as long the need to seek employment in foreign lands was there, there would always be the likelihood that some people may be trafficked. This is similar to the notion of AfricaNews (2017) that reports that poverty and unemployment are long standing factors that make it difficult to deal with human trafficking as for as long as these two phenomenons exist the vulnerability of those affected by them to human trafficking would persist too.

## **ii. Poverty**

All 100 (50) suggested that short term pro-poor policies to alleviate or reduce the poverty that has increased the vulnerability Zimbabwe women to being trafficked. Respondents suggested that for as long as poverty kept growing people would remain vulnerable to human trafficking.

All three (3) key respondents suggested poverty would perpetuate the vulnerability of people to the threat of human trafficking and hence had to be addressed in the fight against the phenomenon.

This is also similar to the views of AfricaNews (2017) which reported that poverty and unemployment are long standing factors that make it difficult to deal with human trafficking as for as long as these two phenomenons exist the vulnerability of those affected by them to human trafficking would persist too.

### **4.4.3 Law Enforcement factors**

#### **I. Local and Regional Law Enforcement agencies capacity**

All 100 (50) of the respondents suggested that law enforcement in Zimbabwe as yet lacked the capacity to effectively deal with the phenomenon of human trafficking. The respondents suggested that just as the general citizenry had not yet fully grasped the urgency and enormity of human trafficking neither had police or other law enforcement agencies in Zimbabwe.

The three key informants concurred with the views of questionnaire respondents. The key informants especially expressed concern that there had as yet not been a department, agency

or taskforce in any law enforcement arm that was specifically aimed at combating human trafficking. An official from the immigration department in Zimbabwe said:

*“The response to human trafficking by law enforcement has been fragmented and reactive as opposed to proactive. Only when a particular case is reported is there some effort by local law enforcement such the police and some coordination with INTERPOL and Embassies in order to rescue trafficked persons. From what we have observed in Zimbabwe, law enforcement are only just reacting to the emergence of human trafficking and still trying to understand its cause, nature , the actors involved and ways to fight it. Another limiting factor for law enforcement from what I see is the lack of any particular law specifically enunciating crimes related to it.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“There has to be a multi sector task force whose law enforcement begins with awareness and education, have a presence at various checkpoints such as at immigration, airports, airlines and embassies so as to identify and apprehend traffickers at one of those stages. There is no reason, now that we know this is happening, why traffickers should not be found out at some point before the victim reaches the country of destination, for instance during the job placement advert, recruitment, travel arrangements, actual travel and transit and arrival in Kuwait. That would be gross negligence on the part of our law enforcement and regional partners such as INTERPOL.”*

Responses in this section showed that local law enforcement had not yet developed a capacity to effectively police human trafficking. What stands out most prominently from the responses is that law enforcement had not yet committed resources in any serious way towards fighting human trafficking. Furthermore coordination with regional or global law enforcement agencies such as INTERPOL has not occurred in a continuum as an ongoing effort to prevent, intervene or prosecute in human trafficking but rather is sought only in specific reported matters. The lack of adequate law enforcement capacity as a challenge to combating human trafficking is similar to the views of Truong (2014) and Adepoju (2016) who posit that for human trafficking to be effectively fought there must be enhancement of local and regional law enforcement capacity.

## **II. Legislation and prosecution**

All 100% (50) of the respondents expressed discontent with the ambit that the current legislation reaches in the investigation, apprehension and prosecution of human trafficking. The respondents suggested that the law in Zimbabwe was not extensive enough to adequately define and criminalise all possible forms of exploitation that resulted from human trafficking

and did not adequately facilitate the extradition of foreign traffickers of local women back to Zimbabwe to stand trial.

