

The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

S Nqaphi
23625856

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Supervisor: Dr AA Roux
Co-supervisor: Prof CC Wessels
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children ages 7-15 years in the
Queenstown district**

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my late son Khanyisa and his two younger brothers; Somila and Hlumelo who are still alive, and whom I hope will follow in my footprints. This is also dedicated to all the sexually abused children who are still resilient despite the impact of their circumstances.

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I would like to thank God Almighty for giving me strength throughout my studies. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the following people:

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- All the participants who contributed and participated in the study.
- Prof. Lesley Greyvenstein for the language editing. (**Annexure 7**)
- Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues and friends for their ongoing support and encouragement with special thanks to Lungile Magqibelo.

STATEMENT

I, Sivuyile Nqaphi hereby state that the manuscript with the title:

The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

is my own work.

.....
S Nqaphi

.....
Date

SUMMARY

The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

Key words: *Caregiver, children ages 7-15 years, district, exploration, forensic social worker, parent, sexual abuse, perpetrator, rape incidents.*

As an employee in the South African Police Service, Family Violence, Child Protection Unit the researcher has noticed that there is an increase in the number of rape incidents in children. This became evident from the intake statistics which indicate that there is an estimate of 15 children per month from the Queenstown district who reported incidents of alleged sexual abuse and/ or rape at the offices of the Family Violence Child Protection Unit during 2009. The number of intakes at the Family Violence, Child Protection Unit increased even more after an awareness campaign on sexual abuse and rape was launched in the Queenstown area. Out of these office statistics it is clear that the phenomenon of child sexual abuse and rape is a very serious problem in Queenstown. Unfortunately no research is available regarding the unique situation of victims in the specific geographical area that contributes to the high incident levels.

The aim of the research was to explore the nature of rape incidents involving children in the Queenstown area in order to assist social worker in this area to better understand possible risk factors contributing to child sexual abuse, as well as how to address the phenomenon better by means of effective prevention programmes and forensic social work services. Purposive sampling was conducted among forensic social workers and children from the caseload of the researcher who had been raped in the Queenstown area.

This research reveals that children in the Queenstown area do not have adequate knowledge on child sexual abuse and rape. The children in this area are vulnerable because of many circumstances and become, therefore, victims of rape. Looking at the nature of rape incidents in the Queenstown area, there is a definite need for social workers with specialized knowledge, skills and experience regarding forensic social work who can render services to children who were raped.

OPSOMMING

Die aard van verkrachtings insidente met betrekking tot kinders in die ouderdomme 7-15 jaar in die Queenstown distrik

Sleuteltermes: Distrik, forensiese maatskaplike werk, kinders ouderdom 7-15 jaar, verkragting insidente

As werknemer in die Gesinsgeweld-, Kinderbeskerming- en Seksuele Misdrywe-Eenheid (GKS) van die Suid Afrikaanse Polisie het die navorser waargeneem dat daar 'n toename is in die aantal verkrachtings van kinders in hierdie distrik. Hierdie toename spruit duidelik in die aanmeldings statistieke van die Gesinsgeweld-, Kinderbeskerming- en Seksuele Misdrywe-Eenheid kantore in Queenstown wat daarop dui dat 'n geraamde 15 kinders per maand seksueel misbruik of verkrag was gedurende 2009. Na die loods van 'n bewusmakingsveldtog in die Queenstown distrik rakende seksuele misbruik van kinders, het die aantal aanmeldings by die Gesinsgeweld-, Kinderbeskerming- en Seksuele Misdrywe-Eenheid kantore vermeerder. Vanuit hierdie statistieke het dit duidelik geblyk dat seksuele misbruik en verkragting 'n ernstige probleem in Queenstown is. Daar is ongelukkig geen navorsing nog gedoen rakende die omstandighede wat aanleiding gee tot hierdie hoë vlakke van seksuele misbruik van slagoffers in hierdie gebied nie.

Die doel van hierdie navorsing was dus om die aard van die verkragting van kinders in die Queenstown distrik te ondersoek. Sodoende kan maatskaplike werkers in hierdie gebied 'n beter begrip verkry oor die faktore wat tot die seksuele misbruik en verkragting van kinders bydra asook hoe om hierdie probleem deur middel van voorkomingsprogramme en forensiese maatskaplikewerkdienlewering aan te spreek. Daar is van die doelgerigte steekproefmetode gebruik gemaak en forensiese maatskaplike werkers asook kinders wat verkrag is vanuit die werkslading van die navorser, is by die ondersoek betrek.

Vanuit die resultate verkry uit die navorsing is bevind dat kinders in die Queenstown distrik nie oor die nodige kennis aangaande seksuele misbruik en verkragting beskik nie. Die kinders in hierdie distrik is as gevolg van verskeie omstandighede baie kwesbaar en is daarom slagoffers van verkragting. Wanneer data oor die aard van verkragting van kinders in die Queenstown distrik in aanmerking geneem word, is dit duidelik dat in hierdie distrik 'n besliste behoefte bestaan vir maatskaplike werkers met spesialis kennis, vaardighede asook

ervaring rakende forensiese maatskaplike werk en dienslewering aan kinders wat verkrag word.

FOREWORD

The article format was chosen in accordance with regulations A.7.2.3 for the degree MA in Social Work: Forensic Practice. The article will comply with the requirements of the journal *Social Work/Maatskaplike Werk*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE AUTHORS

SOCIAL WORK

The journal publishes articles, brief communications, book reviews and commentary articles already published from the field of Social Work. Contributions may be written in English. All contributions will be critically reviewed by at least two referees on whose advice contributions will be accepted or rejected by the editorial committee. All refereeing is strictly confidential. Manuscripts may be returned to the authors if extensive revision is required or if the style of presentation does not conform to the practice. Commentary on articles already published in the Journal must be submitted with appropriate captions, the name(s) and address(es) of the author(s), preferably not exceeding 5 pages.

The entire manuscript must be submitted, plus one clear copy as well as a diskette with all the text, preferably in MS Word (Word Perfect) or ASSII. Manuscripts must be typed, doubled spaced on the one side of the A4 paper only. Use the Harvard system for references. Short references in the text: When word-for-word quotations, facts or arguments from other sources are cited, the surname(s), year of publication and the page number(s) must appear in parenthesis in the text. More details concerning sources referred to in the text should appear at the end of the manuscript under the caption "References". The sources must be arranged alphabetically according to the surnames of the authors.

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THE NATURE OF RAPE INCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN AGES 7-15 YEARS IN THE QUEENSTOWN DISTRICT

Nqaphi, S, Roux, AA & Wessels, CC.

(Mr S Nqaphi is a Social Worker at the National Head Office, South African Police Service. Both Dr AA Roux and Prof CC Wessels are senior lecturers in the School of Psychosocial Behavioural Sciences, Social Work Division, Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University).

Keywords: Child, Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit, forensic social work, incident, rape, sexual abuse, South African Police Service

1 INTRODUCTION

Rape incidents involving children are a worldwide problem that has psychological and emotional consequences. The challenge intensifies, or is worsened by the fact that South African Police Service with other government departments conduct an awareness campaign in the communities. The rape incidents accelerate everyday as these incidents take place behind closed doors. This requires all government departments, law enforcement and other key role players to come up with strategies and techniques in the fight against the sexual abuse of children.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Sexual violence against women and children is rife in South Africa, which has been branded the 'rape capital of the world' (Calitz, 2011:6). Nicholson and Jones (2013:1) state that 144 women in Cape Town reported rape to the police every day - that is six cases reported every hour. Extrapolated, up to 3,600 women could be raped in the country every day. According to Rape.co.za (Anon, 2013:1), it is estimated that women born in South Africa stand a stronger chance of being raped than learning how to read.

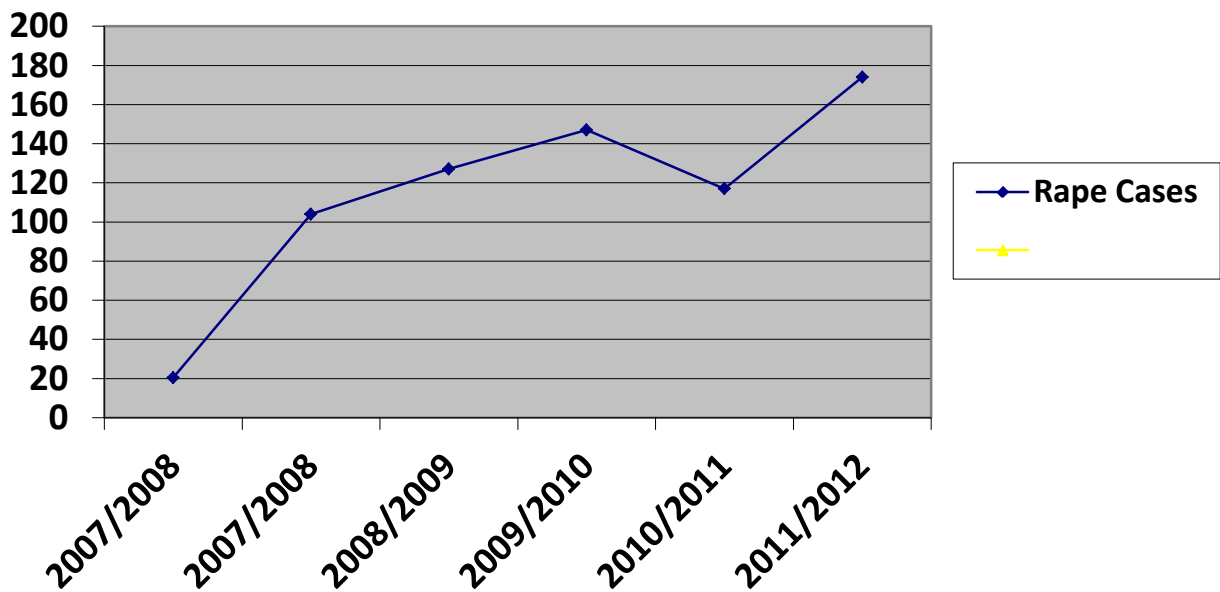
Rape according Zastrow (2010:211) and the Oxford Dictionary (2013) define rape as a crime typically committed by a man of forcing another person to have sexual intercourse with the offender against their will. Rape is also further defined in the current South African law “to exclude non-consensual anal and oral sex and penetration by objects other than the penis (Lawrence & Jansen Van Rensburg, 2006:129). When the complainant is under the age of 12 years, the South African law deems that this child would never to be able to give consent (Lawrence & Jansen Van Rensburg, 2006:129).

