



Exploration of the child support grant in a community of the North West Province

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DECLARATION

I, Kegomoditswe Gloria Lenyatsa, hereby declare that this dissertation has never been submitted before for any diploma, degree or master's qualification to any university. It is my own work and all the materials used have been duly acknowledged.

Signature: -----

Lenyatsa K.G.

DEDICATION

This research study is dedicated to my parents, my late father, Mr. Keobakile Lenyatsa and Mrs. Kgomotso Lenyatsa, who have always prayed for my success. Without their love and support this project would not have been possible.

PREFACE

South Africa has observed an increasing number of disadvantaged children in the streets and shopping centres, despite the intervention of the government by increasing spending by providing support grants for these children. This study explored the child support grant in the community of the North West Province, South Africa. The aim of the study was to determine the contribution the of child grant (CSG) towards alleviation of poverty in South Africa and the effectiveness of the criteria put in practice by the South African Social Security Agency(SASSA) to select primary caregivers. The CSG is meant to enhance the livelihoods of beneficiaries through access to basic necessities. The study provided recommendations that will assist in effectively managing the use of CSG as well as reducing the dependency of primary caregivers on the government and creating employment opportunities for primary caregivers. The population of the study consisted of participants who receive CSG on behalf of beneficiaries as well as social workers who ensure that primary caregivers use the grant for the purpose it is intended.

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ABSTRACT

The child support grant (hereafter referred to as CSG) in South Africa was implemented in 1998 to fight child poverty. The CSG came after the state maintenance grant (SMG) was repealed, because it (SMG) only benefited certain races. Section 27(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 states that everyone has the right to have access to social security and appropriate social assistance including those who are unable to support themselves and their dependents. This study was undertaken to explore the CSG in the community of the North West Province. The study was necessary because CSG is meant to support children who are disadvantaged to improve their living conditions. Poverty affects vulnerable people. These people are often children, disabled people, the old and women, especially those who are single parents. The South African democratic government assists disadvantaged citizens with eight different social grants to assist those who cannot provide for themselves and their families. From these social grants, only the CSG was investigated in this study. The study employed a mixed-methods approach to collect qualitative and quantitative data. An exploratory research design was used to better comprehend CSG policy and its contribution to the beneficiaries. Semi-structured questionnaires were used to conduct semi-structured interviews with the sampled primary caregivers of CSG and social workers (study participants). The sampled participants provided insights into how CSG reduces poverty, determines the basic needs of beneficiaries covered by CSG, as well as determines the effectiveness of the criteria used by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) to select primary caregivers who qualify for the grant. The findings of the study revealed that CSG plays a fundamental role to beneficiaries and the whole family. It often assists in buying groceries and payment of the educational needs of the CSG's beneficiaries. One of the recommendations produced by the conducted study is the increment of the amount of CSG beyond its annual increase of ten rands (R10) as well as reducing the dependency on the government by primary caregivers through adopting a system where primary caregivers work for the grant.

Key terms: Beneficiaries, caregivers, child support grant, South African Social Security Agency

LIST OF KEYWORDS

Child support grant

The child support grant is the income received from the government to lower-income households to reduce child poverty, and support household income to assist caregivers in providing for the basic needs of the beneficiaries (Malatjie, & Malatjie, 2021:3). CSG is implemented to bring assistance to caregivers to provide for the primary needs of their dependents; however, the researcher is of the view that the grant is not always spent on the child. Therefore, CSG has a minimal effect on beneficiaries due to spreading the CSG cash across the entire household (Coetzee, 2013:22).

State maintenance grant

The state maintenance grant refers to the income that was received from the government during the period of (1928-1998) to disadvantaged households to assist caregivers to meet the basic needs of the beneficiaries. It was particularly meant for single caregivers with minor children (Woolard, Harttgen & Klasen, 2010:17). This grant was discriminatory because it was based on race. It only benefited whites, Indians and coloureds; black people were excluded. UNICEFF (2017:22); argues that the state maintenance grant overlooked alternative caregiving structures such as grants for old people and poor children from black families.

Social assistance programmes

Social assistance programmes refer to all the government programmes that provide a minimum level of income support to lower-income households to reduce poverty (Satumba, Bayat & Mohamed, 2017:33). Social assistance in South Africa began in 1954, during the period of apartheid. The first type of social assistance to vulnerable people came through the old age grant. The grant assisted needy, old white people, excluding people from other races (Kanyane, 2015:17). The researcher is of the view that social assistance in South Africa was exercised to enrich certain racial groups (i.e. whites) excluding others (i.e., blacks, Indians, and coloureds).

Primary caregivers

Primary caregivers refer to people who look after the daily needs of the child and do not necessarily have to be related to the child as provided for by the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004). According to section 45(1) of Social Assistance Act 13 of 2004, primary caregivers are people who look after the best interests of the child. However, the researcher argues that not all primary caregivers look after the best interests of the child because some primary caregivers do not look after children in the way they are required to by the Act. They sometimes misuse the grant for their own personal purposes.

Child poverty

Child poverty refers to the condition of children who live in poverty and come from poor backgrounds and are raised having limited or no resources (Malatjie & Malatjie, 2021:3). The democratic government reduces child poverty through the CSG. The grant has increased the number of children from poor backgrounds to have access to basic education (Khosa & Kaseka, 2017:20). The researcher is of the view that CSG has reduced the stress of caregivers due to being unemployed and not able to afford the primary needs of their children.

Social workers

Social workers, within this context, refer to the professionals who provide welfare services on a provincial sphere of government. According to Ibrahima and Mattaini (2019:799), the aim of social workers is to ensure the overall well-being of communities and assist them (i.e. communities) to meet their basic needs. Social workers ensure that social grants are used for the purpose it is intended for. They do this through home visits, to ensure that beneficiaries of social grants receive proper care from caregivers.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Child support grant refers to the income that is transferred from the government to lower income households to provide primary caregivers with the costs of the basic needs of the beneficiaries (children) of CSG. CSG has become an important issue to be considered in the social policies of South Africa (Khubeka, 2013:7). The aim of CSG is to improve the quality and lifestyle of children by assisting primary caregivers who are unable to provide for their children (Woorlard *et al.*, 2012:19). When the ANC government won the elections in 1994, one of its aims was to achieve government goals, which included poverty alleviation, addressing unequal distribution of income, reducing the unemployment rate and increasing social assistance programmes (Gumede, 2019:499). The following aspects were discussed in this chapter: background to the study, research problem, literature overview, research objectives, research design and methodology, data collection methods, data analysis, contribution to the study, as well as ethical considerations.

1.2 BACKGROUND AND THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

The background to the study and the research problem sections establish the context of the research. These two sections explain why the researcher has chosen a particular topic (Osanloo & Grant, 2016:10).

1.2.1 Background to the study

In South Africa, the social assistance programmes emerged during the time of union government in 1928 for white, Indian, and coloured people; black people started receiving it in 1944. White people received more grant amounts throughout apartheid years before it (i.e., apartheid government) decided to eradicate the grant differences between Whites and other South African races in 1980 (Woolard, Harttgen & Klasen, 2012:23). According to Granlund and Hochfeld (2020:1232), all types of social grants discourage employment, enhance laziness, and provide their beneficiaries with only short-term solutions. The researcher is of the view that social grants encourage people to depend on government. The results asserted this view by revealing that 67% of the social workers believed that the CSG promotes laziness. Inequalities in South Africa were addressed in 1994, through the

emergence of the multi-racial democracy that provided the policies to address poverty, inequality and violation of human rights experienced during the apartheid era (Hidrobo, Lustig, Maboshe, Purfield, Woolard & Zikhali, 2018:88). During apartheid, the laws that regulated the social welfare services gave privilege to white children as they received high amounts. However, in 1996, the democratic government reviewed the social support provided by the apartheid regime. The outcome of the review process was the introduction of the CSG in 1998 (Oliver, 2021:20).

The aim of introducing CSG was to replace the state maintenance grant (hereafter referred to as SMG). This is because the SMG paid higher, amounts but did not cater for many children who needed it (Khubeka, 2013:09). CSG is only applicable to the poorest of the poor. In 2002, the age limit for CSG increased to new-born babies up to a minor age and the number of children applied for should not exceed six (6) beneficiaries (children). CSG is provided to primary caregivers who meet all the requirements of CSG means test (Granlund & Hochfeld, 2020:1231). CSG is one of the social assistance programmes that aims to alleviate poverty. The Department of Social Development is the responsible department/institution to administer the CSG through its agency (Makgetha, 2015:11). This agency is the South African Social Security Agency (hereafter referred to as SASSA). SASSA, as the agency of the Department of Social Development, is responsible for paying the social grants.