All three (3) key informants suggested that both the Trafficking in Persons Act (9:25) of 2014 and the criminal law, codification and reform Act did a lot to tackle human trafficking including the setting up of an inter-ministerial committee but did not embrace international definitions of trafficking and exploitation a result of the trafficking. An official from the Immigration department said:

*“The law in Zimbabwe is not particularly strong in criminalising and prosecuting human trafficking. The trafficking law does criminalise forced trafficking for forced labour, child labour and sexual purposes from, in and to Zimbabwe. However the same law does not define forced labour in terms of exploitation such as deprivation of rest, assault, deprivation of sleep, restricted movement, and deprivation of food while at the workplace which normally takes place as a result of the forced labour. Furthermore the prosecutors here have been reluctant, for whatever reason, to aggressively prosecute proven human trafficking.”*

The concerns with legislation were also expressed in secondary data in a country report published by the United States Department of State on the monitoring and combating of human trafficking in December of 2016 with a particular focus on the same group of women that this research studied. The report suggested that the country needed to better define the exploitation that arises from human trafficking, to apply more stringent punishment on proven traffickers and for the prosecuting authority to prosecute more human trafficking cases than they currently did. A screen shot of the report is shown below;

Responses in this section have shown that the legislative arm may have laid the foundation for the criminalising and prosecution of human trafficking crimes through statutes such as the trafficking in persons Act of 2014 and the criminal law codification and reform Act but could do more in expanding the definition, classification and punishment for the exploitation that arises from the trafficking.

#### **4.4.4 Repatriation and rehabilitation factors**

This section presents, analyses and discusses findings on the repatriation and rehabilitation dynamic of the fight against human trafficking.

##### **a) The investigative capacities of the Zimbabwean Embassy in Kuwait**

All the 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait is not equipped to effectively investigate or coordinate rescue efforts in cases of human trafficking. The respondents suggested that this challenge is exacerbated by the fact law enforcement and diplomatic channels in Kuwait do not appear to be aggressive enough to deal with human trafficking syndicates.

All three (3) key informants suggested that the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait is only suited to fulfilling its conventional diplomatic duties but not to aggressively combat the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait which would also require coordination with a less than enthusiastic law enforcement apparatus of that country. An official from the Diplomatic Missions Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Zimbabwe said

*“From what we have observed so far, rescue efforts, prosecution or even preventive measures are complicated in Kuwait are complicated by the fact that embassy officials in Kuwait do not get sufficient support and investigate resources from law enforcement agencies in that country. In fact, it would appear to us, that the trafficking of women is common in that country because the traffickers grease the hands of the trafficking syndicates. Our embassy officials, most of whom have no law enforcement capabilities are often forced to take up the role of investigators in trying to locate and rescue some of the women that would have been trafficked to many parts of Kuwait and beyond. This is why a lot of other women are still stuck in that country because often if they cannot locate embassy officials themselves, sometimes no Zimbabwean official even knows that they are there.”*

An official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare said:

*“It is easier to mobilise resource with which to return the women home only after they would have been identified and escaped from their holders. Its either their families are notified and offer to pay for their transportation or the government facilitates their travel when they are unable to.”*

Responses in this section showed that there are extreme difficulties for trafficked women to either be rescued by Kuwait law enforcement in coordination with Zimbabwe embassy officials or for them to extricate themselves from their holders so as to return or be returned to Zimbabwe. The responses showed that efficiency in the repatriation process is realised only after the women have somehow come into contact with embassy officials were they are fed, given medical attention and have their travel back to Zimbabwe arranged for them. The major problem that is postulated from the responses is that with a general lack of adequate support from hesitant Kuwait Law enforcement the embassy officials are tasked with

adopting law enforcement capabilities that they have not been trained for. Related literature does not adequately deal with aspect of human trafficking.

#### **b) Rehabilitation framework in Zimbabwe**

All 100 (50) of the respondents suggested that they had received immense support and resources with which to resume a normal life here in Zimbabwe from the central government and NGOS. The respondents suggested that they had been afforded access to counselling and therapy to deal with that trauma that they had experienced as a result of their ordeal in Kuwait.

All three (3) key informants suggested also that while there were still enormous challenges in the investigation, apprehension and punishment of traffickers, the support system provided for rescued victims through the Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait and here back home in Zimbabwe is effective and comprehensive. An official from the Immigration Department said:

*“The victim Police Victim Friendly Unit, WOZA (Women of Zimbabwe Arise), Girl Child Network, Parirenyatwa and Chitungwiza Hospitals, Musasa Project, Department for International Development (DFID), The Parliament of Zimbabwe, ZimRhights, and other organisations and institutions have all stepped forward to provide financial, material and medical support to rescued women as well as individual well-wishers. So the support system for the women is firmly in place to assist in their rehabilitation and resumption of normal life.”*

The responses in this section showed that rehabilitation efforts have been well supported and provided for by government, private and community organisations. This is inconsistent with the views Adepoju (2016) who suggests that weaknesses in the repatriation and rehabilitation support systems of rescued trafficked persons are also challenges met in the fight against human trafficking as most victims find it difficult to fully reintegrate into society and resume normal life due to psychological trauma and the loss of material and financial resources.