Child rape is becoming more common in South Africa. Jewkes *et al.* (2006:2950), reported that a child is raped every four minutes in South Africa. In 2000, 52 550 cases of rape or attempted rape of women were reported to the South African Police Service (SAPS). Of these cases, 21 438 of the victims were minors under the age of 18 years, and 7 898 under the age of 12 years and mostly between 7 and 11 years (Meel, 2008). The Annual South African Police Service (SAPS) Report (SA, 2007-2008) reported an estimated 19 639 registered rapes and indecent assault cases against children in South Africa during 2007/2008. These statistics should be an alarming call to all role players working with children. Children experience challenges of being raped by non-family members unknown to them, as well as those in the communities known to them. Some being raped by their family members and blood relatives such as cousin’s, brothers and some by their uncles and step-fathers.

The widespread rape and sexual abuse of children is also a serious social and health issue in the Transkei sub-region of the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa. Meel (2008:69) indicates that just over 55 000 rape cases were reported to the SAPS in 2004, a rate of 114 per 100 000, which is an increase from 44 750 in 1995.

Recent crime statistics have shown that the Queenstown policing area had the second highest number of rape cases in the Eastern Cape between 2008 and 2009 (Ntshobane, 2009:1). The rape cases reported in the office of the forensic social worker are those from various communities in the Queenstown district in the Eastern Cape. The rape statistics of the Queenstown area from 2007 until 2012 are the following:

DIAGRAM 1: QUEENSTOWN RAPE STATISTICS 2007- 2012



(Dondolo, 2013:1)

The Transkei region, in which Mthatha is situated, is one of the former 'independent' homelands in the Eastern Cape in which the majority of the population is African. Poverty in this region is extreme, and amenities are poor. People live in crowded homes. Women and children are very vulnerable, as they are the weakest members of a society in which violence is rife. Poverty, according to Van Niekerk (2006:103), "contributes enormously to the sexual vulnerability of children". The absence of the child support grant for children over the age of 14 years has an enormous impact on families. As a result of this, many children have to support their families financially by means of sexual favours to other people (Van Niekerk, 2006:103).

The Queenstown district where the researcher is working as a forensic social worker in the South African Police Service, Family Violence, Child Protection Unit, experienced the same problems. In 2009 a number of rape incidents such as children and children living with disabilities were referred to seek forensic social work assistance. It is estimated that at least fifteen children per month from Queenstown district came to the forensic social work for assistance. The situation was worsened by an awareness campaign conducted in Queenstown district to prevent child rape. Mostly due to circumstances such as the death of parents because of AIDS, children are left with grandparents as caregivers (Delpont,

2007:2; Schönteich, 2000; Van Der Westhuizen, *et al.*, 2011:471). Crosson-Tower (2005:135) indicates that the most severe types of sexual abuse of a child involve perpetrators known to the child such as family members and friends.

Holm (2010:1), Meyers *et al.* (2002:59) and Segal *et al.* (2007:169) point out that the consequence of child sexual abuse can affect individuals on a physical, physiological and social level. Child sexual abuse can have both immediate and long-term adverse psychological effects that carry over into adulthood.

According to Kuehnle and Connell (2009:5-6), people such as parents and social workers have to identify reliable indicators of child sexual abuse such as overt sexual behaviours, increased trauma symptoms, moodiness, nightmares and regressive behaviours. The impact of child abuse is far from uniform, but this is of little relevance for the moment. A variable may be valid even if it only applies to some, or a minority of sexually abused individuals. If a small percentage of sexually abused children develop dissociative identity disorders that otherwise would not have developed the disorder, and if the experience of sexual abuse is a pertinent factor in the causal chain producing the malady in these children, then there is rarity of dissociative identity disorder on the whole. Child sexual abuse survivors will not only need to deal with the shame, the fear and the victimization, but might struggle with almost every area of their functioning (Maleka, 2010:3). Meyers *et al.* (2002:59) explain that children that endure sexual abuse develop a wide range of socio-psychological problems that may affect them well into adulthood.

From the above it is evident that rape of women but also of children is rife in South Africa and also in the Eastern Cape (Calitz, 2011:6). As an employee in the South African Police Service, Family Violence, Child Protection Unit, the researcher has noticed that there is an increase in the number of rape incidents against children not only in other parts of South Africa, but also in the Queenstown district. This became evident from the intake statistics in the Police Service. The researcher seeks to explore the nature of the rape incidents involving children in the Queenstown area to provide the social workers in this area with information concerning the nature of rape incidents in assessing these children that are victims of these incidents.

Looking at the above, the following question can be asked:

- What is the nature of rape incidents involving children 7 to 15 years of age in the Queenstown district?

3 AIM OF THE RESEARCH

The aim of this research was to explore the nature of the rape incidents involving children 7 to 15 years of age in the Queenstown area in order to provide recommendations on the identified findings about the research in the Queenstown district.

4 CENTRAL THEORETICAL ARGUMENT

If social workers know what the nature of rape incidents in the Queenstown district, involving children between 7 to 15 years are, they can implement programmes to prevent these incidents to a large extent.

5 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher pursued a qualitative research methodology approach. The qualitative approach was used to answer questions about the phenomena with the purpose of describing and understanding the phenomena from the participant's perspective (Leedy & Ormrod, 2005:94-95). Neuman (2000:446) defines methodology as techniques that a particular discipline applies to manipulate data and acquire knowledge. Pretorius (2001:26) explains that research methodology can consist of report, description, explanation or prediction.

5.1 Literature Review

As described by Neuman (2000:446), the goal of a literature review is to demonstrate the researcher's familiarity with a body of knowledge in order to establish credibility, to show a path of prior knowledge, to integrate and summarize what is known in this area of research and to learn from others while creating new ideas. A literature review was conducted by the researcher in order to provide a theoretical background for the study and to contextualize core concepts as well as to explain how the study will add to the existing body of knowledge (Silverman, 2004:85). The literature review included themes such as statistics of rape incidents in South Africa and especially the rape incidents of children ages

7 to 15 years, and the nature of rape incidents involving children. A literature review took place in the beginning of the research aiming at contributing to a clearer understanding of the nature and meaning of the research problem that has been identified (Fouché & Delport, 2011:134). A literature control was also conducted after data collection had taken place (Botma, 2010:196).

The search engines used for this research were those available through the library of the North-West University services which include: Ebsco Host, Google Scholar, NEXUS, Sage Publications and Sabinet. There are few current books and journals on the subject of rape incidents but no research project conducted in the Queenstown area.

5.2 Empirical Research

5.2.1 Research Design

Grinnell (2001:547) describes a research design as a plan which includes every aspect of a proposed research study from the conceptualization of the problem right through to the dissemination of findings. The research is qualitative in nature (Cresswell, 2007:37).

Qualitative researchers use an emerging qualitative approach to collect data in a natural setting sensitive to the people and places under study. They are concerned with understanding rather than explanation, and with naturalistic observation rather than controlled measurement (Fouché & Schurinck, 2011:308). The descriptive design was used because little is known about the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7 to 15 years in the Queenstown district (Botma *et al.*, 2010:110).

The research study was explorative in nature because the researcher wants, by means of a survey, to explore and identify the reasons why rape incidents against children are rife in the Queenstown district. According to Blaikie (Fouché & De Vos. 2011:95), exploratory research is conducted to gain insight into a situation. This is the best method to get perspectives

5.2.2 Sample

Qualitative research “depends on purposefully selected samples: (Botma *et al.*, 2010:199). The qualitative researcher, according to Strydom (2005:192-193) and (Botma *et al.*,

2010:199) seeks out individuals, groups and settings, where the specific topic being studied is most probable to occur.

5.2.3 Population

The study took place at the Queenstown district in the FCS offices. Queenstown is an area which is situated in the Eastern Cape. Participants were children between ages 7 and 15 years that had been raped and are from the Queenstown cluster that consists of Lady Frere, Tylden, Glen Grey, Ilinge, Mlungisi and Sterkstroom where the researcher is practicing as a forensic social worker. These children were drawn from the researcher's caseload. Forensic social workers were also from this area. Strydom (2011a:223) notes that in research on child abuse or child sexual abuse the population might include social workers working in a welfare organisation or the children referred to an organisation for child protection services.

5.2.4 Sampling method

Purposive voluntary sampling was conducted in the Queenstown cluster as already mentioned (Strydom, 2011a, 232).

Inclusion criteria

- Children between the ages 7 and 15 years that were raped and are from the caseload of the researcher.
- Children whose primary caregivers gave written consent to be part of the research. **(Annexure 2)**
- Children that gave written consent to be part of the research. **(Annexure 3)**
- Children that can speak English. However, should a need arise for the participants to communicate in another language the researcher made use of an independent translator that understands the language of the participant(s). In social work practice the use of translators is allowed as long as the translator agrees to maintain confidentiality. As a result the independent translator was requested to sign a declaration of confidentiality.
- Forensic social workers from the Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit of the Queenstown area who gave written consent to be part of the research.

(Annexure 4)

5.2.5 Sample size

A purposeful selection of children from the researcher's caseload, children between the ages 7 and 15 years that had been raped and social workers were being purposefully selected until data saturation has been reached. This includes the six areas in the Queenstown district as mentioned earlier.

5.2.6 Data collection

A qualitative approach was used for the purposes of this study. The self-report data gathering method was used (Botma *et al.*, 2010:133). This simply means to ask people about themselves in relation to the study variables. This includes specific aspects such as knowledge, perceptions and information that cannot easily be observed or measured. Self-report instruments may include questionnaires or interviews. Self-report instruments are implemented verbally as with structured interviews. Semi-structure interviews were conducted by the researcher with the participants in order to collect the richest data possible (Greeff, 2005:296). The interviews were organised around areas of particular interest, while still allowing considerable flexibility in scope and depth. Babbie and Mouton (2001:53) stated that a basic individual interview is an interview which allows the object of the study to speak for him/her rather than to provide respondents with a battery of their predetermined hypothesis-based research questions. The main aim with the semi-structure interview was to gain a detailed picture of the nature of rape incidents of children between 7 and 15 years in the Queenstown district (Greeff, 2011:297). Semi-structured interviews can last for a considerable amount of time and can become intense and involved, depending on the particular topic. With the semi-structured interview the researcher had a set of not more than 8 predetermined open questions on an interview schedule for the child and the social worker. (Annexures 5 and 6) The interviews were guided by an interview schedule and not dictated by it (Greeff, 2005:296).