1.2.2 Research Problem

Since South Africa gained democracy in 1994, social assistance programmes were introduced to contribute to alleviating poverty through financial assistance received from the government to assist the disadvantaged population to be able to afford their basic needs. However, poverty continues in South Africa regardless of the introduction of the social programmes. Poverty is not a mammoth problem for South Africa only, other developing countries that provide welfare services such as CSG, disability grants and old age grants also have poverty challenges. These developing countries include China, Indonesia, Tanzania, and Ethiopia (Oliver, 2021:20).

Hidrobo *et al.*, (2018:88), denotes that child support grants are provided to primary care givers who are unable to support their children because they do not have any form of income to provide their children with a decent life. CSG was implemented to eradicate poverty by providing social assistance to beneficiaries. However, CSG caters for the whole family instead of the beneficiaries. Primary caregivers are also likely to use the CSG for other purposes (Gumede, 2019:499)

1.3 LITERATURE REVIEW

A literature review assists in building the existing body of knowledge and helps researchers to avoid duplicating what has already been done (Li & Wang, 2018:123). It assists researchers to avoid plagiarism. According to Sileyew (2019:731), plagiarism refers to reproducing someone else's work or ideas as your own without giving proper credit to the author. Researchers should acknowledge the work of other researchers by citing them. In this study, the relevant literature review regarding the use of CSG were undertaken to provide assistance to the researcher to put the study within the CSG research study context. As stated by Li and Wang (2018:123), a literature review demonstrates the use of relevant theoretical and conceptual frameworks. It assists in addressing the issues and concepts surrounding the topic. According to Synder, (2019:333), a literature review further helps to indicate all the challenges that emanates based on the research topic. The literature review for this study was based on academic sources such as articles, books, journals, internet sources and other government documents from the Department of Social Development, SASSA, and other departments. The history of the CSG and SMG grant application process is discussed in the next section.

1.3.1 History of CSG and SMG

As stated in section 1.2.1, the CSG was introduced in 1998 and replaced the SMG. During the time of apartheid, there was racial discrimination in terms of receiving SMG. South Africa experienced violation of human rights and imbalances in terms of standards of living (Woolard, Harttgen & Klasen, 2012:357). Kanyane (2015:17), argues that SMG did not cater for many vulnerable children who needed it. Therefore, the government introduced CSG in April 1998. CSG caters for more than 10 million children per month in South Africa and was implemented with the understanding that the state

must respect, protect, promote, and fulfil the terms of the Bill of Rights (Hidrobo *et al.*,2018:88). According to Gumede (2019:499). CSG can only be eradicated through education, not poverty reduction, because it becomes possible to monitor what happens at school rather than what transpires at home.

1.3.2 Application process of CSG

Providing social assistance to poor families falls under government's distributive public policy, which is used by government to address the high poverty levels in South Africa (Satumba & Mohamed, 2017:33). The CSG application process refers to steps taken by South African Social Security Agency (SASSA). The CSG application process commences when the primary caregiver first visits the SASSA office. An interview is held between a SASSA staff member and the caregiver to determine whether the caregiver qualifies to receive CSG. The SASSA staff member indicates which documents are required for the grant application process. When the caregiver visits the SASSA office with all the required documents, the means test is conducted. After conducting the means test, the grant application is processed. Outcome letters of the processed grant applications are issued after 90 days. This implies that grant applicants are notified of the outcome of their grant applications after 90 days (Behrendt, 2018:5). Section 10 of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004) provides that children access CSG through any of the parents, or the person who is known as the primary caregiver. A primary caregiver is the person who looks after the daily needs of the child and does not have to be the biological parent. Accordingly, a father or mother of a child can also be his/her primary caregiver. The following requirements are needed for the applicant to qualify for the grant:

- Be a South African citizen
- The primary caregiver and the prospective beneficiary applied for must both reside in South Africa
- The person applying must be the primary caregiver of the prospective beneficiary applying for
- The applicant and spouse must meet the requirements.

1.4 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of a research study should guide the progress of the study until completion. The objectives of this study are discussed below:

1.4.1 Primary objective

The primary objective of this study is to explore the child support grant in a community of the North West Province.

1.4.2 Secondary objectives

- Assess how the CSG contributes to poverty reduction.
- Determine the effectiveness of the criteria put into practice by the South African Security Agency to select primary caregivers.
- Determine the basic needs of the beneficiaries that are provided for by the CSG.
- Determine whether CSG caters for all the basic needs of the beneficiaries.

1.5 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

According to Sileyew (2019:731), research methodology are the methods, procedures, and techniques that the researcher employed in their study to implement the research design. Before any research begin, a researcher should decide on which approach will be appropriate to be employed in the study. The approaches used can vary considerably in any field of scientific research. There are three approaches recommended in the Public Administration discipline. These approaches are qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods. Quantitative research methods focus on testing the hypothesis and analysing statistical data. In a quantitative research study, data is collected using surveys, experiments and observations, while qualitative research methods focus on exploring ideas, lived experiences of the participants, collecting non-numerical data and helping researchers to explore how decisions are made and providing researchers with detailed insight (Synder, 2019:333). A mixed-methods approach is the structured combination of qualitative and quantitative methods in research. In a mixed method approach, the researcher makes use of different kinds of qualitative and quantitative data (Schwand, 2014:196). This study employed mixed methods.

1.5.1 Research approach

According to Kanyane (2015:18), the research approach refers to procedures succeeded by the researcher in conducting a study. The approach should include when, where, from whom and under what conditions data will be gathered and analysed. This study employed a mixed methods approach whereby the researcher used both qualitative and quantitative approaches in the same study. The reason for a mixed-methods approach is to assist the researcher to triangulate both qualitative and quantitative methods and data sources. Mixed methods assist the researcher in providing a full analysis of the research problem and gives provision to a suitable chance of answering the specified research questions (Sileyew, 2019:731). This approach was relevant to this study because it encouraged the researcher to explore the use of the CSG in a community of the North West Province and to better understand the research problems as stated in section 1.2.2

1.5.2 Research methods

In every study, a research methodology relies on the research problem and research objectives (Williams, 2014:15). Research methods are the techniques that researchers employ to describe, clarify, and predict phenomena. Research methodology is the philosophy of the research process (Sileyew, 2019:731). This study employed mixed methods, whereby the researcher collected data using qualitative and quantitative methods. The researcher employed qualitative and quantitative research methods with the aim of collecting qualitative and quantitative data in order to explore the CSG in a community of the North West Province.

The researcher embarked on door-to-door visits, to identify caregivers and request them to participate in the study, as stated in section 1.8.1. The reason why the researcher embarked on a door-to-door survey to identify caregivers is because the Department of Social Development was unable to provide a list of caregivers to the researcher because the list contains confidential state information. The information contains names, age, addresses, gender etc. of the primary caregivers. The researcher also indicated to participants that they were under no obligation to participate. Their participation depended on whether they were comfortable and agreed to participate. They were informed that they were free to decide not to participate in the study even if the interview

had already commenced. Participants were also informed that they were free to withdraw their consent after the interviews, as also stated in section 1.8.1

1.5.2.1 Literature investigation

Literature investigation is the search for current knowledge through extensive reading, regarding the topic under investigation. Literature investigation determines the researcher's theoretical assumptions which guides the study (Li & Wang, 2018:123). For this study, the researcher collected qualitative and quantitative data concurrently/ simultaneously using a semi structured questionnaire. The collected data produced the current CSG activities in the North West Province.

1.5.2.2 Research design

Research design refers to the plan followed by the researcher to achieve the objectives of the study (Opie, 2019:7). According to Li and Wang (2018:123), research design assists researchers to test hypotheses and answer the research questions. To this study, the researcher used an exploratory research design. Exploratory research design refers to a research design that investigates a problem that is not clearly defined. The design examines the phenomena, attitudes, perceptions, and ideas of specific social group that have not been examined as consistently and intensively as other groups (Akhtar, 2016:68). Researchers use exploratory design to better comprehend existing problems. This is because exploratory design relies on secondary data that provides available literature or data. This available data assists researcher to gather information that assists them to define the research problem and suggest hypotheses (Sileyew, 2019:731).

For this study, the researcher has explored the CSG by focusing on the importance of the CSG, its contribution to poverty reduction, its provision of the basic needs of the beneficiaries and to determine whether it (CSG) caters for all the basic needs of the beneficiaries. It should be noted that social welfare services are the concurrent functions of the national and provincial government spheres as provided by schedule 4, part B of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996. This concurrent function

results in social workers being regional or district based. In a nutshell, one social worker caters for large areas in a province.

1.5.2.3 Target population

The study focused on exploring the CSG in a community of the North West Province. The total population of the community was 5 441 and is one of the biggest communities according to the Mahikeng Local Municipality (2018:22). The researcher interviewed the primary caregivers of the CSG until saturation was reached. Three social workers from the North West Department of Social Development were also interviewed. The researcher was of the view that based on the population size (5 441) and the saturation approach that was employed, enough data was available to answer the research questions, collected from the two sample groups. The sample groups were all the primary caregivers of CSG in the studied community and social workers from the North West Department of Social Development. The researcher is also a community member and speaks the language that is spoken by the sample groups. Some community members knew the researcher and they felt free and safe to communicate. The researcher's life was also safe because of being a community member of the studied community.