#### **4.5 Summary**

The chapter presented, analysed and discussed research findings drawn from survey questionnaires and key informant interviews. The chapter was categorised into four main sections, that is, section A: Biographical Data of respondents, section B: human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwean

women to Kuwait, and section C: The dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe and section.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF RESEARCH FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

The chapter provides a summary of the research and its findings. The conclusions that the research arrived at are also outlined. The chapter finally provides a comprehensive list of recommendations

#### **5.2 Summary**

##### **5.2.1 Summary of the research**

The study in the first chapter provided a background to the study of human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait. The chapter also provided a problem statement, the research aim, the research objectives, the research questions, the significance of the research, the delimitation of the research, the limitations of the research, the assumptions of the research and the definition of key terms.

In the second chapter the study presented the considerations made in the theoretical framework that would best guide the research so as to adequately magnify the human security threat posed by human trafficking. The chapter illustrated that after considering the rational choice theory, the feminist theory and human trafficking and the conflict theory to human security the study settled for the human rights approach to human security as a guiding framework.

The third chapter of the study reviews both Euro-centric and Afro-centric perspectives on the concept of human security, the features of human trafficking, why human trafficking has emerged as human security threat, how human trafficking has emerged as a human security threat and the challenges associated with combating human trafficking.

The study in the fourth chapter outlined the methods that were employed in acquiring, presenting and ultimately interpreting data critical to reaching the objectives set. The chapter also outlined the research design selected, the sampling method and size, methods of data

collection and corresponding instruments and the methods of data analysis and presentation preferred.

In the fifth chapter the study presented, analysed and discussed research findings drawn from survey questionnaires and key informant interviews. The chapter was categorised into four main sections, that is, section A: Biographical Data of respondents, section B: human trafficking as an emerging human security threat with a specific focus on the trafficking of Zimbabwean women to Kuwait, and section C: The dynamics surrounding the challenges encountered in curbing human trafficking as a human security threat in Zimbabwe and section. The current chapter summarises the research and its findings, outlines conclusions of the research and provides research recommendations.

### **5.2.3 Summary of the research findings**

The findings of the research are that:

All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that worsening poverty and the general economic hardships they faced at home made them more eager and less careful in their acceptance and pursuit of employment in countries beyond the borders of Zimbabwe. All three (3) key informants also suggested that poverty is a prominent vulnerability factor that made Zimbabwe women more susceptible to trafficking. All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that high unemployment and underemployment is also a significant factor that made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking. All three (3) key informants made comments that echoed the assertions of questionnaire respondents. 96% (48) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that a growing demand and affinity for cheap and disempowered labour in Kuwait and other destination countries such as Saudi Arabia was a significant pull factor that has increased the vulnerability of Zimbabwe women to being trafficked to these countries. All three (3) key informants also suggested that destination countries such as Kuwait had bred a culture of exploiting cheap and disempowered labour from poorer countries and this increased the vulnerability of those in potential countries of origin of trafficked people such as Zimbabwe women.

A majority, 90% (45) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that destination countries such as Kuwait have inadequate laws and weak law enforcement when it pertains to human trafficking. All four key informants suggested too that weak law enforcement was a factor

that made more people from target countries like women in Zimbabwe more vulnerable to trafficking. All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that forced labour is the primary purpose for their being trafficked to Kuwait. All three key informants suggested that in their line of work they too had observed that the trafficking victims including the group of women that this research included as participants would have been forced into one form of forced labour or another. None of the questionnaire respondents suggested that their enslavement in Kuwait also included sexual abuse, assault and exploitation. All three key informants however suggested that it is common that forced labour of the kind that is experienced when trafficked to Kuwait is accompanied by sexual exploitation and abuse.

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the security aspect most threatened and deprived of them during their stay was personal security which involves physical violence and sexual violence, domestic violence as well as excessive subjection to forced labour with minimal rest.