The interview schedules were pre-tested with experts from the small research group in the Department of Social Work who are knowledgeable regarding the interview schedule construction as well as forensic social work. The experts were evaluating the face-validity and construct validity (Botma, et al., 2010:137). The schedules were also pre-tested by

three children and three forensic social workers who are not part of the research to determine the clarity of the questions. After the schedules were pre-tested, adjustments were made to the schedules.

An audiotape recording was made during the interviews with the consent of the parents and children as well as the forensic social workers. The main task according to Monette et al. (2005:79) is to record the responses of the respondents. Rubin and Babbie (2005:457) feel that a tape recorder is a powerful tool because it allows the interviewer to keep full attention focused on respondents. Extensive field notes by the researcher directly after the interview were be written (Greeff, 2005:234; 298).

Procedures

The researcher had pursued the following procedures in the study:

- Obtain permission from the commanders of the Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit. **(Annexure 1)**
- The aim of the research was explained to the participants and the parents/caregivers of the children.
- The researcher obtained written consent from the children, social workers as well as from the primary caregivers of the children. **(Annexures 2, 3 and 4)**
- The place and time of each interview was scheduled with the participants.
- Interviews with the children were conducted in the researcher's former office and with the forensic social workers. Interviews were conducted while the Social workers attended South African Professional Society on the Abuse of Children 14th Annual Conference at CSIR at Pretoria, because the researcher was transferred to Pretoria.
- Appointments were made by the researcher with each participant.

5.2.7 Data Analysis

All the audio tape recorded interviews were transcribed verbatim. In analysing the data the researcher considered the words, context, frequency of comments, specificity of comments, what was said and what not as well as finding the main idea (Greeff, 2011:373). The researcher used Creswell's (2009:184) generic qualitative analysis approach. Creswell (2009:184) incorporated the approach of Tesch (cited in De Vos 1998:343-344) into 3 steps

which entail collection of qualitative data, analysis for themes and reporting of four to five themes (Botma *et al.*, 2010:224; Creswell (2009:184).

The researcher made use of co-coders such as one of the senior social workers as well as the participants (member checking) to verify the collected data to ensure correctness (Botma *et al.*, 2010:221).

5.2.8 Ethical aspects

Bless *et al.* (2006:140) point out that research ethics are developed to protect participants or subjects of research from abuse by researchers. Strydom (2011c:114) states that ethics implies preferences that influence behaviour in human relations, conforming to a code of principles, the rules of conduct, the responsibility of the researcher and the standards of conduct for the given profession. The following ethical issues, according to Strydom (2011c:115-122), were taken into consideration during the study.

- **Harm to respondent**

During the research process the researcher treated the participants with respect in order not to harm their emotions. The researcher avoided both physical and emotional harm to the respondents. Regarding this, the researcher obtained access to research participants by means of gatekeepers. In this case, the researcher was utilizing the institution Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offence Unit. The researcher ensured that participants would not be harmed as the researcher made arrangements with the Psychologist at Ethembeni Crisis Centre to provide counselling service where necessary as participants were victims of rape.

- **Informed consent**

Participants were informed about all the aspects of the study and if they did not wish to continue, they had the right to withdraw from the study at any time. The participants were participating in the study voluntarily. They were not being required to provide any explanation, should they wish not to continue. Written consent was given by the parents/caregivers of the children and also by the children themselves.

- **Violation of privacy, anonymity and confidential**

The privacy and confidentiality of the participants were safeguarded. The researcher assured the participants that everything that was being discussed would be kept confidential. The interviews were conducted by the researcher in his former office. All the data were reported anonymously to protect the identity of the participants. The data will be kept safely in a locked fireproof cabinet in the researcher’s office. The researcher has a safe pin code on his computer. The data would be stored at the North-West University for three years (Botma *et al.*, 2010:18-19).

The research was approved by the AUTHeR Research Unit of the Faculty and also approved by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Potchefstroom Campus of North-West University. Written permission **NWU-0027-09-A1** was obtained from the Ethics Committee for the main research project Forensic Social Work Practice.

5.2.9 Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness, according to Botma *et al.* (2010:232), has four epistemological standards namely truth value, applicability, consistency and neutrality. The truth value, consistency and neutrality were used as criteria to assist the value of findings according to the standards, strategies and applied criteria to ensure trustworthiness in the summary by Botma (2010:234).

FIGURE 1: STANDARDS, STRATEGIES AND APPLIED CRITERIA TO ENSURE TRUSTWORTHINESS

Epistemological standards	Strategies	Application
Truth Value	Credibility	The researcher ensured that prolonged engagement is applied by establishing self-rapport with participants during the semi-structured interviews. Field notes were written directly after each interview with the Social worker and the child. The researcher made use of a co-coder as well as member checking.
Consistency	Dependability	Auditing is made available by the capturing of data by

		means of verbatim audio recordings. A co-decoder as well as checking the data by the participants (member checking) were used in order to get fair and independent opinions.
Neutrality	Confirmability	Field notes made by the researcher are comprehensive and available for auditing.

6 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The researcher struggled to get hold of the respondents, especially the children as some of them were relocated to their birth places. The research had to drive vast distances in the rural farming areas to make sure that he reached the participants. Some parents were hesitant to give permission especially those of them whose cases were withdrawn because of shortage of evidence.

It was also a struggle to get hold of children as some parents were at work, so the researcher had to sacrifice and made an appointment in the afternoon when everyone is back from school and work. The researcher experienced challenges regarding the use of English during some interviews. Two of the respondents were not fluent in English due to the fact that their home language was IsiXhosa, and the researcher had to explain questions to ensure the correct interpretation thereof.

The researcher also struggled to get hold of the Social Workers as they were always busy with the assessments of children. The researcher was appointed as an Assistant Social Work Manager at National Head Office of the South African Police Service (Pretoria). The researcher had to utilize after hours to conduct the interviews with the forensic social workers. Interviews were conducted at Pretoria while the Social workers were attended South African Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (SAPSAC) 14th Annual Conference at CSIR.

7 DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY

7.1 Child

The Children's Act 38 of 2005 (SA, 2005) defines a child as a person under the age of 18 years. A child means any person under the age of 18 years and in certain circumstances means a person who is 18 years or older but under the age of 21 years (Grinnell 2001:13).

7.2 Forensic Social Work

Barker (2003:166) cited in Maschi and Killian (2011:12) defines forensic social work as "the application of social work to questions and issues relating to law and legal systems". Forensic social work according to the South African Council for Service Professions (2010:1), is a "specialized field of social work that focuses on the interface between society's legal and human systems and is characterized by the social worker's primary function of providing expert testimonies in courts of law with the primary client being the judiciary system".

7.3 Rape

Criminal Law, Sexual Offences and Related matters amendment Act 32 of 2007 (SA, 2007) delineate rape as "any act which causes penetration to any extent whatsoever by the genital organs of one person into or beyond the genital organs, anus, or mouth of another person; any other part of the body of one person or, any object, including any part of the body of an animal, into or beyond the genital organs or anus of another person; or the genital organs of an animal, into or beyond the mouth of another person."

7.4 Sexual Abuse

The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (SA, 2007) defines child sexual abuse as assault of a child or allowing a child to be sexually abused or assaulted and encouraging, inducing or forcing a child to be used for the sexual gratification of another person. Procuring or allowing a child to be procured for commercial sexual exploitation or in any way participating or assisting in the commercial sexual exploitation of a child. Using a child in or deliberately exposing a child to sexual activities or pornography.

It is physical contact between persons at different stages of development (usually an adult and a child) for the purpose of the sexual gratification of the mature person. While the encounter may have other functions aside from sexual, as an exercise of power of one person over another or an interaction which is humiliating to both parties involved, it is first of all a sexual act (Faller, 1996:144).

Researchers and clinicians agree that child sexual abuse includes both intra-familial and extra-familial abuse, as well as contact and non-contact activities. One can conclude with Spies' (2006a:269) definition, namely that sexual abuse of a child is any contact or interaction between a child and an adult or someone in an authority position during which the child is being used for sexual stimulation of the perpetrator. Although involved, the child "is not developmentally mature enough to understand the meaning of the sexual abuse" and cannot give informed consent (Spies, 2006a:269).

7.5 Social Worker

Kumar (2004:8) defines social work as "A professional that promotes social change and problem solving in human relationships and the empowerment and liberation of people to enhance wellbeing". The New Dictionary of Social Work (1995:61) defines a social worker as a person registered and authorized in accordance with the Social Service Professional Act (110 of 1978) (SA, 1978) to practice social work.

7.6 South African Police Service

It is a law enforcement body or agency of the South African Government established in terms of section 1 of the South African Police Service Act, 1995 (Act 68 of 1995) (SA, 1995). The South African Police Service's mission is to uphold public order and protect the citizens of the communities they serve.

7.7 Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit

The Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit are a specialized unit in the South African Police Service that works with victims (adults and children) of domestic violence and sexual abuse crimes. This unit operates according to a structured protocol called the South African Police Service National Instruction (3/ 2008) when dealing with victims.

8 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The following discussions were based on categories and subcategories of themes that emerged from the data. These findings also reflect the number of participants and the gender of participants. The target of the research was to explore the nature of the rape incidents involving children 7 to 15 years of age in the Queenstown area. Ten children and seven social workers were interviewed in order to compare their responses. Social workers are indicated in the research as participants A-G while children were shown as participants 01-10. Tables and diagrams were used to depict graphically some of the information that was gathered for this study.

An interview schedule was used during the interviews with the ten children who were raped in the Queenstown area. (Annexure 3) The following results of the interviews will be discussed:

8.1 Data received from the children

8.1.1 Identifying data of the children

The researcher started the interviews with the children with identifying data such as how old they are; in what school are they; where do they live and with whom do they live in the house.