1.5.2.4 Sampling

Sampling is the procedure of choosing a sample from the population of the study. It is whereby the researcher selects certain people or sample to stand for the total population, and this involves selecting groups of people, events, behaviour, or elements to conduct the research study (Akhtar, 2016:68).

1.5.2.4.1 Sampling frame

In this study, a non-probability sampling technique was used. Non-probability sampling is a type of sampling technique that uses non-randomised method to draw the sample (Bhardwaj, 2019:157).

1.5.2.4.2 Sampling method

1.5.2.4.3 Purposive sampling

Purposive sampling refers to the kind of sampling that enables the researcher to select people who are well informed about the topic under investigation. According to Synder (2019:333), purposive sampling increases the amount of information obtained from the sample. The researcher purposefully selected all the primary caregivers of CSG until saturation through door-to-door visits and three social workers from the North West Department of Social Development. This is because the three social workers work with communities in the North West Province, who some of them are the primary caregivers. Both primary caregivers and social workers have valuable information on CSG. Other community members (i.e., non-receivers of CSG) were not included in the study to avoid widening the study and causing further delays to the study because the researcher had struggled to obtain ethics clearance from the NWU since May 2020.

1.5.2.4.4 Sampling size

The study consisted of two sample groups, as stated in section 1.5.2.3. It should be noted that these social workers provide welfare services on a provincial sphere of government. The sample size of the primary caregivers was accurately determined after data collection due to the employed saturation approach.

1.5.3. Research questions

Main question

- What is the importance of the CSG in a community of the North West Province?

Sub-questions

- How does CSG contribute to poverty reduction?
- How effective is the criteria put into practice by the North West Department of Social Development to select primary caregivers?
- Which basic needs of the beneficiaries are provided for by CSG?
- How does CSG assist the primary caregivers in providing for all the basic needs of the beneficiaries?

1.5.4. Measurement of instrument

For the purpose of this study, the researcher has conducted face-to-face interviews using semi-structured questionnaires to collect data from primary caregivers of CSG and social workers from the North West Department of Social Development. Participants of each sampled group were asked the exact questions, that follow the same sequence and manner. The questions took two broad forms; they were open- and closed-ended questions. The first set of questions on the semi-structured questionnaire for primary caregivers is separated into two sections. Section A dealt with the biographical information with the aim of understanding the socio-economic status of the primary caregivers. The CSG is one of the socio-economic national objectives aimed at improving the quality of children's lives. Social grants, including CSG, are the key source of money for many families in South Africa.

The social grants are meant to eradicate poverty and hunger and improve the life of disadvantaged people. The aim of CSG is all about increasing the quality of life for children who are below 18 years and less by assisting parents who are unable to provide for their kids. In addition, unemployment rate, number of children receiving CSG, factors that contribute to the reliance on CSG, among other things are provided in this study. Section B dealt with the exploration of CSG. The combination of open- and closed-ended questions posed to primary caregivers and social workers from a community of the North West Province and the Department of Social Development respectively had assisted in determining the main factors that contributed towards poverty alleviation in a community of the North West Province through CSG and the basic needs of the beneficiary that are provided for by the CSG.

1.5.5 Data collection methods

It is fundamental for researchers to choose suitable methods for collecting data for the purpose of obtaining the same data from all those who participated in their studies (Akhtar, 2016:68). The data collection tools which were used in this study are explained below.

1.5.5.1 Semi-structured interview

Semi-structured interviews have both features of structured and unstructured interview questions. During semi-structured interviews, researchers ask both closed- and open-ended questions (Garg, 2016:640). In this study, the researcher conducted semi-structured interviews using semi-structured questionnaires to explore the CSG. Three social workers were individually interviewed to get a deeper understanding of the benefits of CSG, and experiences (negative and positive) from the use of CSG, among other things. The primary caregivers were also interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. It should be noted that semi-structured questionnaires are a combination of open- and closed-ended questions and are commonly used for mixed-methods studies in the Public Administration discipline. The researcher embarked on door-to door visits to identify caregivers of CSG and request them to be part of the study. The main reason for the door-to-door visits is the inability of the researcher to be provided with the list of primary caregivers by the North West Department of Social Development (refer to the attached rebuttal letter also for further explanation).

The researcher explained to primary caregivers the main purpose of the door-to-door visits. The researcher further indicated to participants that participation was optional, and the information collected by the researcher will be treated with confidentiality for the next five years. This is because information such as gender, age, number of children receiving CSG, employment status, and total household income was sought (see Annexure E). If a participant was not ready on the day of the first visit, the researcher had re-scheduled a meeting for a second visit. The rescheduled dates were agreed upon by both the researcher and the participants. When the researcher has reached saturation, she visited social workers at the North West Department of Social Development and requested them to participate in the study (see Annexure D). The researcher was ensured that Covid-19 regulations were adhered to by maintaining a social distance of one point five meters (1.5m) to two meters (2m). The researcher carried surgical masks to provide participants who did not have them.

The researcher always had a sanitiser that was used by the researcher and all participants. Each participant was sanitised prior and post the interview. It should be noted that

community members welcome researchers with open hands in most instances because they believe that they (researchers) can assist in mitigating their social problems. In view of this, willing participants were requested to provide quiet places in their homes and their privacy was not invaded at all. Practical examples are the Statistics South Africa officials who conduct household surveys and members of political parties who embark on door-to-door campaigns during elections or when they recruit new members for their political parties – community members welcome them in their homes.

1.5.5.2 Semi-structured questionnaire

A questionnaire is an instrument for collecting data that consists of a set of questions for gathering information from participants and it is commonly viewed in the Public Administration discipline as a form of a discussion in a research study. Questions may take two broad forms; they may be open-ended questions that the participants answer in their own form, or closed (closed-ended) questions, which are answered by selecting from several provided fixed alternative answers (Sileyew, 2019:731). All the primary caregivers as well as three social workers from the North West Department of Social Development were interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. It should be noted that interviews within this context refer to the conducted semi-structured interviews. The provided responses were used to provide answers to the research questions and achieving research objectives. Each participant was given a thank you note card as a token of appreciation for their time spent in participating in the research study after the interview.

1.5.5.3 Documents

A document is a written electronic or hard copy that has a record of an event or communication. Documents include books, reports, and articles, among other documents. Researchers analyse documents to gather data. Document analysis refers to an analysis of all forms of written communication that assists the researcher to better understand the phenomena under investigation (Akhtar, 2016:68). According to Davie and Wyatt (2021:245), document analysis complements interviews and questionnaires in the data collection process and may assist in answering questions that interviews, or questionnaires may not address. In this study, the researcher collected data using data sources such as published and unpublished documents, annual reports, and articles.

1.5.6 Data analysis

Data analysis is a process of analysing the collected data to bring order, meaning and structure to the data (Sileyew, 2019:731). There are two types of data analysis, which involve qualitative and quantitative analysis. Qualitative data analysis is when the researcher identifies common patterns within the collected data and critically analysing those patterns to answer research questions and achieve the research objectives. Data analysis for quantitative studies, on the other hand, is done by making use of descriptive statistics (Bhardwaj, 2019:157). However, this study used SPSS and Atlas.ti to analyse the collected data. SPSS was used to analyse quantitative data, whereas Atlas.ti was used to analyse qualitative data. SPSS is software to perform statistical procedures in the social sciences field. It assists researchers in analysing data to generate meaning (Opie, 2019:309). According to Bazeley (2013:26), Atlas.ti is used by researchers to analyse text, as well as visual and audio data. The Atlas.ti software assists researchers in the analysis process by interpreting data using coding and annotating activities.

1.6 CONTRIBUTION OF THE STUDY

This study has benefited the North West Department of Social Development in determining the importance of the CSG on the primary caregivers of a community of the North West Province. The study revealed negative and positive results. Therefore, the negative results are to assist the department to develop mitigation mechanisms and the department is aware of the impact of CSG (be it positive/negative), which would assist the department in their future planning process. The waiting period of 90 days for the notification of the application outcome might be reduced. The results revealed that the three social workers (100%) had indicated that the CSG does not provide for all the primary needs of beneficiaries, therefore, the North West Department of Social Development might submit a motivation to the executive authority of the Department of Social Development for higher increments in the next financial years.

1.7 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1.7.1 Permission

Permission was requested from the North West Department of Social Development to conduct research (see request letter in Annexure A). The researcher was granted permission to access participants (see approval letter in Annexure B). Permission was

also granted by the Scientific Committee for Management Sciences (hereafter referred to as SCMS) and NWU-EMLETEN-REC after submitting the proposal for ethical considerations. Participants included in the study were provided with an explanation of the major objective of the study and interviews before requesting them to sign the consent forms. Participants who were willing to participate in the study, were requested to sign a consent form/document before the commencement of the interviews (see Annexure C).