All three (3) key informants also noted that personal security was the first form of security to be taken away and abused. All 100% (50) alluded to a violation of their health security as they were subjected to the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases when they were forced into sexual activity mostly without protection or contraception. All three (3) key informants suggested as well that the amount of abuse experienced by trafficked women exposed them to numerous health risks. All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that they had been subjected to illegal alien status the instant they step foot in the destination country of Kuwait. All 70% (35) of the respondents reported deliberate starvation or being fed very little as punishment or part of regular treatment. Two (2) of the respondents suggested that besides being subjected to food that had hitherto been alien to them the women that are trafficked are not fed well at all during their captivity.

All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that human traffickers infiltrate immigration departments and usually elicit the help of some local and diplomatic foreign officials. The traffickers have liaisons in the target countries. All three key informants also suggested that immigration corruption is a significant challenge in the combat of human trafficking. All 100% (50) of the questionnaire respondents suggested that the awareness of human trafficking among the general Zimbabwe community is still very, very low and most of us are unsuspecting victims.

All three (3) of the key informants shared views that were similar to those of the questionnaire respondents. 68% of the respondents suggested that the Middle East region in which Kuwait is located is one that is engulfed in armed conflict of different kind. All three (3) key informants also suggested that the regional conflict within the middle east made authorities there less vigilant in monitoring organised crime prioritising resource and energy towards restricting potential violent or armed attack at their airports and public spaces. All 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the contraction of the jobs sector had to be addressed if human trafficking was going to be combated effectively. All the Three (3) key informants also suggested that unemployment and underemployment were sticking points in the fight against human trafficking.

All 100 (50) suggested that short term pro-poor policies to alleviate or reduce the poverty that has increased the vulnerability Zimbabwe women to being trafficked. All 100 (50) of the respondents suggested that law enforcement in Zimbabwe as yet lacked the capacity to effectively deal with the phenomenon of human trafficking. The three key informants concurred with the views of questionnaire respondents. The key informants especially expressed concern that there had as yet not been a department, agency or taskforce in any law enforcement arm that was specifically aimed at combating human trafficking. All 100% (50) of the respondents expressed discontent with the ambit that the current legislation reaches in the investigation, apprehension and prosecution of human trafficking. All three (3) key informants suggested that both the Trafficking in Persons Act (9:25) of 2014 and the criminal law, codification and reform Act did a lot to tackle human trafficking including the setting up of an inter-ministerial committee but did not embrace international definitions of trafficking and exploitation a result of the trafficking.

All the 100% (50) of the respondents suggested that the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait is not equipped to effectively investigate or coordinate rescue efforts in cases of human trafficking. All three (3) key informants suggested that the Zimbabwe Embassy in Kuwait is only suited to fulfilling its conventional diplomatic duties but not to aggressively combat the trafficking of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait which would also require coordination with a less than enthusiastic law enforcement apparatus of that country. All 100 (50) of the respondents suggested that they had received immense support and resources with which to resume a normal life here in Zimbabwe from the central government and NGOS. All three (3) key informants suggested also that while there were still enormous challenges in the

investigation, apprehension and punishment of traffickers, the support system provided for rescued victims through the Zimbabwe embassy in Kuwait and here back home in Zimbabwe is effective and comprehensive.

### **5.3 Conclusions**

The research arrived at the following conclusions:

Poverty is a significant factor that has made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat, consistent with the views of Lobasz (2009).

High unemployment and underemployment are significant factors that have made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat.

It not only the increasing demand for cheap and disempowered labour that made Zimbabwean women more vulnerable to human trafficking and contributed to the emergence of human trafficking as a human security threat but also the fact that human trafficking itself has become an industry all on its own acting as a source of informal employment for many actors similar to the assertions of The IMF (2014) and Torres and Swanstrom (2014)

The weakness in law enforcement is a factor that has increased the potential for Zimbabwe women to be trafficked to Kuwait similar to the views of Truong (2014) and Adepoju (2016).

The trafficking for sexual exploitation is one of the forms of human trafficking that have emerged as a human security threat for Zimbabwe women similar to the views of Rwebangira (2015), Lobasz (2009), Adepoju (2016) and Torres and Swanström (2014).

None of the respondents experienced trafficking for body parts or for moving drugs or weapons in contrast with the views of Adepoju (2016) and Lobasz (2009).