TABLE 1: IDENTIFYING PROFILE OF CHILDREN

Participant s	Age	Gender	Current grade at school	Place of Residents
P 1	15	F	10	Ezibeleni
P2	14	F	08	Ezibeleni
P3	09	F	03	Ezibeleni
P4	08	F	02	Nomzamo
P5	12	F	07	Nomzamo
P6	14	F	08	Queenstown

P7	13	F	07	Mlungisi
P8	15	F	10	Mlungisi
P9	13	F	07	Ilinge
P10	15	F	09	Lady Frere

According to the above table all the participants were females. According to Jewkes et al. (2002:1), child rape is more common and is becoming more common, and lends support to qualitative research of sexual harassment of female students in schools in Africa. Child rape violates human rights and causes immediate and long-term health problems for the child. According to Advocates for Youth (2013:4), “females are more likely than males to experience child sexual abuse. Estimates of prevalence range widely, with studies suggesting that 12-40 percent of females and 4-16.5 percent of males in the U.S. have experienced at least one instance of sexual abuse in childhood or adolescence”. Such abuse constitutes a profound violation of human rights, and has been associated with long-term mental and physical health consequences.

The researcher could find no child of seven years that could participate in this research. One (10%) participant of eight years could be found that participated with success in this research. From the above table one (10%) child was nine years, one (10%) twelve years, two (10%) thirteen years, two (20%) fourteen and three fifteen years old. Five of the participants were younger than 13 years. This correlates with research by Meel (2008:69) that a large number of children between 7 until 12 years are victims of rape in the Eastern Cape Province.

According to Dunn (2011:155), violence against women and children has reached epidemic proportions in South Africa. Marshall and Herman (2000:59-62) indicate that circumstances that might be typical of 70% of the South African population which create opportunities for child abuse which included child sexual abuse and rape can be circumstances such as high levels of unemployment; high incidents of single parenting; high levels of poverty and overcrowded accommodation. With this information the researcher explored around aspects such as the residential area of the participants; people

sharing the home; school attendance and contentment regarding school; conditions connected to rape incidents; place where incidents took place; number of rape incidents; awareness and understanding about rape and education received regarding rape.

8.2 Themes and sub-themes

8.2.1 Residential area where respondents live

The aim of exploring where the participants live was to form a clear picture of the area that requires more attention when awareness is taken into consideration. One respondent resides in Queenstown central, one respondent in Ilinge Township, three respondents in Ezibeleni Township, one respondent from Lady Frere, two respondents live in Mlungisi Township, and two in Nomzamo. These identified places emerged as having high rates of rape incidents (FCS Annual Statistics report 2007/2008 to 2011/2012). These areas consist of shacks, informal and formal settlement as well as farming rural areas.

On the question “Who lives with you in the house” the following answers were received:

“I live with my grandmother, cousins, sister and brother.” **[P1]**

In certain situations these children leave their places of residents because they were abused by those who were supposed to take care of them. For example **participants 1, 2, 3 and 7** are residing in foster placements.

“I live with my aunt and sister.” **[P2 and 3]**

“I live with my grandfather and aunt.” **[P7]**

“I am living with sister, brother and cousin.” **[P5]**

“I live with my mom and two young brothers.” **[P6]**

“I am living with uncle, aunt and cousins.” **[P8]**

Respondents 4, 9 and 10 are the only ones who were living with both parents, brother sisters and/ or uncle. Only one respondent was living with her mother and the other respondents with family members.

Most of these children live in poverty stricken households where only one person has to support many of people living in the same house. The living conditions of families are

important as some of the abuse happened in families who live in poverty. "Poverty contributes enormously to the sexual vulnerability of children" (Van Niekerk, 2006:103).

Dunn and Keet (2012:175) found in their research that children in foster care in lower-income families perceive fathers as being absent figures who are mostly unemployed and prone to substance abuse. Circumstances like this impact negatively and can lead to the abuse as well as the sexual abuse of the foster child.

8.2.1.1 School attendance and contentment regarding school

The data collected revealed that all children were attending school. Education plays a vital role in the child's cognitive development and the child's development in general. "School is the basic foundation of knowledge being imparted to a child. It gives a chance to children to acquire knowledge in various fields of education, such as people, literature, history, mathematics, politics, and other numerous subjects. By obtaining knowledge, a person is in a better position to help other people" (Anon, 2013b) These are the response from the participants:

"There is nothing I don't like at school because we always having fun and now we are having nutrition. I am doing grade 10." [P1]

"In school, we play netball and I love to play with friends. I do not like to fight at school because my parents did not teach to fight at school." [P2]

"I like to play at school the game we call it "Black Toti". We also play this game at home. I like my friends, I like my teacher." [P3]

"I have a friend in school for name is A, We love to play skipping and we don't like to play netball." [P4]

"At school I like to play with other children I don't like that when I am doing my classwork, no one must disturb me I am in grade 7." [P5]

"I like to study, counting as well. My favourite subject is Afrikaans, Mathematics, Life Orientation and Accounting." [P6]

"I like English and I like concentrating at my work. I do not like being absent at school." [P7]

"I like to read and computer is my subject." [P8]

“I like reading, listening to radio and socializing with my sisters. I do not like gossip, people who do not like me.” [P9]

“I play netball and also like to read my books.” [P10]

During this study it was shown by participants that education and socialisation seem to have played a significant role in their cognitive development. Evans and Kosec (2012:01) suggested that early child education can have a long lasting positive impact on children. These authors also indicated that evidence is now complemented by data from Brazil, that showed the positive impact of early child education particularly during pre-school.

8.3 Themes and sub-themes regarding data received from the children

TABLE 2: CATEGORIES OF FINDINGS

THEME	SUB-THEME
8.3.1 Conditions connected to rape incidents	Unaccompanied to and from school. Unsupervised children.
8.3.2 Rape incidents	Place where incidents took place. Number of rape incidents. Presence of people during rape incidents.
8.3.3 View of children on rape incidents	Awareness and understanding about rape. Education received about rape

Table 2 gives a brief overview of the themes and sub-themes identified during the data analysis process. These themes were identified following responses given by participants of this study. The data in this table as discussed in this article showed the following:

8.3.1 Conditions connected to rape incidents

On a question when do the participants think that rape usually take place, the findings indicate that children are being raped due to a number of reasons.

➤ **Unaccompanied to and from school**

Children can be raped when they are going to school as well as when they are returning from school and or being at school.

“The rape cases actually happening everywhere, anytime during the day and at night, in the rooms, the forest, at school and at home.” [P10]

One participant made a comment that the rape incident took place at school.

“In school rape happening.” [P4]

According Potgieter *et al.* (2006:21), large numbers of women were concerned about children who walk to school. These women found out that children aged seven to twelve, 61% of them travelled on their own, 30% travelled with other children from the house to school. Most children over twelve years of age (80%) travelled by themselves to school, It was also then recommended that members of the community take turns in walking children to and from school to reduce the likelihood of children being raped/attacked or harassed.

➤ **Unsupervised children**

Collings and Wiles (2004:50) indicated that most rape incidents (63%) took place during daylight hours with assaults being more likely to involve children under the age of 12 years. Ayieko (1997:26) revealed that children finding themselves in a child-headed household might easily fall victims to child sexual abuse.

According to Levelnson and Morin (2001:23), children living in a home where they are unsupervised, sexual abuse should be considered as high risk. Some of the participants in this study clearly indicated that the rape incidents happened because of the lack of parent’s supervision that led them to be more in danger and causes vulnerability of falling victims to child sexual abused. The data gathered in this study showed that 70% of the participants were sexual abused in the absence of their mothers/grandmothers. In view of these responses from the participants, some participants were raped in the presence of their parents, while they were drunk or either fast asleep. Sanderson (2005:34) suggests that the best way to keep your child safe is to educate yourself about child sexual abuse. “If I had known more about the warning signs maybe I could have prevented my daughter from being sexual abused.”

Participants mentioned the following:

“My mother was at work while my step-father was doing this, it was during school time, but it was usually happening after school or when my mother attended night church services.”

[P1]

“It is when my mother was in the shop working, when we are sleeping and my mother was drinking beer in the room at night.” **[P3]**

“My parents were at work.” **[P4]**

“It happens when my parents are in the room watching TV and when parents are at work.”

[P5]

“My parent was in the house during the first time and when I was raped in a car my parent was looking for me and it was during the night.” **[P6]**

“It happens when my parent was in the house and was taken by this man to his house from the tavern with friends. My friends ran away and the man took me to his house.” **[P7]**

“In first time my grandmother was there in the other room secondly there was no one in the flat it was the two of us only, thirdly it happened at the street in the car.” **[P8]**

The other participants agreed that sexual abuse happened when children are playing at their homes or neighbours' house and the suspect notices that there is no adult supervision. In old houses or houses where there are no people living anymore. In open spaces such as the forest or bush and when the parents are under the influence of alcohol.

8.3.2 Rape incidents

The intention of asking where the rape incidents took place was, knowing the places, will definitely help to make sure that the police target those areas where sexual crimes against children usually take place. The following responses were given by the participants.

- **Place where rape incidents took place**

- **At home**

Collings and Wiles (2004:50) indicated that most rapes (75%) took place indoors, with the most common location being the victim's home or the perpetrator's home.

- *“It happened in my mother’s house, actually my home in the bedroom when we were sleeping. My grandmother saw that I am sick and took me to the clinic. The nurses tested me and saw that I am sick I was living with my mother and step-father when my step-father raped me.” [P1]*
- *“When my step-father rapes me, he does it at home in the bedroom when we are sleeping and other people sleep on the other room and he says must not tell anyone and will buy me nice things”. [P2]*
- *“It happened in my place when my parents are busy working at the shop and when we are sleeping in the house my father sleep with us and put his pipi in my private.” [P3]*
- *“It happens to my friend, it also happened to me at home.” [P5]*
- *“The rape took place in a small one room house.” [P6]*
- *“I can say it can happen to child that is walking at night or your uncle saw you washing yourself as a girl so he begins to sleep with you.” [P7]*
- *“First it took place at home in the room while grandmother was in the other room.” [P8]*
- *“It can take place anywhere but to me it took place in my bedroom, was raped by uncle..... I told my mother and the social worker.” [P10]*
- **At the neighbour’s house**
 - *“It also happened in my neighbour’s house.” [P9]*
- **At the flat**
 - *“It happened at the flat of” [P8]*
- **In the field**
 - *“It happens in the field when parents are not there at home.” [P5]*
 - *“It happened when I am on my way from home to the shop, near the river.” [P9]*
- **In the car**
 - *“The rape took place in a small one room house and it also happened in the car*

when was playing with friend” [P6]

- *“It happened in the car of when fetched me from Queenstown to Whittle sea. I then inform my aunt and the police were also informed.” [P8]*

From the above results it is obvious that the participants in this study were raped in many areas such as the house, school, field and in a car. According to data received from the children, two children were raped in the field and two in a car. According to Robert and Simon (2008:62), rape occurs close to home, often inside the home or in the victim’s neighbourhood, on the street or in a parking-place.