The participants were also informed that they have a right to refuse to participate in the study. The researcher also explained to participants that the study is for academic purposes and the results are used to answer the research questions. It was stressed to them that they are under no obligation to participate as they have a right to withdraw at any stage from participating in the study. The researcher has further requested the caregivers to use their provided personal information provided in section A of the semi-structured questionnaire. The caregivers were further informed that under no circumstances would their provided personal information be shared with any person besides the supervisors and that the information must be destroyed after five (5) years.

1.7.2 Voluntary participation

Each participant was informed that participation was voluntary and can withdraw at any stage during the interview or withdraw the signed consent document post the conducted interviews. Every participant included in the study was offered the right to refuse to participate and to know what the study is all about and for what purpose the results would be used. It was stressed to them that they were under no obligation to participate. Participants were informed that the interviews were to take approximately 15 minutes. The social workers were informed before the commencement of the interviews that the final draft of the research report will be sent to the North West Department of Social Development for participant verification purposes before the final report is sent to the examiners. This is to ensure that the collected data from the social workers (participants) is correctly captured by the researcher. It should be noted that this is commonly practised in the Public Administration discipline. The results of this study will be disseminated to the primary caregivers through community meetings after the final research report was evaluated by the external examiners and published by the North West University. The ward

councillor and ward committee members will be requested to arrange community meetings in the community halls. A soft copy of the final report will be sent to the North West Department of Social Development after the publication of the final report by the university

1.7.3 Confidentiality

Confidentiality is maintained by not revealing personal information of the participants to anyone. The collected and analysed data is stored and will be kept for five (5) years. This stored data will be destroyed after five years has elapsed. The researcher has kept the hardcopies of the collected data confidentially in a locked shelf/drawer of the headboard in the researcher's bedroom and keep the key to the locked shelf/drawer. The researcher has used a password for the soft copies. The password must be used by the researcher to open the saved locked documents in the researcher's personal laptop. Furthermore, the password has not been shared with anyone in the house.

1.7.4 Ethical clearance

The researcher requested permission from the North-West University, Faculty of Economic and Management Science by submitting the proposal to the School Committee of Management Sciences (SCMS) for ethical considerations. This committee approved the submitted proposal and recommended that the approved proposal be submitted to NWU-EMELTEN-REC, which they also approved, and permission was granted to the researcher as the study deals with vulnerable people and it is regarded as medium risk. The researcher followed the specific procedures and protocols binding every researcher at the North-West University, taking into consideration plagiarism and honesty in the research proposal. The researcher adhered to common primary ethical principles such as respecting every individual involved in the study regardless of age, gender, and race, and thoroughly explaining their rights.

1.8 OUTLINE OF CHAPTERS

Chapter 1: Introduction and background of the study

Introduction and orientation of the study provide a brief background of the CSG in South Africa, explain the reason for the study through problem statement of the study as well as outline the research objectives and research question that arise from the problem statement.

Chapter 2: Legislative frameworks governing CSG

Policies governing the provision of CSG are discussed in this chapter. Types of social assistance in South Africa are also discussed. Provision of social welfare services is a concurrent function of the national and provincial spheres.

Chapter 3: Research design and methodology

Research design and methodology are discussed in this chapter by unpacking the types of research methodologies, research design, target population, sampling technique and size, data collection and data analysis to be used in the study.

Chapter 4: Data presentation, analysis, and interpretation

Data collected is presented, analysed, interpreted, and illustrated using graphs from the responses to the semi-structured questionnaires and semi-structured interviews.

Chapter 5: Summary, findings, conclusions, and recommendations

From the collected, analysed and interpreted data, conclusions and recommendations are formulated as well as a summary of the previous chapters and findings on each of the research objectives of the study.

1.9 CONCLUSION

The democratic government of South Africa provides for primary needs of disadvantaged children through CSG. Poverty affects many people, especially most children in South Africa. One of the purposes of the provision of CSG is to alleviate poverty. However, poverty continues in South Africa regardless of the provision of CSG. This study has explored the CSG. In this chapter, the research problem, research objectives, research questions, research design and methodology, data collection, significance of the study, and ethical considerations, among other things, are discussed. The following chapter discusses the literature review on the topic under investigation.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS GOVERNING CHILD SUPPORT GRANT IN SOUTH AFRICA

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the literature review that relates to legislative frameworks of CSG, child poverty and the history of CSG. A literature review is fundamental as it evaluates the researcher's work to understand what other scholars have researched. The aim of the literature review is to relate what other researchers have already explored in their topic of interest (Mouton, 2012:179). Poverty alleviation has always formed part of South Africa's government programmes post-1994. This chapter also discusses child poverty and the way in which the CSG assists in alleviating poverty, particularly child poverty. The chapter reviewed government's intervention through legislative frameworks and public policy to alleviate child poverty. This chapter further outlines the CSG administration and application process, history of social welfare services in other (OECD) countries, transition of social welfare to workfare in OECD countries as well as the impact of CSG on beneficiaries.

2.2 LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS GOVERNING THE USE OF CSG

There are various legislative frameworks that govern the provision of social services in South Africa. These legislative frameworks are fundamental in the implementations of social security in South Africa and enable the democratic government to monitor and evaluate the implementation of CSG policy. Some of these legislative frameworks are discussed below.

2.2.1 Social Assistance Act 13 of 2004

The Social Assistance Act 13 of 2004, provides for the rendering of social assistance to disadvantaged people through financial assistance from the government to lower income households to reduce poverty (UNICEF, 2015:8). Section 4(40) of this Act provides for six types of social grants. These grants are the CSG, foster care grant (hereafter referred to as FCG), the care dependency grant (hereafter referred to as CDG), war veteran grant (hereafter referred to as WVG), disability grant (hereafter referred to as DG) as well as the old age grant (hereafter referred to as OAG). According to section 3(30) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004), the purpose of the Social Assistance Act is to avail social grants to vulnerable people and to provide for

primary standards and norms required for delivering the programme of social assistance as well as establishing a procedure to inspect social grants. The types of social assistance grants provided by the democratic government to disadvantaged people in South Africa are discussed below.

2.2.2 Child support grant

CSG is the income received from government to lower income households to reduce child poverty and assist primary caregivers to provide in the basic needs of their children (Eyal, Woolard & Burns: 2014:13). Section 5(1) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004) provides that a person liable to apply for CSG is the primary caregiver of the child. The child applied for, and the primary caregiver must both be residents of South Africa. The child must be below the age of 18 unless the child is still at school and must have been born on/after 31 December 1993. The primary caregiver, if employed and single, should earn below R4 000 a month and if married, the combined salary should be below R8 900.

2.2.3 Foster care grant

In terms of section 8(30) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004), FCG is one of the types of social grants formulated to aid foster children. The FCG is paid to assist with primary needs of a foster child placed in care of a foster parent by a children's court because of being an orphan, abused, abandoned, or neglected (Hall & Sambu, 2016:21). The FCG is meant to help foster parents to look after a foster child. The FCG provides foster parents with financial relief to enable them to take care of foster children rather than taking them into the state owned facilities (Hidroboet *al*, 2018:88). According to section 5(1) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004), to qualify for the grant, the foster child must be legally placed under the care of a foster parent. The child and the foster parent must both reside in South Africa or are refugees and the child must be younger than 18 years.

2.2.4 War veterans' grant

The WVG is a grant for people over 60 years old who served in specific wars as provided for by section 11(2) of Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004). To qualify for the war veterans grant, the applicant must be at least 60 years of age, must have fought in

the Second World War or Korean War. The applicant must not be a recipient of any other grant and must be a permanent resident of South Africa. The person eligible for the war veterans grant must have fought in the Korean or Second World war which were to establish non-racial democratic constitutional order (National Development Agency, 2014:3).

2.2.5 Disability grant

Section 9(36) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004) provides the disability grant as one of the social assistant grants used to redistribute income and reduce poverty. Section 9(37) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004) provides the disability grant to adults from the age of 18 to 60 years old, who due to their mental/physical disability or illness are unable to work. Like the above-mentioned grants, to qualify for disability grant, one should be a resident of South Africa, be 18 or above and the applicant must submit a medical report not older than three months at the date of the applications confirming his/her disability as well as previous medical records and reports (Kgopole, 2014:30). A person applying for disability grant must not have assets worth more than R1 227 000 000 (Department of Social Development, 2015:4).

2.2.6 Old age grant

According to section 10(41) of Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004), OAG is provided to men and women from the age of 60, who are unable to adequately provide for themselves. Applicants for old age grants must be residents of South Africa and must not be maintained or cared for in a state institution (Department of Social Development, 2015:3). All the above discussed grants are fundamental as they assist poor families to survive (Udjo, 2014:505). The first three discussed grants assist children from poor families to enjoy the rights provided for in section 28(1) and 29(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, such as the right to be protected from exploitive labour practices, education, and the right to adequate standard of living.