Personal security is one form of human securities deprives or violated by human traffickers on Zimbabwe women who are trafficked to Kuwait similar to that posited by Rwebangira (2015).

Health security is a form of human security that is violated or deprived of the Zimbabwe women trafficked to Kuwait similar to that which was posted by Lobasz (2009).

Political security is one of the human security facets violated or deprived of Zimbabwe women that are trafficked to Kuwait, consistent with the views of Torres and Swanstrom (2014).

Food security component of human security of the Zimbabwe women is violated during the stay in restricted conditions in Kuwait, similar to the views of Lobasz (2009) and Rwebangira (2015).

Immigration corruption is a significant challenge in the combat of human trafficking, similar to the views of MIDSA (2014).

A lack of awareness of the growing phenomenon of human trafficking among ordinary Zimbabweans is a significant challenge in trying to fight or guard against it similar to the views of UNDOC (2016).

A cloud of armed conflict in the area surrounding the country of Kuwait affects law enforcement's vigilance and prioritising of such organised crime as human trafficking similar to the views of Truong (2014) , Adepoju (2016).

The need to address employment and unemployment in the short term to curb a need to travel to foreign lands to seek employment is a significant dynamic in the challenges toward the combating of human trafficking similar to the notion of AfricaNews (2017).

Local law enforcement had not yet developed a capacity to effectively police human trafficking. What stands out most prominently from the responses is that law enforcement had not yet committed resources in any serious way towards fighting human trafficking similar to the views of Truong (2014) and Adepoju (2016).

The legislative arm may have laid the foundation for the criminalising and prosecution of human trafficking crimes through statutes such as the trafficking in persons Act of 2014 and the criminal law codification and reform Act but could do more in expanding the definition, classification and punishment for the exploitation that arises from the trafficking.

There are extreme difficulties for trafficked women to either be rescued by Kuwait law enforcement in coordination with Zimbabwe embassy officials or for them to extricate themselves from their holders so as to return or be returned to Zimbabwe.

Rehabilitation efforts have been well supported and provided for by government, private and community organisations. This is inconsistent with the views Adepoju (2016).

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

In light of the conclusions arrived at by the research, the following recommendations are offered:

##### **a. Policy**

- i. That the Zimbabwe Trafficking of Persons Act of 2014 be amended to define, as part of human trafficking, all forms of exploitation that arise from it to include domestic servitude, slave labour, sexual exploitation, deliberate starvation, physical assault and verbal insult.
- ii. That all Zimbabwean embassies around the world have law enforcement attachés that deal primarily with issues to do with human trafficking of Zimbabwe nationals.
- iii. That airlines present brochure of country profiles including risks to human security found therein to travellers who intend to visit those countries not as a means to discourage but to instil vigilance.
- iv. That local law enforcement receives training and resources with which to combat the evolving and growing threat of human trafficking.
- v. That local law enforcement creates partnerships with regional and international law enforcement agencies such as INTERPOL so as to coordinate the fight against human trafficking.

##### **b. Scholarly**

- i. That the causes, features and effects of human trafficking be taught in schools and colleges and in through the media so that there is a universal awareness of the phenomenon in order for ordinary citizens to precautionary measures so as to minimise their susceptibility to Human Trafficking.
- ii. That more Africa focused research on the trends and scope of human trafficking be conducted by think tanks and institutions of higher learning so as to assist

governments and law enforcement to understand the nature and spread of the human trafficking they have to deal with.

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High Ranking Official in the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Interviewed 29 September at NASSA House, Sam Nujoma Street/Selous Avenue, Harare, Zimbabwe

**SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING TO KUWAIT**

I am a final year student at the Midlands State University undertaking a Master of Science Degree in International Relations. I am conducting a research on **Human Trafficking as an Emerging Security Threat: The Case of Zimbabwean Women to Kuwait, 2010 – 2016**. Information collected shall be private, confidential and anonymous and will only be used for the purposes of this research. It is my hope that you will help me as best you can.