- **Number of rape incidents**

The purpose of asking the question, *“how often does the rape take place”* helped the researcher to ascertain how many perpetrator (s) have abused the child, how often it has happened, if it’s only one perpetrator as well as what causes the child to not be able to protect herself against the act. Lewis (2005:101) indicated clearly that sometimes children harmed by someone they know, trust and who is in a position of authority over them, such as a parent, step-parent, teacher, family friend or babysitter.

Three participants during the study reveal that they were raped by their step-fathers. For instance participants one, two and three were repeatedly raped by their step-fathers, while participant four (04) was repeatedly raped by her cousins.

- *“It happened many times because I was afraid to tell my mother but I can’t remember the dates.” [P1]*
- *“The rape happened to me three times at home, and then I told my mother”. [P2]*
- *“It happen two times.” [P3]*
- *“I think it happen five times or six times, I told my mother when this happened, it was painful”. [P4]*
- *“It happened two times.” [P5]*
- *“It happened one time to me when we were walking at night with my friend.” [P7]*
- *“It happened three times but I reported after he raped me the third time in the car, I lied to his mother and to my grandfather who called me for a traditional event so that I*

decided to tell my aunt about the rape ... often do to me.” [P8]

➤ *“I was raped two times as it was happening at the river and neighbour’s house.” [P9]*

➤ *“It happened one time and never happened again” [P10]*

It was clear from the data received in this study that some participants were threatened and bribery was made not to tell their parents or caregivers. Some were afraid to tell their parents or caregivers as they would not believe them like participants **1**, **2**, and **3** as they were raped by their step-fathers (Crosson-Tower, 2005:175-176).

8.3.3 View of children on rape incidents

- **Awareness and understanding of rape incidents**

The findings of this study showed that all the participants had an understanding of what rape is, but none of the participants received awareness before they became rape victims. The purpose of asking the question like *“What do the participants understand what rape is”*, was to determine the level of knowledge and their understanding what has happened to them and what can be done to reduce the rape incidents.

According to The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (SA, 2007) that was adopted by Parliament and came into operation on 17 December 2007, this new Act implied that rape, which until then had been prosecuted under Common Law, would now be governed under Statutory Law by the criminal courts. In terms of section 3 of this new Act, “sexual penetration” (rape) is now defined to include any act which causes penetration to any extent whatsoever by –a) the genital organs of one person into the genital organs, anus, or mouth of another person; b) any other part of the body of one person or, any object, including any part of the body of an animal, into the genital organ or anus of another person; or) the genital organs of an animal, into the mouth of another person. Section 3 of this Act (Act 32 of 2007) further provides that a person is guilty of the offence of rape if he or she unlawfully and intentionally commits an act of sexual penetration with the complainant, without his or her consent.

The participant’s respondents on what they understand about rape were as follows:

- “When we talk of rape, I just think of sexual harassment where men abuse women sexually. Rape is where someone forces you to sleep with him while you don’t want to. It happened to me when I was young.” [P1]
- “A rape is when your father sleeps with you and has sex with you, we call it a rape and when he forces you to sleep with him that is a rape.” [P2]
- “When someone, a man sleeps over your body, put in his pipi in your private.” [P3]
- “When someone is raping you he or she is abusing you it is only that I know about rape. When someone touches you in private part and put his private part in your private part.” [P4]
- “Rape is when a man do not like you and take off your clothes and he put his body on you and you feel pains in your private.” [P5]
- “The thing that I understand about rape is that someone forces you to have sex with him when you don’t want to have sex.” [P6]
- “Rape is an unsafe sex that is done in a way that you do not like or you were being forced to do that.” [P7]
- “A rape is sexual and emotional abuse. When someone is raped it is when you do not agree with that person or saying no. It where your relative or your partner or someone forces you to do a sex with you forcing by put his penis in your vagina.” [P8]
- “When someone forces you to have sex with him when you do not agree with him and touch you in your private part and put his private part in your private part.” [P9]
- “It is when someone put a penis into a vagina and forces you when you do not agree with him.” [P10]

From the above answers it was clear that most of the respondents do not really know what rape is all about. “Children and teens need good information about sex, sexual relationships, reproduction and birth control, sexually-transmitted diseases, and sexual abuse. Information is power, and in this high-risk day and age, children and teens need all the information they can get. To withhold information about sex and the possibility of sexual abuse, as well as information about reproduction and disease, puts all children at

risk. Refusing to talk about sex, does not mean that children are safe, and that nothing bad will happen to them” (Wass, 2013).

- **Education received about rape**

The purpose of educating children about abuse and rape incidents will definitely help them to be able to protect themselves against any form of child sexual abuse. It has been revealed that in most cases children are being informed about this after being already raped.

Sanderson (2005:12) suggested that the best way to keep your child safe is to educate yourself about child sexual abuse. He said that “if I had known more about the warning signs maybe I could have prevented my daughter from being sexual abused. Langenbahn and Esq (1994:79) indicated that teaching techniques for avoiding rape is the core of rape prevention education, but to reduce the incidence and prevalence of sexual assault.

Lewis (2005:100) also revealed that children are taught these things through nationwide school education programmes. These programmes start at nursery school, and such programmes are beginning to happen in South Africa. She also suggested that using schools to teach a child about abuse is critical, because parents cannot always be relied on to teach their children these things. In many cases of child sexual abuse and assault, the parents can be the abusers.

All the participants mentioned that they were educated at school about rape.

“Most people teach us about rape even teachers at school that you must tell anyone when someone tries to rape you because once he rapes you; you will become sick or pregnant. You must say no and be brave about yourself so that people will not take advantage of you.” [P1]

“The teacher told us when someone calling you don’t go to him. When you are raped tell someone you trust or go to the social worker so they can help you, the teacher said. When you are raped don’t take off the clothes, go the clinic so they can find the proof of you are really raped so they can take that man in jail.” [P2]

“I am taught by my teacher, she say one must tell the teacher when someone touches you on your private, she say I must tell my mother when a father touches you.”. [P3]

Yes my parents at home, my teachers at school teach us to tell parents when someone touches you and tell them and our parents.” [P4]

“When we were at school my teacher of life Orientation tell us about rape, that we must tell them and our parents.” [P5]

“That when you have been raped tell someone you trust, my teacher told me that, my parent also tell me to talk about rape or inform her before something like that happen because it will destroy my future.” [P6]

“I learnt about it at school and the police that if you are raped you can no longer have future and you can make a persons’ life destroy. You need not to let it happen because you can be sick and become pregnant” [P7]

“When you raped you must tell your parents or go to the police or go to the social work or someone you trust. My class teacher told us that we must speak out about rape, no one has the right to touch our bodies” [P8]

“My mom told me to report people who want to rape me and cry when one touch me, my class teacher also told me to tell them and my parents when people want to touch me on private parts” [P9]

“I was taught by my class teacher that when you are raped you must report it and you not take the bath before you report it to the police so the police can get the proof.” [P10]

Participant two indicated that she was also taught by the social worker and participants four, eight and nine by their parents. According to Delport (2010:1-3) the school and teachers have the most opportunities to influence the behaviour of the child. Except for the role of parents towards the education of their child about sexual abuse, schools and social workers have the opportunity to educate children about sexual abuse and rape and also to deal with the sexual abuse of a child (Du Bois & Miley, 2005:396). Lewis (2005:103) sees that there should be specialized programmes for the legal people who deal with rape survivors such as the Police, Prosecutors and District Surgeons.

8.4 Results received from Social Workers

The researcher interviewed seven social workers from the South African Police Service (SAPS): Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Units who were

delivering services to sexual abused children in the Queenstown area. The researcher included social workers as part of the study to identify their opinions on the nature of sexual abuse to children in this area. The focus of social work services is often on the families with problems that may occur in these families such as child abuse and child sexual abuse as well as child neglect (Zastrow, 2010:72-73). The social workers in the Queenstown area that were interviewed by the researcher all have eight years and more experience in the field. All of them have experience in child abuse and child sexual abuse. All the social workers in this research are Xhosa speaking people.

8.4.1 Identification particulars of the social workers

TABLE 3: YEARS' EXPERIENCE AS SOCIAL WORKER

Participants	Years of experience	Gender
A	09 years	F
B	20 years	F
C	12 years	F
D	11 years	F
E	08 years	M
F	10 years	F
G	12 years	F

According to the above mentioned table only one social worker was a male. The most experienced social worker has 20 years of experiences as a registered social worker while the one with less experience has 08 years as a registered social worker. All the social workers were appointed in the South African Police Service FCS Unit in 2007 except the one in King William's Town who was appointed in 2006. They have been practicing as Forensic Social Workers since and dealt with child sexual abuse cases. According to Schenck (2004:158), social workers generally do not practice many years as social workers. The

factors that lead to the trend of only a few years of practice as a social worker are personal and organisational factors, such as high caseloads and not much job satisfaction.

8.4.2 Training and skills required in assessing child rape cases

Social workers were asked what training social workers need in assessing sexually abused children. The following were responses from the participants:

“Preferably a Masters in Forensic Social Work. Listening skill is more important and good communication when talking to the child. Probing, decision making is also important.” **[PA]**

“You need to be a qualified social worker with a Bachelor’s degree, Master’s degree in Forensic practice ect. To be trained on how to go about interviewing a child witness. They needs to be familiar with research. The best practice, guidelines and training on how to conduct interviews on children who are possibly sexually abused. The social worker need to have good questioning skills, open ended, exploring, what has been said by the child.” **[PB]**

“Qualification as a social worker experience of working with abused children, training in the field of Forensic Social Work and Child interviewing, Masters programme in Forensic Practice. Communication, interviewing, empathy, organizing, coordination, listening and report writing skills are required.” **[PC]**

“Master’s social worker in Forensic practice and experience of working with sexually abused children. Social workers experience and trained in child abuse investigation. Specialised skills of interviewing children who have special needs such as disabilities, speech and language difficulties, developmental delays or significant emotional trauma.” **[PD]**

“If the social worker is dealing with the abused children, the social worker needs to be trained in the FCS course introducing child witness course. The forensic social worker needs to be trained in other courses and workshops related to sexually abused child. Communication skills, probe skills, decision making, interviewing and counselling skills.” **[PE]**

“Post graduate degree in the field of child sexual abuse such as: Masters in Forensic Practice or Masters in Child Protection, Masters in Play Therapy.” **[PF]**

“Interviewing skills, playing techniques, developmental skills, knowledge in working with traumatised clients, evaluation skills, fact finding skills, communication skills and clarification skills.” [PG]

The participants agreed that specialised training in child sexual abuse is needed and most of them agreed that the person working with child sexual abuse cases must have a master’s degree in Forensic Social Work. Being not properly trained in the field of practice, particularly in Forensic Social Work may lead to a frustration when working with child sexual abuse cases.