2.2.7 Child Care Act 74 of 1983

Section 50(1) of the Child Care Act (74 of 1983) provides protection to children from abuse, harm, and neglect. Whenever something that affects the child is done, should be done in a way that would only yield positive impacts to the livelihood of the child. The

provision of social grants such as rendering of primary services like healthcare services, water and sanitation, housing and food should always be provided in a manner that accommodates the child. Section 2(40) of the Children's Act (38 of 2005) addresses current social problems, specifically the reduction of poverty and inequality among children. It further promotes social transformation of children in South Africa. Section 50(2) of Child Care Act (74 of 1983) provides provision of support to families to enable them to ensure that their children's wellbeing is protected and to prevent children from anything that could cause harm to them. When taking decisions regarding the child, certain factors need to be considered, such as age, gender, background of the child and possibilities of disability and illness (UNICEF, 2012:8).

2.2.8 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 108 of 1996

According to section 27(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, every person's socio-economic rights must be protected and respected. These economic rights are access to social security and social assistance for financially disadvantaged people and their dependents, sufficient water and food, health care services as well as the right to basic nutrition, shelter, and social services. Section 27(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 provides for the right to have access to social security. Social security refers to the protection that the democratic government provides for citizens through several public measures against economic and social distress (Oliver, 2021:20). According to section 28(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, every child has the right to family care or parental care as well as to appropriate alternative care. Every child has the right to be protected from exploitative labour practices, to stay in a good shelter and be protected from abuse or being mistreated.

2.2.9 South African Social Security Agency Act 9 of 2004

Section 2(19) of the South African Social Security Agency Act (9 of 2004) provides for the establishment of SASSA. The SASSA is a government agency set up in 2004 to ensure systematic and sufficient administration as well as effective management through payments of social assistance grants. The agency is responsible for reconciliation and management of payments (Eyalet *et al.*, 2014:14). Prior to SASSA being the organisation responsible for the management of social protection, the Department of

Social Development was the institution that administered social security in South Africa. SASSA is directly accountable to the Minister of Social Development at national level. Citizens wishing to access social assistance (i.e., all types of social grants) should visit the nearest SASSA office as per section 27(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, which provides that everyone has the right to social assistance such as the CSG, the social relief of distress and various other cash transfer types. In terms of section 4(38) of the South African Social Security Act (9 of 2004), SASSA oversees organising, directing, and paying of social grants, and therefore it has developed a draft corporate governance framework that addresses issues of integrity and honesty. The draft established mechanisms to ensure that all staff members of the agency are not influenced by prejudice, bias, and conflict of interest. The mechanisms were to commend a Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to look at corruption incidents and maladministration regarding the grant administration and processes (Hall & Sambu, 2016:21).

2.2.10 The South African Schools Act 84 of 1996

The South African Schools Act (84 of 1996) has provided ways of education in South Africa. Back then, during the times of apartheid, policies on education limited many black children access to school. Section 3(1) of the South African School Act, 1996 provides for mandatory schooling between the age seven and 15 years. Therefore, below the age of 15 years, every child should have access to education regardless of race or financial status of primary caregivers. Through the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP), children are fed with healthy food at school, which provides children with primary human needs. Through the combination of NSNP and the CSG, minimum child needs are met.

2.2.11 The National Integrated Policy on Early Childhood Development

The first national policy on early childhood development (ECD) in South Africa was approved by South Africa's 5th administration in December 2015. The policy is aimed at transforming ECD delivery of services in South Africa and addresses critical gaps to ensure that comprehensive and equitable ECD services are universally available and provided. The policy aims to cover the duration from conception until the year before children begin formal schooling (i.e., grade R), or in the case of children who are

disabled, the policy covers until they turn seven years (Department of Social Development, 2015:7).

The policy provides support for packages of services such as: making of new birth certificates for new-born babies, free basic preventative healthcare for children, nutritional and clean food, supporting pregnant women and children, social protection services as well as early childhood care and early learning services. This policy (NIECDP) protects children from abuse and neglect as well as enabling children to access psychosocial services. The policy (NIECDP) provides an overarching and enabling framework for ECD services; defines a comprehensive package of ECD services and support; prioritises important sections; identifying direct and indirect stakeholders as well as their roles and responsibilities; and establishes a national ECD leadership and coordinating structure (Department of Social Development, 2015:54). The role players include various government departments as well as functionaries of national, provincial, and local governments. For example, in terms of their responsibilities, the Department of Health is the leading department in providing comprehensive services for vulnerable women and children under two years. These women include pregnant women, and new parents. The policy possibly does not commend the work provided for over many decades by non-governmental (organisations NGOs) (Department of Health, 2012:19).

2.3. HISTORY OF CSG

Social grants or social assistance programmes refer to the cash transfers from the government to underprivileged or vulnerable people (Biyase, 2016:14). Social grants reduce poverty and vulnerability. CSG redistributes income and provides social security to disadvantaged families (Gumede, 2019:499). In South Africa, social assistance for children is classified into three programmes; FCG which assists children whose parents died and are legally taken care of by foster parents; the SMG for parents who aren't married with minor children; and the CDG for primary caregivers of children who have a disability and need full-time care (Patel, Hochfeld, Ajefu & Bryer, 2018:13).

In 1990, during the time of apartheid, only 0.2% of African children received the SMG. Most children living in rural areas were excluded from receiving the grant due to lack of

awareness of the grant, and transport as well as administrative barriers (Kanyane, 2015:28). In 1995, during the transitioning of government from apartheid to a democratic government, SMG was divided into two; parental allowance of R430 per month and a child allowance, which was R135 per month for not more than two children. The SMG was accessed by mothers or guardians who were widows or abandoned by their spouse for work for more than six months. SMG was the main source of income to people who did not have the financial means of taking care of their children (Mohale, 2019:15). The SMG was subject to strong criticisms based on race and geographical distribution (Lombard, Kemp, Viljoen-Toet &Booyzen, 2012:178). However, the inception of CSG in 1998 eradicated all the challenges that were brought by SMG.

CSG was introduced to provide for disadvantaged children because SMG failed to reach most poor children in South Africa. SMG excluded Africans from receiving the grant (Hall &Sambu, 2016:21). In 2002, CSG catered for 2 700 000 children through public awareness campaigns conducted by government and civil society organisations (Gumede, 2019:499). From 2012, CSG has catered for over ten million South African children each month (UNICEF, 2012:8). In 2002, CSG was perceived as the government's largest social assistant programme for beneficiaries. CSG was implemented on the understanding that the state must respect, protect as well as promote children's rights provided for in section 28(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996. CSG provides a regular financial assistance to primary caregivers of children living in poverty to assist them to provide for their children with basic needs. CSG is also aimed at reaching vulnerable people in the society (Lombard *et al.*, 2012:180). As of March 2021, CSG caters for more than 12 992 000 children (SASSA, 2021:4).

2.3.1 State maintenance grant to Child support grant

CSG policy was introduced in 1998 by the democratic government as a strategy to fight child poverty. Prior to CSG, there was SMG, which provided support for mothers and their children in cases where the spouse was no longer or never had been present. The SMG was introduced by the apartheid government to provide child and parent allowance in poor households, particularly poor white, coloured, and Indian people.

SMG mainly benefited minority people, and therefore the democratic government took a decision to phase it (SMG) out (Goldblatt, 2014:22). CSG replaced SMG, which favoured poor minority people and had inconsistencies (Daidone, Davis &Handa, 2019:17). The primary objective of CSG is to ensure that primary caregivers of young children who do not have access to basic needs living in poverty are able to receive financial assistance in the form of cash transfers to supplement rather than replace household income (Hall &Sambu, 2016:24).

After the introduction of CSG, the benefit to receive the grant has gradually been extended as initially the grant paid to primary caregivers of children up to the age of seven years (Biguglio, 2016:35). The CSG is now paid out for children up to the age of 18 years. As of April 2021, the CSG amount is R460 per month (SASSA, 2021:4). Out of all developing countries, South Africa is classified as having the most extensive welfare system. This is because it caters for many poor people in society compared to other developing countries. CSG is put in place to assist households in things such as paying school or crèche fees and buying school uniforms, taking the child to the doctor when needed, buying, and paying electricity and water as well as paying for transport to government offices on behalf of the child (Gumede, 2019:499). The Children's Institute (Online:2012) alludes that CSG is assumed to be the major programme which alleviates child poverty in South Africa and promotes social development.