**Address:** Faculty of Social Sciences  
Midlands State University  
Senga  
Gweru

**Contact phone numbers:**

**Email address:**

**Section A: Biographical Data (Please tick where appropriate and be encouraged to elaborate on the spaces provided)**

**1. Age**

15-25 years	
26-35 years	
36-45 years	
46-55 years	
56 years or older	

**2. Sex**

Male	
Female	

**3. Marital Status**

Married	
Single	
Divorced	

Widowed	
Live in	

**4. Mode of Employment Prior to being trafficked**

Formally Employed	
Informally Employed	
Unemployed	

**5. Level of Education**

No formal education	
O' Level	
A' Level	
College Diploma or Certificate	
Undergraduate Degree	
Post Graduate Degree	

**Section B: Vulnerability Factors that Led To Trafficking**

6. What are the factors that made you willing to seek employment in Kuwait?

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7. What are the causes that make it possible for traffickers successful in extracting victims here in Zimbabwe?

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8. What are the factors that make traffickers successful in keeping and trading victims in Kuwait?

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**Section C: Nature of Trafficking**

9. Which of the following trafficking dimensions did you experience?

Trafficking for Forced/ Cheap labour	
Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation	
Trafficking for body parts	
Trafficking for Drug Smuggling	

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10. For how long were you in bondage under traffickers or their benefactors?

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**Section D: Human Security Violated**

11. Which human security violations did you experience?

Personal security (physical assault, insult, movement restrictions etc)	
Health security	
Political security	
Income security	
Other rights and Freedoms	

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**Section E: Adjustment and Rehabilitation**

12. How have you adjusted to life after trafficking?

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14. Have you received any professional help in social, psychological financial and material rehabilitation?

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**Section F: Dynamics and challenges in Curbing Human Trafficking**

15. What are the challenges here in Zimbabwe faced in curbing human trafficking such as that which you experienced?

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16. What are the regional challenges faced in curbing human trafficking such as that which you experienced?

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**17. What are the challenges faced in curbing human trafficking such as that which you experienced in Kuwait?**

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**Thank you, good day**

**Interview Guide for an Official from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare (Government of Zimbabwe)**

I am a final year student at the Midlands State University undertaking a Master of Science Degree in International Relations. I am conducting a research on **Human Trafficking as an Emerging Security Threat: The Case of Zimbabwe Women to Kuwait, 2010 – 2016**. Information collected shall be private, confidential and anonymous and will only be used for the purposes of this research. It is my hope that you will help me as best you can.

How long have you been employed by the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare?

What are factors that make Zimbabwe women vulnerable to human trafficking to Kuwait and other places?

What forms of human trafficking do Zimbabwe women experience in Kuwait?

What are the formal and informal adjustments and rehabilitation mechanisms that rescued women utilise?

What are the dynamics and challenges involved in curbing human trafficking such as that of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait?

## **Interview Guide for an official from the Immigration Department of Zimbabwe**

I am a final year student at the Midlands State University undertaking a Master of Science Degree in International Relations. I am conducting a research on **Human Trafficking as an Emerging Security Threat: The case study of the Trafficking of Zimbabwe Women to Kuwait, 2010 – 2016**. Information collected shall be private, confidential and anonymous and will only be used for the purposes of this research. It is my hope that you will help me as best you can.

How long have you been employed by the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare?

What are factors that make Zimbabwe women vulnerable to human trafficking to Kuwait and other places?

What forms of human trafficking do Zimbabwe women experience in Kuwait?

What are the formal and informal adjustments and rehabilitation mechanisms that rescued women utilise?

What are the dynamics and challenges involved in curbing human trafficking such as that of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait?

**Interview Guide for an official from the Diplomatic Missions Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Government of Zimbabwe)**

I am a final year student at the Midlands State University undertaking a Master of Science Degree in International Relations. I am conducting a research on **Human Trafficking as an Emerging Security Threat: The Case study of the Trafficking of Zimbabwean Women to Kuwait, 2010 – 2016**. Information collected shall be private, confidential and anonymous and will only be used for the purposes of this research. It is my hope that you will help me as best you can.

How long have you been employed by the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare?

What are factors that make Zimbabwe women vulnerable to human trafficking to Kuwait and other places?

What forms of human trafficking do Zimbabwe women experience in Kuwait?

What are the formal and informal adjustments and rehabilitation mechanisms that rescued women utilise?

What are the dynamics and challenges involved in curbing human trafficking such as that of Zimbabwe women to Kuwait?