Pillay and Sargent (2000:11) agree that the judiciary, social workers and child sexual abuse investigating officers need to be aware of the cognitive limitations of the sexually abused. Social workers working with child sexual abused children have to be properly trained. According to Cooke and Standen (2002:9), a lack of sufficient training raises stress and anxiety levels. The same authors suggest that the acquisition of additional skills should be encouraged in experts, so they can help sexually abused children effectively.

In research done by Mogole (2008:28-29), she found that social workers in South Africa were mostly inexperienced in terms of assessing sexually abused children because of a lack of knowledge and skills. According to Scheepers (2008:30), social workers who want to render forensic services will need to acquire additional, specific, specialized knowledge, skills and experience regarding Forensic Social Work and Forensic Social Work must be registered as a specialised field of Social Work in South Africa by the South African Council for Social Service Professions.

8.4.3 Places where rape incidents take place

The researcher also asked the social worker’s opinion on where they think most of the rape incidents took place. There answers were mostly the same as the answers of the children namely:

- *“It is happening with the family and in the neighbourhood. Most of the time the perpetrator is known to the child. It is happening inside the house or in the backrooms, in the yard and is happening mostly during the play time of the child. In most cases when the mother of the child is intoxicated or when the parents are at work.” [PA]*

- “Some incidents of young children take place at home during the day as some of the perpetrators are family members (relatives and or step-parents and some incidents of teenagers usually take place in an open space during the night or early hours of the day when coming back from social gatherings like taverns.” “Home is the most common place where these incidents happen. Some incidents happened at schools, church, open field/playing grounds and neighbours’ houses.” [PB]
- “Home is the most common place where these incidents happen. Some incidents happened at school, church, open fields/playing grounds and neighbour’s houses.” [C]
- “When the children are playing at their homes or neighbour’s house and the suspect notices that there is no adult supervision. In the old houses or vandalised house where there are no people living. In the forest open space, at school, study area at daytime. There are ten opened cases of children at night which happened when there was housebreaking and when the parents were drunk.” [PD]
- *“Play grounds, homes (especially squatter camps), some are grabbed by the perpetrators on their way back from school.” [PE and F]*
- *“Sexual abuse takes place at the victims home, and the perpetrator is either known or unknown. It also takes place at school or on the way to or from school. It also takes place in unknown surroundings; it takes place in the night, river bank, forest and anywhere where the perpetrator finds it convenient. In most cases it happens during the day and it also happens at night especially when the perpetrator is in the same household as the victim. ” [PG]*

The answers received from the social workers are the same as those of the children. According Dedel (2010:1) and Friedman (2013:1), the home can be one of the most dangerous places where a child can be raped. Most of the violence against women and children is committed in family homes and by those known to the victims. According to Edwards and Payne (2009:29), these rapes are happening behind closed doors. According to Lewis (2005:101), children are mostly harmed by someone they know and trust and who is in a position of authority over them such as a parent, step-parent, teacher, family friend or babysitter.

Participant **C** is the only one who mentions a different place. She mentioned the church as one of the areas where rape incidents can also take place. According to Whittier (2009:106), survivors of abuse and sexual abuse in most cases sought help from ministers and pastoral counsellors, but these ministers and pastoral counsellors misused the trust people have in them as ministers and counsellors. Whittier (2009:107) made comments about sexual abuse cases by priest, nuns and members of the church especially the Catholic Church. According to Wikipedia (2013:1), the “Catholic sex abuse cases are a series of allegations, investigations, trials and convictions of child sexual abuse crimes committed by Catholic priests, nuns and members of Roman Catholic orders against children as young as three years old with the majority between the ages of 11 and 14. These cases include anal and oral penetration and have resulted in criminal prosecutions of the abusers and civil lawsuits against the church's dioceses and parishes.” According to Zastrow (2010:202), in the beginning of 2001 a national and international scandal rose in the Catholic Church as it has been revealed that some priest over a number of years had molested children and teenagers.

8.4.4 Services rendered to sexually abused children

On a question what services the participants rendered to the sexually abused and raped children, all the participants mention the importance of using legal frameworks when working with child sexual abuse and rape cases. The following answers were received:

- *“The organisation mainly focuses on the child as victim to gather information and from the people that can assist. There are no services to the family except when the child is being placed in places like outreach centres.” [PA] [PF]*
- *“Child assessment, collateral interviews, there are victim support centres where children are being healed, given comfort with their parents. The investigation of such cases by the specific Unit FCS (Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit).” [PB]*
- *“Opening o case docket, transport of victim to the medical centres for medical examination, the family is referred to the counsellors at the Thuthuzela Centres for support and therapy.” [PC]*
- *“Obtain all the information from the people who are relevant when all her facts are*

considered that there is a need for the child to be taken and to ensure his or her safety for emergency protection. They are also taken for medical examination and counselling. The organisation assists the complainant until the end of the case with providing information pertaining case in the court.” [PD]

- *“The organisation is involved to the awareness campaign at schools. The organisation is involved in child protection week programme.” [PE]*
- *“Investigation of the cases of sexual abuse and arresting of the perpetrators in cases where the suspect is known. Forensic assessments in cases where the victim is a child. Writing of court reports when necessary and give expert testimony at court when required to do so. Victim empowerment is also provided.” [PG]*

According to the participants’ responses they indicated different ways of providing services for the purpose assessment while they shared a common use of legal frameworks appropriate to the needs of the children they worked with. Kirton (2009:12) indicated the important feature of the legal framework. He revealed that it is an attempt to promote effective coordination between different local authority departments and other agencies such as health services and the policies across a range of services.

The participants were all dealing with the following acts while rendering services to the sexually abused children:

- ***“Child Justice Act 75 of 2008 (SA, 2008):*** *The possible criminal capacity of the child if the child is 10 years or older but younger than 14 years, because this age like to perform gang rape.*
- ***Children’s Act 38 of 2005 (SA, 2005):*** *Commercial sexual exploitation is adequate in the sense that the child does not even know how much is he/she making out of the person who is selling her.*
- ***Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (SA, 2007)*** *adequate; a person is found guilty of performing sexual acts with the child and is called sexual grooming.*

The abovementioned Acts are being implemented during the time of service rendering by Forensic Social Workers. Children’s Act 38 of 2005 (SA, 2005) is being used in a manner in which or when the child is in need of care. It is the duty of the Forensic Social Worker to

make sure that she or he made a referral for the child to be placed in the place of safety. These mostly happen when there is no means of visible support and when there is high suspicion that the child resides with offending parents. Sexual Offences and Related Matters Amendment Act 32 of 2007 (SA, 2007) is applied when it comes to looking at the elements of crime especially during disclosure of the child. The Child Justice Act 75 of 2008 (SA, 2008) focuses more on looking at criminal capacity, especially when crime involved both children under the age of ten (10) years. These acts also help the Forensic Social Worker to be able to give recommendations as whether the child can testify in the court of Law or the child has to testify through the help of intermediary (Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977) (SA, 1977) section 70A.

The services that the FCS Unit in the Queenstown area rendered according to the National Instruction 3/2008 (SA, 2008) were mostly the following:

- The Investigating Officer has to determine whether the victim would prefer to have another person present to support him or her during the interview and, if the victim prefers that such person be present, allow such person to be present to support him or her during the interview; Ensure that the interview is not conducted in the presence of or within hearing distance of the alleged offender or witnesses.
- The Investigating Officer has to compile a Statement taken from the Child/traumatized victim to not obtain a statement from the victim unless you have received specialised FCS training and obtain a statement from the accompanying adult. When the child is not accompanied by an adult, obtain a preliminary (brief/short) statement from the child, if possible by a member who has received specialised training to obtain a statement of a child. Adult victim to obtain a preliminary (brief/short) statement from the victim, if possible by a member who has received specialised training to obtain a statement of a victim.
- It is the duty of the FCS Investigating Officer to make Notice of services available to a victim of a sexual offence - SAPS 580(a) Child victim/traumatized adult victim, provide a copy of the form SAPS 580(a) to the accompanying adult and explain the content of the notice when the person is unable to read/understand the language, arrangements must be made so that it can be explained to the person in a language that she/he can understand and adult victim; provide a copy of the form SAPS 580(a) to the victim and

explain the content of the notice when the victim is unable to read/understand the language, arrangements must be made so that it can be explained to the person in a language that she/he can understand.

- The Investigating Officer has to assist taking the victim for Medical examination; Depending on the nature of the alleged sexual offence (eg touching versus penetration; crime committed recently versus crime committed 10 years ago), take the victim for a medical examination as soon as possible irrespective of the following: the incident happened more than 72 hours ago the victim has washed/bathed/showered after the incident.
- Information to victim/accompanying adult; The investigating officer or person immediately available must inform the victim of the following: HIV testing and PEP the purpose of obtaining samples the reasons why SAPS 308 and J88 must be completed and the process that will be followed; articles seized during the examination may be requested back, these may, however, be damaged due to the forensic process; he/she will be allowed to bath once the medical examination is completed the trained health care practitioner will answer all his/her questions relating to medical treatment and services available to him/her.
- The FCS Investigating Officer helps victim or complainant for Consent to medical examination; The form SAPS 308 must be completed and then be signed by child victim and parent/guardian/caregiver if they are not available or refuse, following the prescribed procedures in Section 335B of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act no 51 of 1977) and adult signs personally, and mentally disabled person follow the procedures as prescribed by Section 32 Health Care Act, 2002 (Act no 17 of 2002).
- Pre-Medical examination: it is the role of SAPS member; Accompany the victim to the trained health care professional, hand the SAPS 308 and Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) to the trained health care professional.
- Pre-Medical examination: it is the role of SAPS member; to accompany the victim to the trained health care professional, hand the SAPS 308 and SAECK to the trained health care professional, provide the details of the case (Station and CAS reference number) to the trained health care professional, indicate to the trained health care

professional what examination/evidence is required.