2.4 ADMINISTRATION AND CHILD SUPPORT GRANT PROCESS

According to Chirwa (2016:123), administration involves planning, organising, commanding, and controlling. Daidone *et al.* (2019:22) assert that administration occurs when more than one person works together with the same objectives and are aiming at achieving the same goal. Without specific goals set and aimed objectives there won't be any form of administration. Providing social assistance to poor families is one of the objectives of South Africa's government through distributive public policy. Distributive policy was promulgated by the democratic government in 1994, to address the high level of poverty in the country (Khubheka, 2013:30). Distributive policy involves using public funds to assist certain groups or communities within the state. The purpose of the distributive policy is to aid welfare programmes to society, particularly disadvantaged members of society. Some examples of distributive public policy are provision of adult

education programmes, food relief programmes, social insurance as well as social assistance programmes (Kgopole, 2014:21).

Social assistance is the provision of social services by the state to disadvantaged families who are unable to provide for themselves. Social assistance contributes to a basic standard of living, and assists with financial security to poor people. Social assistance is the cash transfer in the form of regular financial assistance, grants, or short term relief such as the current Covid-19 grant (Kerr & Thornton, 2020:2). The CSG application process involves all the steps taken by SASSA staff when primary caregivers come to their offices (SASSA) to apply for CSG on behalf of the children (Larsen, 2013:210). Following an application by primary caregivers, a means test is conducted, which is a tool to find out whether the applicant meets all the necessary requirements such as being a South African citizen, the applicant and the child applied for must both reside in South Africa, the person applying must be the primary caregiver of the child/children applied for and the applicant and spouse must meet the requirements (Larsen, 2013:211). The person liable for applying for CSG on behalf of the beneficiary is a primary caregiver. This is the person who looks after the primary needs of the child, but who does not have to be necessarily related to the child. According to section 1(45) of the Social Assistance Act (13 of 2004), a father or mother of a child can also be the child's primary caregiver.

2.5 HISTORY OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN OTHER COUNTRIES (USA AND BRAZIL)

After the Second World War, the above-mentioned countries of the Organisation for Economic Corporation and Development (OECD) encountered economic problems that led to population increases as many people migrated to urban areas to look for employment and other means of survival. Poverty rates increased because the war had greatly affected people (Mommssen, 2018:55). The OECD is an intergovernmental economic organisation with 38 member countries. The OECD initially started as the Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) in 1948, after World War II, to run the Marshall plan to reconstruct Europe. The Marshall plan was the European recovery programme to provide financial assistance to Western Europe following the devastation of World War II. The goal of OEEC was to help European governments to recognise their economic interdependence. In 1960, when the Marshall plan was complete, Canada and the United

States joined the OEEC nations, which reformed the OEEC to OECD (Wise, 2014:332). The OECD was then reformed in 1961. The objective of OECD is to formulate developed policies to benefit the lives of citizens. It shapes policies that brings equality, prosperity, and well-being for everyone (Leubolt, 2013:66). In South Africa, the democratic government promulgated polices that brought equality, prosperity, and well-being for everyone when it came into power in 1994.

2.5.1 Social welfare in Brazil

In 1919, the International Labour Organization was formed, and work accident insurance was provided through required contribution to insurance companies. In 1923, the social welfare services counted on institutions that offered pensions, retirement, medical assistance, and pharmaceutical aid (Matijascic & Kay, 2013:18). Social security in Brazil started during the colonial period (1923-1954) (Braw, Hoddinott & Roy, 2015:303). During this period (1923-1954), the government of Brazil provided social security to selected groups of society (i.e., military, and civil public servants) through pension and medical services. In South Africa also, selected minority groups were provided with social services during colonisation and apartheid eras. In 1930, after the revolution for independence from the Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil adopted social policies to modernise society and expand development through industrial investments. In the same year (1930), the government of Brazil introduced the Education and Health Ministry and the Ministry of Labour to take charge of social security. These ministries coordinated health and medical assistance to workers, which it managed in corporation with pension institutions (Fleuri, 2014:25). In the year 1960, a Social Security Organic Law was introduced and implemented after 14 years of debating in congress.

The law aimed at bringing unity benefits between different government institutions. After six years, a National Social Security Institute (NSSI) was formulated to maintain poor families through the payments of social benefits. Even though numerous efforts made in 1960s to ensure that people in the rural areas were included in the programme of NSSI, only in 1974 people in the rural areas were effectively covered. A flat half benefit of a minimum wage salary was approved for workers in rural areas who were 65 years of age or disabled people at any age, with no waiting period (de Carvalho, 2015:26). Medical service was one of the provided services, mostly through contracts with private and philanthropic hospitals.

During the 1970s, an allowance which beneficiaries received after a means-test was also created to provide for needy people who were above the age 70, either in rural or urban areas as well as people with disability, who did not have any other source of income. The cash assistance benefit was only for those with minimum wage (Leubolt, 2013:67).

In 2003, BolsaFamília was launched, which is the largest cash transfer social welfare programme for poor children and families, which reached more than 46 000 000 people a year. In 2021, the BolsaFamilia programme reached 13 000 000 families, including children. As of 2021, the country (Brazil) has a population of 214 623 000 people (Goularte, Serafim, Colombo, Hogg, Caldieraro, & Rosa, 2021:32). The social welfare programmes aimed at reducing the short-term poverty through straight monetary transfers and to try and eradicate poverty in the long-term to expand human capital among disadvantaged people through provisional monetary transfers (Braw, Hoddinott & Roy, 2015:304). The programme also assists with free education to children whose parents do not afford to pay for their (children) school fees. However, in 2015, Brazil had put conditions to its welfare programme. Those conditions included children having to attend school regularly, children under five (5) years receiving standard immunisations and prenatal care for pregnant women. If children exceed the total of permitted school absences, they are dropped from the programme and their funds are suspended (de Carvalho, 2015:44). According to Fleuri (2014:27), both the Brazilian and South Africa governments have developed various social welfare programmes that are meant to curb poverty levels that are still experienced by large sectors from both countries. These countries have the largest social assistance programmes, particularly child support grants. The programmes were all designed to enhance child welfare. The other similarity between the two countries (SA and Brazil) is the highest levels of income inequality. However, in South Africa, the child support grant is largely unconditional (i.e., even if the child has not received immunisations and has been absent from school for long, the child support grant is not suspended, but follow-ups will be made about the child's absenteeism).

2.5.2 Social welfare in the USA

During 1870, more than half the nation's adult workers were farmers. In 1601, the Monarch government announced a set of laws designed to maintain law and order, which resulted in the rapid development of industries and increased industrialisation, specialisation, and

urbanisation in the years that followed (i.e., from 1871). The aim was to have a nation of workers who depend on a continuous flow of money income to provide for themselves and their families (Patric, Frank, Mcneer & Stein, 2019:651). The government (Monarch) introduced the English Poor Law, which aimed at addressing the issue of begging that seemed to annoy the ruling (Monarch government) class. The Law was a poor relief strategy to decide whose poverty deserves relief measures and who should bear the costs of helping the poor (Thane, 2018:45). According to the English law, poor people were divided into three categories: The first group is the able-bodied. This group consisted of people who could work but are not actively looking for employment/are unemployed. This group was given low grade employment and citizens, or church organisations were prohibited from giving them financial assistance (Larsen, 2013:211). The second group was the impotent poor (those who would work, but could not be due to disability). This group was deserving of the relief system. The impotent people were chronically ill, physically or mentally disturbed. The last category was the dependent children. Dependent children referred to orphans, and deserted children from very poor families with no social support networks (family, relatives, community) (Vertigans, 2015:37).

The USA social welfare structure has based on both long-standing traditions and altering social and economic conditions. Poverty rates increased because of the great depression, which had greatly affected people (Mommsen, 2018:56). Eighteen (18) million old people, who have any form of disability, and single mothers with children already live in poverty in the United States of America. Thirteen (13) million USA people were unemployed and food riots began. People without homes in the cities lived in public parks and shacks. In the 19th century, these people without homes in the cities lived in public parks and shacks. Poor houses and orphanages for vulnerable individuals and families who were affected by the depression were built by local and state government as well as charities. Conditions of the above established institutions were often harsh deliberately so to only attract only those who were desperate. However, in the mid-1920s, the USA began to aid old people and aid to the blind (Berger & Slack, 2020:7). In 1935, a national welfare system was established for the first time in USA history.

2.6 TRANSITION OF SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES TO WORKFARE IN THE OECD (USA AND BRAZIL) COUNTRIES

The workfare originates in Denmark government. The intervention was a fully resourced form of labour market. Denmark, the USA, and Brazil have been working together to enhance political and security matters. These countries cooperate extensively to promote peace and stability among OECD countries. The workfare programme was an attempt to stimulate the economic growth to have a positive impact to the labour market and have effective social rights. The workfare, however, was not possible in countries without system of social spending and investing on effective multilateral social partnership arrangements (Larsen, 2013:210). According to Behrendt (2018:5), workfare refers to mandatory labour market programmes in which claimants/beneficiaries work in exchange for welfare benefits. In 1996, the USA federal government passed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) to implement changes to the social welfare policy. One of the goals of PRWORA was to encourage job preparation and work (Mohr, 2012:57). The strategy to encourage primary caregivers to work was considered to be a long-term economic improvement to poor families. The USA (federal) government implements the Welfare Reform Act through the expansion of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which provided a major financial incentive to work (Deeming & Johnston, 2019:157).