- During medical examination; a male member may not be present during the medical examination of a female victim and *vice versa*, a SAPS member may only be present when requested by the victim, If there are allegations of drug or alcohol abuse, a urine and blood sample must be obtained from the victim within 24 hours after the commission of the offence.
- Post-medical examination; evidence should be collected from the trained health care practitioner: Section 212 statement, J88 (medical examination), sealed SAECK and any other physical evidence.
- It is the duty of FCS Investigating Officer to ensure that victim is provided with the victim comfort pack if available, victims are informed that she/he may take a bath/shower/wash on arrival at her/she residency as all the evidence has been collected. Victim is informed that the different investigation processes will follow and is allowed to ask any questions pertaining to the investigation. The investigating Officer provides the victim with the requested information and also provide the victim with the case reference number (Station and CAS number) and the full contact details of the investigating officer/Unit Commander of the FCS Unit. It is also determined whether the victim needs transport to her/his residency, assist with the arrangements or provide if necessary.

8.4.5 The social worker's experiences of rendering services to the sexually abused and raped children.

A question was asked to the participants (social workers) about their experiences regarding the rendering of services to the sexually abused child in the Queenstown area. The following answers were received.”

- **It is not easy for a child to disclose the sexual abuse. It takes time for these children to trust people around them. [PB] [PF]**

The following was an answer received from one of the participants:

“When dealing with the sexually abused and raped child you need to have passion with your work because children take their own time to disclose and some do not disclose. Disclosure

is a process and when the child is not ready to disclose at childhood he/she can disclose when he/she is an adult.”

People toward whom the sexual abuse and rape allegations are disclosed have the responsibility to believe the child (Spies, 2006b:48). Many sexually abused children never disclose because of aspects such as threats, blame and bribery (Fouché, 2006:211). When children are reluctant to disclose and/or do not disclose the sexual abuse or rape, it impacts negatively on the role of the social worker’s specializing in forensic assessments. According to Smit (2007:2), the real incidence regarding sexual abuse of children in South Africa is uncertain because not all children disclose the sexual abuse to someone. Therefore, the researcher is of the opinion that the non-disclosure of children who have been victims to rape incidences leads to a poor conviction rate of perpetrators.

➤ **Most children who are sexually abused and raped are girls. [PD]**

According to participant D *“most children who are abused are the girls and they are abused by people they know”*.

A study by Jewkes *et al.* (2002 359:319–20) revealed that sexual abuse of girls is a problem worldwide, and a growing concern in Sub-Saharan Africa. According to Watt and Zimmerman (2002:1232), most child victims of sexual offences are girls. The researcher came to the conclusion that in South Africa girls are more vulnerable to sexual abuse and rape incidents than boys. Another social worker said the following:

➤ **Boys are also victims and are abused by persons who first groom them. [PA]**

Participant A said the following in this regard:

“Boys are also victims of sexual abuse and they are instructed by adult males to do sexual acts with them by grooming them. In most cases abuse affects the school progress of the child.”

Grooming according to the Vermont Department of Children and Families (2013:1), “is a subtle, gradual, and escalating process of building trust with a child. It is deliberate and purposeful. Abusers may groom children for weeks, months, or even years—before any sexual abuse actually takes place. It usually begins with behaviours that may not even seem to be inappropriate”. According to Mathews *et al.* (2013:6), sexual abuse of boys is not a new phenomenon. Globally very little is known about the nature and extent of sexual

violence against boys. Boys that have been sexually abused experience the same feelings as sexually abused girls (Spies, 2006b:52). The boys usually are ashamed, blame themselves and see it as a form of weakness and they lack supportive families, which impacts negatively on their ability to disclose that they have been abused.

➤ **In some areas there are common patterns in terms of how these cases occur. [PC]**

One of the participants (social worker) said the following:

“Mostly the mother is the breadwinner and the father stays at home drinking. When the children come home, he is the only one available and this leads him to carry out his evil deeds. Mostly as revenge to his wife or his girlfriend.”

According to Spies (2006c:5), “The literature on father-daughter incest is more abundant than information about other forms of incest, and its occurrence is more often documented. Available figures indicate that 70 to 80% of reported incest cases occur between daughters and their step-fathers or biological fathers”. According to Zastrow (2010:203), the largest proportion of sexual abuse cases reported to the police, are between father or step-father and daughter although most of these cases are never reported to the police.

➤ **Social workers are affected by cases of sexually abused and raped children. [PE] [PG]**

Participant E said the following:

“The social worker who is working with abused children end up sometimes affected by those cases. To avoid being affected the social worker has to attend debriefing sessions twice a year.”

According to participant G *“working with sexually abused children is a special experience. One needs to be emotionally, physical and mentally fit. It is quiet traumatic to listen to all the experiences (bad) that the little ones have undergone in their tender years whilst they are still innocent. They, therefore, need to be treated without care as they have tasted the bitter side of the world.”*

According to research by Soji and Pretorius (2008:359), social workers in South Africa work under stressful conditions which include factors such as poverty, unemployment, crime in and outside the home as well as HIV and AIDS infections and deaths. Heavy caseloads and

demanding statutory work such as child sexual abuse cases can also be singled out as especially stressful. According to research done by Calitz (2013:23), she came to the conclusion that the problems social workers experienced were stress, burnout, lower job satisfaction and engagement. Occupational stress can lead to burnout. Research by Soji and Pretorius (2008:369-370) recommended that the workload of social workers must be reduced. A social support system must be in place in order to buffer the effects of stress. Appropriate support through supervision with emphasis on the supportive component of supervision was recommended as well as the implementation of a holistic wellness programme.

9 RESEARCHER'S OBSERVATION

It became apparent in this study that rape incidents in the Queenstown area are a huge problem and remain a taboo topic for a number of people. On one hand Paton (2009:1) discusses that sex is still a taboo topic for many people, while on the other hand, Coffelt (2008:4) revealed that there are reluctant attitudes of some parents to discuss sex with their children. Reasons for this could be the embarrassment it might cause to their children, the challenges in determining the right time and place and the difficulty in explaining ideas clearly. The author explained that adolescents also avoid discussing rape incident incidents with their parents in an effort to protect their privacy boundaries.

The rape incidents conducted by fathers, step-fathers, cousins and non-family members were badly experienced by the participants. Lewis (2005:101) stated that sometimes children are harmed by someone they know and trust, the person who is in a position of authority over them such as a parent, step-parent, teacher, family friend or babysitter.

Sexual abuse and rape of children in this study finds it difficult to disclose due to the following reasons:

- The victim has a sense of loyalty and/or love for the abuser that makes it impossible for the child to speak out against someone who is supposed to be protective and caring towards the child.
- Some survivors disclose but find the responses from other people unhelpful.

- Another reason for not disclosing is in most cases, the abuser will use threats and bribes to keep the victim silent. A child who is subjected to regular threats and bribes will find disclosing impossible because of fear or because he/she enjoys the gifts or outings (bribes).
- Guilt or shame might also prevent the victim from disclosing. Some children will never disclose out of fear of breaking up the family or out of fear of being blamed for the abuse. This aspect is also applicable to adults as childhood sexual abuse survivors.

It was observed during this study that children were easily bribed and groomed, like participants two and three who indicated that the alleged perpetrator promise to buy them nice things so that they must not tell anyone about the alleged rape incident. Some participants indicated that they were blackmailed like participant eight, but ultimately all these children disclosed. Spies (2006a:47) terms this type of disclosure as an accidental disclosure because the information is revealed by chance due to bribes, threats or blackmail by the perpetrator.

All social work participants in this study mentioned the importance of being well equipped, and properly trained when it comes to the environment of child sexual abuse. It became apparent that the lack of knowledge and skills in this field of social work can lead to frustration and poor service delivery. The participants (social workers) fully agree that people have to be well trained as specialists in the field of forensic social work in order to achieve good results at the end of the day. According to Cooke and Standen (2002:9), a lack of sufficient training raises one's stress and anxiety levels. The same authors suggest that the acquisition of additional skills should be encouraged in experts, so they can assess the sexually abused child effectively.

The social work participants also came up with the view of the importance of the use of literature with more focus on the legal framework as an important pillar to strengthen one's view as a professional. Social workers indicated that the integration of theory with practice as well as utilising legal frameworks help to develop and promote the profession itself. Kirton (2009:12) discusses the important feature of legal framework, it is an attempt to promote effective coordination between different local authority departments and other agencies. He also made mention that health services and the policies, across a range of

services from child protection look after children and young people and make sure that they are living under good care.

All the social worker respondents are well experienced in the field of child sexual abuse. The FCS Unit of SAPS in the Queenstown area offered great services to the communities and the researcher noticed that FCS members are focused on the investigation of rape cases as these are accelerating on a daily basis. The National Instruction 3/2008(SA, 2008) has a good plan in terms of what is required to be done with regard to educate communities about the rape of a child.

In this research the researcher found that children in the Queenstown area are vulnerable and become victims of rape due to inadequate awareness and or regular programmes with regard to the rape of a child. There is a need for protection of children living in the Queenstown area. Empowering both parents and children would be of great value to provide protection for children living in this area. Some participants indicated that they learn about rape after being raped.

The appointment of more forensic social workers in the FCS to assist child sexual abuse victims would be of great value for protection of these communities. The involvement of social workers in child sexual abuse cases holds the benefits of collaboration, which includes faster and more proactive responses, more holistic services, reduced family separations and lower levels of anxiety for the children, parents and social workers. However professional such as social workers require more professional training on dealing particular with child sexual abuse.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the research findings and contextualization of the findings, the following recommendations can be made:

- South Africa should implement all existing legislation and policies pertaining to children holistically in order to ensure that rape cases against children are dealt with accordingly to protect the child.
- The FCS Unit in the Queenstown area needs to have regular programmes in the form of proactive programmes at schools, involving children with regard to child sexual abuse.

Lewis (2005:99) indicated that educational programmes at schools would help to reduce the number of rape incidents. The author also suggested that these programmes should integrate parents that would help to make safety plans for their children and to be able to pick up early warning signs of child sexual abuse. The importance of listening to believe and acting on behalf of their children help children to trust their feelings.

- Social workers such as these in the FCS units of the Police Service need to have a post graduate degree in forensic social work. Forensic social work is a specialized field of social work that focuses on the interface between society's legal and human systems and is characterized by the social worker's primary function of providing expert testimonies in courts of law with the primary client being the judiciary system. Without specialised training the social workers to a great extent, are not fully equipped to provide expert testimonies in court after the assessment of the sexually abused and raped child.
- Investigating officers working with children who are victims of rape would help to improve and provide effective service delivery in the South African Police Service. As indicated early on, the South African government has good legal frameworks and policies but it is now time to implement those policies.
- The inter-sectorial collaboration between various stakeholders should be strengthened otherwise there would be a number of rape cases accelerating every hour if those gaps between stakeholders are not strengthened.
- The South African Police Services, particular the FCS Units have a close link with schools in addressing these challenges of child sexual abuse. Social Workers should lead the programme in collaboration with members appointed as investigating officers. Lewis (2005:100) suggests that schools can create an atmosphere where rape regarding children can be talked about and a child can ask questions and raise his or her concerns about the subject.

11 CONCLUSION

The researcher concludes that children in the Queenstown area do not have adequate knowledge on child sexual abuse. There is a definite need that children need to be capacitated with regard to child sexual abuse rather than being reactive. Social workers and caring members of communities must be committed to prevent the rape of a child. When rape incidents occur, social workers and community members have to help survivors and their families to heal. All child care officials must strive for a system that prevents and combats the rape of a child (Taylor, 1998:1).

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ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE 1: PERMISSION FROM THE COMMANDER OF THE FAMILY VIOLENCE CHILD PROTECTION AND SEXUAL OFFENCES UNIT

G.P.S. 002-0222

SAP 21

SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIEDIENS



SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

Verwysing Reference	11/3/1
Navrae Enquiries	Colonel Ngum NT Ms. Keka V
Telefoon Telephone	(012) 334 3819 (012) 407 2010
Faksnommer Fax number	(012) 334 3563

GENERAL RESEARCH AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PRIVATE BAG X 177
PRETORIA
0001

Major S Nqaphi
321 Schoeman Street
Wachthuis Building, 7th Floor
Pretoria
0002

REQUEST TO CONDUCT RESEARCH ON THE NATURE OF RAPE INCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN 7-15 YEARS IN THE QUEENSTOWN DISTRICT: MAJOR S NQAPHI

1. It is with pleasure to inform you that the Research Technical Committee situated in the Division: Human Resource Development has granted you permission to conduct research within the South African Police Service.
2. The research to be conducted has to be in line with the topic presented, which is, "The nature of rape incidents involving children 7-15 years in the Queenstown District"
3. The province would like to request a copy of the final report once the research has been finalized, since the information may provide useful information in our policing efforts.
4. Good luck in the endeavour of your studies.

Yours sincerely

**REQUEST TO CONDUCT RESEARCH ON THE NATURE OF RAPE INCIDENTS
INVOLVING CHILDREN 7-15 YEARS IN THE QUEENSTOWN DISTRICT: MAJOR S
NQAPHI**



**MAJOR GENERAL
SECRETARY: RESEARCH COMMITTEE
DIVISION: HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LL GOSSMAN**

DATE: 2013-07-19.

ANNEXURE 2: WRITTEN CONSENT BY PRIMARY CAREGIVER

Research title: The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

RESEARCHER: Sivuyile Nqaphi MA Social Work (Forensic Practice) Student

SUPERVISOR: Dr Adrie Roux

DECLARATION:

I,.....hereby declare that I was invited to voluntarily participate in the above mentioned study and that I am at liberty to withdraw my participation at any time during the process.

I give my permission that the interview be recorded and understand that the recording will only be made available to the researcher and her study leader. The recorded interview will purely be used to assist in the interpretation and analyses of data and will be destroyed afterwards.

I was informed of the following aspects:

Purpose: To look critically at the nature of rape incidents of the Queenstown district to sexually abused, children.

Procedures: Permission was obtained from the South African Police, Head Strategic Management Pretoria and Eastern Cape Provincial Office to conduct the research in the environment of the FCS units. Information will be obtained by means of semi-structured one to one interviews.

Confidentiality and anonymity: The researcher stands under a stringent moral obligation to do whatever is required to make certain confidentiality prevails. The results of this study may be published in professional journals and or presented at professional conferences but anonymity of participants will be concealed and thus confidential when information is revealed.

Risk: Non participation is voluntary.

Possible advantages: The specific research will be in the interest of SAPS as the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7 – 15 is accelerating.

SIGNATURES:

PARTICIPANT

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

RESEARCHER

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

WITNESS

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

ANNEXURE 3: WRITTEN CONSENT BY THE CHILD

Research title: The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

RESEARCHER: Sivuyile Nqaphi MA Social Work (Forensic Practice) Student

SUPERVISOR: Dr Adrie Roux

DECLARATION:

I,.....hereby declare that I was invited to voluntarily participate in the above mentioned study and that I am at liberty to withdraw my participation at any time during the process.

I give my permission that the interview be recorded and understand that the recording will only be made available to the researcher and her study leader. The recorded interview will purely be used to assist in the interpretation and analyses of data and will be destroyed afterwards.

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Risk: Non participation is voluntary.

Possible advantages: The specific research will be in the interest of SAPS as the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7 – 15 is accelerating.

SIGNATURES:

PARTICIPANT

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

RESEARCHER

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

WITNESS

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

ANNEXURE 4: WRITTEN CONSENT BY SOCIAL WORKER

Research title: The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district

RESEARCHER: Sivuyile Nqaphi MA Social Work (Forensic Practice) Student

SUPERVISOR: Dr Adrie Roux

DECLARATION:

I,.....hereby declare that I was invited to voluntarily participate in the above mentioned study and that I am at liberty to withdraw my participation at any time during the process.

I give my permission that the interview be recorded and understand that the recording will only be made available to the researcher and her study leader. The recorded interview will purely be used to assist in the interpretation and analyses of data and will be destroyed afterwards.

I was informed of the following aspects:

Purpose: To look critically at the nature of rape incidents of the Queenstown district to sexually abused, children.

Procedures: Permission was obtained from the South African Police, Head Strategic Management Pretoria and Eastern Cape Provincial Office to conduct the research in the environment of the FCS units. Information will be obtained by means of semi-structured one to one interviews.

Confidentiality and anonymity: The researcher stands under a stringent moral obligation to do whatever is required to make certain confidentiality prevails. The results of this study may be published in professional journals and or presented at professional conferences but anonymity of participants will be concealed and thus confidential when information is revealed.

Risk: Non participation is voluntary.

Possible advantages: The specific research will be in the interest of SAPS as the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7 – 15 is accelerating.

SIGNATURES:

PARTICIPANT

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

RESEARCHER

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

WITNESS

_____ DATE _____ PLACE _____

ANNEXURE 5: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE WITH THE CHILD

Research title: The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district.

INTRODUCTION

- The social work officer, Major. S. Nqaphi is launching a research project to investigate the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district.
- The research project is of importance to establish children's experienced challenges of being raped by non-family members unknown to them, as well as those in the communities known to them, some being raped by their family members and blood relatives such as cousin's, brothers, some by their uncles and step-fathers
- The results obtained from this research project will also be used to identify shortfalls in the service delivery of the FCS units in the Queenstown district.
- The results of this research project will be used by Major. Nqaphi to fulfil the research requirements of the North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus) to require his Masters degree in Social Work: Forensic Practice.
- Thank you for your friendly co-operation, inputs and time. Your opinion is of great value.

Please answer the following questions with honesty and to the fullest. There is no right or wrong answers.

SECTION A: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

1. How old are you?

2. Who lives with you in the house?

Persons	Tick (s)
Mother	
Father	
Sister (s)	
Brother (s)	
Aunt (s)	
Uncle (s)	
Other (s)	

3. If other (s), who is/are that person (s)?

4. Where do you live?

Place	Tick (s)
Town	
Village	
School	
Church	
Other (s)	

5. If other (s) place, name the place.

6. Do you attend school?

Yes	
No	

7. If yes, what is the school's name?

8. If not, what are the reasons not attending school?

SECTION B: RAPE INCIDENT

1. Explain to me what do you understand what rape is and who told you about this?

2. Tell me who raped you?

3. Tell me where did the rape took place?

4. Were you raped by other people? How often were you raped and by whom? How old were you when you were first raped?

5. Where were your parents/caregivers during the rape incident (s)?

ANNEXURE 6: INTERVIEW SCHEDULE WITH THE SOCIAL WORKER

Research title: The nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district.

INTRODUCTION

- The social work officer, Major. S. Nqaphi is launching a research project to investigate the nature of rape incidents involving children ages 7-15 years in the Queenstown district.
- The research project is of importance to establish children experience challenges of being raped by non-family members unknown to them, as well as those in the communities known to them, some being raped by their family members and blood relatives such as cousin's, brothers, some by their uncles and step-fathers
- The results obtained from this research project will also be used to identify shortfalls in the service delivery of the FCS units in the Queenstown district.
- The results of this research project will be used by Major. Nqaphi to fulfil the research requirements of the North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus) to require his Master's degree in Social Work: Forensic Practice.
- Thank you for your friendly co-operation, inputs and time. Your opinion is of great value.

Please answer the following questions with honesty and to the fullest. There is no right or wrong answers.

1. Provide a brief explanation of your experience as a generic and forensic social worker.

2. What training skills are required to conduct forensic interviews with a sexually abused child

3. Explain the actual places where and when the rape incidents took place.

4. Explain services rendered by your organization to the sexually abused child and the family.

5. Provide an explanation of your experience in the field of working with abused children.

6. Explain the adequacy of the legal framework that governs your obligations to provide social work or forensic social work services to sexually abused children.

7. General observations from the researcher

Thank you for your participation in this research.

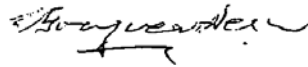
Mr. S. Nqaphi
Master's degree student in Social Work: Forensic Practice
South African Police Service Eastern Cape: Major

ANNEXURE 7: LANGUAGE EDITING LETTER

LANGUAGE EDITING CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the language editing of this dissertation by Mr S Nqapi was done by Prof L A Greyvenstein.

Prof L A Greyvenstein was a member of the South African Translators' Institute, membership number: 1001691. She completed her primary, secondary and tertiary education, including a doctoral thesis, in English. She has done the English language editing of many proposals, dissertations, theses and scientific articles.



Lesley Ann Greyvenstein (Prof)

P O Box 6601

Flamwood

Klerksdorp

2572

Tel: 018 468 7335 / 082 9744 505