In the past, social programmes were provided to beneficiaries until the beneficiary turns 18. From 1998, beneficiaries do not benefit from social welfare for more than two consecutive years. According to Deeming and Johnston (2019:157), the USA was mandated to increase the percentage of welfare beneficiaries into the workforce. Social welfare was increasing to 50% in 2002. During this time (2002), the USA federal government was mandated to decrease the amount of the welfare grant for beneficiaries if their primary caregivers do not want to be part of workers or work activities. The problem with welfare beneficiaries is that they did not have the courage to work and get paid in the labour markets, they would rather remain on the welfare system (Mohr, 2012:57). The government programmes have shown that beneficiaries can be moved from welfare to workfare. The strategy is not only moving the current beneficiaries but new applications to avoid beneficiaries being placed on a long-term education or training programme (Greer & Symon, 2014:38).

From 1998, there was a decrease in the amounts of welfare grant, which resulted in more savings for the government. From 1999 to date, over 20 million more jobs were initiated which resulted in lower unemployment and inflation rates. Therefore, there has been no growth on the real wages of semi-skilled, and workers without tertiary qualifications. Therefore, caregivers can provide support to their dependents, and they can afford basic services (Deeming & Johnston, 2019:157). However, in South Africa, the system that allows beneficiaries to receive the grants is not too strict as children can receive the grant up to the age of 18 with or without schooling. Primary caregivers receive CSG without the conditions to work for it (CSG). For the above stated reasons, the researcher is of the view that social welfare system that is not harsh creates dependency on the government. In addition, SASSA (2021:4) asserts that social assistance beneficiaries in South Africa have increased exponentially from 1994.

2.7 THE IMPACT OF CSG ON BENEFICIARIES

The impact of CSG is evident when data regarding households and child poverty levels have been obtained prior and after the provision of the grant to the beneficiary. This measures other indicators of child well-being (Patel *et al.*, 2018:13). These indicators must be differentiated to the indicators of children who are not beneficiaries of CSG as well as indicators like school performance and attendance, child nutrition, health status and other psychosocial indicators (Udjo, 2014:505). The researcher is of the view that social grants have both useful and undesirable impacts on the lives of children living in poor households. CSG contributes more to reducing poverty in rural areas. The contribution of CSG is not only through financial assistance, but also to ensure that South Africa's children grow in an environment that enables them to get nutritional food to be able to deal with challenges of life (i.e., physical, and developmental) (Chirwa, 2016:122). South African government has developed free and subsidised feeding schemes in schools to feed children especially in public schools. If children get a balanced diet, they will soundly develop mentally and physically and will be able to participate in all physical activities at school. For this reason, the Department of Basic Education has since 1994 implemented a National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) to provide learners with a balanced nutritional diet and improve learner attendance in schools. The NSNP is funded through a conditional grant (Goldblatt, 2014:22).

CSG is an addition to the financial resources the family has and a way of reducing poverty to poor families (Kgotole, 2014:19). Social grants yield positive impacts for marginalised groups. Social grants reduce poverty and hunger and increase school attendance. Many poor families rely on social grants for survival. These families use CSG for their basic needs (UNICEF, 2015:14). Behrendt (2018:5), is of the view that the focus of CSG is on education, not curbing poverty, because what happens in households tends to be difficult for one to monitor rather than monitoring what happens at schools. The CSG also enables primary caregivers to participate in economic activities.

Some primary caregivers in their households often use the grant money for leisure, whereas others spend the grant on primary needs of the child. Other children from poor families who benefit from the grant are contending with other needs, such as shelter, clothes, provision of health care, and others (Gumede, 2019:499). According to Oliver (2021:20) in each household that receives CSG, there is a likely decrease of 8 to 14% in the probability of any child suffering from hunger. Households that receive the CSG are less likely to experience hunger. Due to more beneficiaries spending the grant on food. The CSG plays a fundamental role to poor households' food security and provide some financial security to primary caregivers who are unemployed or employed but earning below R52 800 per year if they are single, and R105 600 combined per year for married couples (Woolard & Leibbrandt, 2013:363). Furthermore, CSG assists with costs associated with school, such as paying school fees, buying additional school material, and paying for transportation in cases where the school is far. Social grants counter such costs by enhancing the capacity of households to have access to education for children (Department of Social Development, 2004:8). The purpose of CSG is to eradicate child poverty, to supplement the income of primary caregivers as well as the provisioning of basic needs and care for beneficiaries (Gumede, 2019:499).

Daidoneet *al.* (2019:1401) highlight that the major objectives of CSG are: to provide poor children with an integrated and sustainable security system in South Africa; prohibit children to do things that will put them in statutory substitute care; and to keep beneficiaries of CSG off the streets and out of juvenile detention centres as well as boosting the low income of primary caregivers and enabling them to care for the

children independent of the labour market. The researcher is of the view that social grants encourage people to depend on government. Although CSG is very useful, it also yields some difficult results as it encourages primary caregivers, often teenagers, to have multiple pregnancies with the aim to increase the amount of the grant they receive. In some households, CSG has caused many fights, where married and unmarried parents would have conflicts due to abusing this grant (Khubheka, 2013:30).

2.8 CONCLUSION

Poverty in South Africa has become a serious problem which is affecting multiple households. The constitution of South Africa, 1996 as well as the above discussed Acts and policy (distributive public policy) that support the alleviation of poverty in South Africa, particularly child poverty, have been discussed. The provision of social security is fundamental in combating extreme levels of poverty. CSG contributes to poor households regarding food stability and provides some monetary security to primary caregivers. This chapter has highlighted the legislative frameworks governing the use of CSG in South Africa. These legislative frameworks are fundamental in addressing higher poverty levels in South Africa. The democratic government through these legislative frameworks ensures that social assistance is applied and received by those who qualify for it, such as vulnerable groups in society. The chapter further discussed the grant application process, history of welfare programmes in OECD countries compared to SA as well as the impact of the CSG on disadvantaged persons in South Africa, as alluded by various academics. The government of South African has a legal obligation in the provision of social security and assistance to minors and the society at large. The chapters that follow outlines, the research design and methodology employed in the study.

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Research methodology reflects the foundation of the process of the entire research study. The methodology in research guides the procedure that the researcher should follow in conducting the research study. Schabenberger and Gotway (2017:33), define the research methodology as the methods employed by the researcher in their study to proceed with research. In addition, research methodology involves the structured process of conducting a research study, which involves the research design, data collection and data analysis (Mayer, 2015:53). The study employed a mixed methods approach. A mixed methods approach provides a philosophical view through providing a direction for the collection and analysis of data from multiple sources in a single study. The use of a mixed methods enabled the researcher to answer research questions with sufficient depth and breadth (Fetters, 2016). The employed mixed methods assisted the researcher to answer the research questions regarding the use of CSG. The following aspects of the research methodology were discussed: the research approach, research methods and design, target population, sample, data collection methods, the data type, and methods of data analysis.

3.2 RESEARCH APPROACH

The research approach is an action plan that leads how the research should be conducted systematically and efficiently. The plan involves several decisions taken by the researcher regarding the methods of collecting, analysing and interpreting data to reach a conclusion or findings (Arghode, 2012:40). Elliott (2018:2850), outlines that it is important to illustrate the research approach as strategy that effectively increases the validity of social research. The research approach is selected on the grounds and nature of the research problem. There are three approaches used in the field of Public Administration, such as qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods. Researchers typically select the quantitative approach when responding to research questions that require numerical data, while the qualitative approach makes use of research questions

that deal with textual data. When using a mixed-methods approach, researchers ask research questions that require both numerical and textual data. All three methods are relevant to conduct research, and these methods contribute more to scientific research (Ngozwana, 2018:19).

3.2.1 Quantitative research approach

According to Arghode (2012:40), the quantitative research approach makes use of 'hard data' such as numbers, graphs, and statistics to answer research questions to describe, quantify and measure facts of life. Quantitative research focuses on the performance, attitudes and behaviour as well as providing results in percentages to easily interpret (Apuke, 2017:4). The approach focuses on testing the hypothesis, and data is collected using surveys, experiments, and observations (Kumur,2019:17). When the research questions are descriptive and explanatory, researchers employ quantitative approach in their study. Researchers employ statistical methods to analyse the data and the results are presented in the form of statistical terminology, numbers, and graphs (Elliott, 2018:2855).

3.2.2 Qualitative research approach

Researchers use the qualitative approach to investigate and comprehend the meanings of participants or a group that is caused by human or social problem. The research process is made of emergence of questions and the steps followed by the researcher to complete the research study. The data collection often occurs in the participant's setting, analyses of data emanates from general themes, and the researcher interprets the meaning of the data (Schwand, 2014:18). Researchers use the qualitative approach to collect non-numerical data through observing, interviewing, site visits, written documents, and audio-visual materials (Antwi& Hamza, 2015:217). For this study, the researcher employed the mixed-methods approach. This method is discussed below.

3.2.3 Mixed methods

The mixed methods approach is the systematic combination of qualitative and quantitative methods in research studies. The mixed-methods approach is a method that consists of qualitative and quantitative data collected and analysed at the time. Adams (2015:492), views mixed methods as the class of research where the researcher combines or mixes qualitative and quantitative research techniques, methods,

approaches, concepts, or language in a single study. In this study, the researcher employed a mixed-methods approach that incorporated both the qualitative and quantitative methods. The mixed methods allowed the researcher to adopt methods of triangulation, which assisted in finding more informative and comprehensive data. The researcher employed mixed research methods to be able to triangulate by conducting semi-structured interviews. The researcher conducted semi-structured interviews using a semi-structured questionnaire with primary caregivers and social workers. Semi-structured questionnaires enabled the researcher to gather data on participants' perceptions and experiences on the use of CSG. The objective to collect qualitative and quantitative data from participants was for the researcher to have a deeper understanding of the use of CSG in the community of North West and its (CSG) impact on the mentioned community.

3.3 RESEARCH METHODS

Research methods involves numerous processes and approaches that researchers use in research. The research methods used by researchers should in essence be structured, scientific and valuable. The methods involve theoretical procedures and statistical approaches. Mason (2012:52), affirms that research methods assist researchers in determining research samples, collecting data, and finding a solution to a research problem. The researcher employed the below discussed research methods.

3.3.1 Mixed methods

As indicated in section 3.2.3, this study employed mixed-methods research approach. Burke and Onwuegbuzie (2015:1), indicates that mixed-methods research is a natural complement to using either of the traditional qualitative or quantitative research methods. Mixed methods involve the use of both qualitative and quantitative research techniques, methods, or approach in the same study. Through a mixed method approach the researcher triangulated qualitative and quantitative data. Triangulation, as a qualitative research strategy, is the use of multiple methods or data sources to develop a comprehensive understanding of a research problem or to test validity through the convergence of information from different sources (Carter, Bryant-Lukosius, DjCenso, Blythe & Neville, 2014:545). Therefore, the researcher triangulated through

conducting semi-structured interviews to primary caregivers and social workers by using semi-structured questioners. The researcher embarked on a door to door visits to identify primary caregivers as the Department of Social Development could not provide the list due to confidential policy in place. Primary caregivers were then requested to participate in the study, and also indicated to them that they were under no obligation to participate. Their participation depended on whether they were comfortable and agreed to participate. They were informed that they were free to decide not to participate in the study even if the interview had already commenced. The researcher further interviewed social workers from the department of social development. In the semi-structured interviews, the researcher indicated to participants that their participation was voluntary, and they can withdraw from the study at any time during the interview.

3.3.2 Research design

According to Kumur (2019:23), research design is a strategic plan for action that acts as a bridge between research questions and the execution or implementation of the research strategy. In addition, Van Dun, Hicks and Wilderom (2017:174), describe the research design as a plan that is used by the researcher to collect and analyse data. This means that the researcher focuses on the plan of the study and the procedure to be used to complete the research study. The purpose of clear research design is to produce information that is scientific. The research design is chosen on the grounds of whether the researcher deals with practical or theoretical data. For this study, the researcher employed an exploratory research design. An exploratory research design assists researchers to discover the best data collection method and sample selection (Sileyew, 2019:731). Through exploratory research design the researcher was able to appropriately use semi-structured interviews, semi-structured questionnaires as well as documents to collect the relevant data regarding the use of CSG in the community of the North West Province. The researcher was able to explore and gather data through posing structured and unstructured interview questions to primary caregivers and social workers who work closely with these primary caregivers. The researcher gathered primary data from participants based on their personal experience on the use of child grant.

Exploratory research normally relies on secondary methods of data collection such as review of literature and/or data, or qualitative approaches such as discussions that are informal with participants, and more formal approaches through in-depth interviews, focus groups, case studies or pilot studies (Mayer, 2015:53). Exploratory research is flexible and can address research questions of all types (i.e. what, why, how). Exploratory research is often used to generate formal hypotheses (Kumur, 2019:24). Therefore, the researcher pursues an exploratory research design to address the aim of this study, which is to explore the CSG in a community of the North West Province. An exploratory research design assists researchers to first conduct quantitative research, analyse data and build on the data to explain the data in more detail with qualitative research methods (Berman, 2017:555); however, for this study, the researcher conducted qualitative and quantitative research simultaneously to understand the research problem in depth and achieve the research objectives as well as answer the research questions. The researcher employed an exploratory research design as it enabled the researcher to explore situations and give meaning to social phenomena.

3.3.3. Target population

The population of study involves a group of persons that the researcher is interested in, and who qualify to be included in the study based on the information the researcher is looking for (Brink, Van der Walt & Van Renburg, 2013:23). For this study, the focus was on exploring the CSG in a community of the North West Province. The target population of this study consisted of participants who receive CSG on behalf of beneficiaries as well as social workers who ensure that primary caregivers use the grant for the purpose it is intended. The researcher targeted, single parents, married and unmarried couples who receive CSG on behalf of beneficiaries. The sample of this study consisted of two groups, i.e., 63 primary caregivers in a community of the North West Province as well as three social workers at the North West Department of Social Development. These social workers provide social welfare services at the provincial sphere of government. The researcher collected data from all the primary caregivers until saturation was reached (a point where the collection of new data does not bring additional new information on the issue under investigation). Five additional participants were interviewed to ensure validity of the saturation point.

3.3.4 Sampling

Sampling is when the researcher selects a group of people, events, behaviour or other elements from the population to conduct a study (Ngozwana, 2018:19). Sampling is defined as a selection of the targeted population, cautiously chosen to represent the entire population (Creswell, 2013:184). The sample of this study consisted of all primary caregivers of CSG and three social workers from the North West Department of Social Development. According to Engel (2014:17), proper sampling involves an adequately selected sample from the population.

3.3.4.1 Sampling frame

In this study, the researcher employed a non-probability sampling technique. Non-probability sampling is a sampling method where some members of the population do not have equal chances to participate in the study, unlike probability sampling (Taherdoost, 2016:23).

3.3.4.2 Sampling methods

Schwand (2014:207); maintains that purposive sampling enables the researcher to pick participants based on the consideration to have the needed knowledge and experience that are crucial to the study. Purposive sampling is a type of non-probability sampling in which sampled participants are not selected randomly, but based on their characteristics (Neuman, 2012:32). The sample of this study consisted of primary caregivers and social workers who know and understand CSG. The researcher sampled these two groups (primary caregivers and social workers) because they have relevant knowledge and understanding regarding the use of CSG. Purposive sampling is a type of non-probability sampling where the researcher chooses participants based on characteristics that qualifies them to be the holder of specific data needed for the study (Boddy, 2016:63). Therefore, for this study, participants were sampled on the basis of receiving CSG on behalf of beneficiaries.

3.3.4.3 Sampling size

Sampling refers to the selection of participants from the broader population the researcher is studying (Schabenberger & Gotway, 2017:33). The sample size indicates the aggregate

sum of participants selected in the study, and the number is mostly divided into sub-groups by demographics such as gender, age, and location so that the aggregate sample represents the whole population (Berman, 2017:556). The sample of this study consisted of 66 participants, i.e. Three social workers and 63 primary caregivers of CSG. The sample size for primary caregivers was determined upon the collected data. The reason was for the researcher to gather enough data to achieve the research objectives and answer the research questions.

3.5 DATA COLLECTION METHODS

Data collection is the process of gathering, measuring and analysing data to answer the research questions and achieve research objectives (Opie, 2019:66). The researcher was granted permission by the SCMS, NWU-EMELTEN-REC and the Department of Social Development. The sources of data collection in this study are semi-structured interviews, semi-structured questionnaires, observation, and documents. The researcher collected data from primary caregivers and social workers through semi-structured questionnaires as well as gathered data using documents related to the research topic. It should be noted that the researcher did not use the same semi-structured questionnaire for primary caregivers and social workers. The researcher interviewed all the participants using semi-structured questionnaires. The semi-structured questionnaire for primary caregivers and social workers can be found in Annexure E and Annexure F, respectively.

3.5.1 Semi-structured interviews

Semi-structured interviews involve a series of both open-ended questions and closed-ended questions based on the research topic to collect relevant data and answer the research questions. The open-ended nature of the question defines the research topic under investigation but provides opportunity for both the researcher and participants to discuss some questions in more detail (i.e., semi-structured interviews allow probing) (Jamor&Pourjamshidi, 2019:169). Probing assisted the researcher in getting a deeper understanding of CSG and its (CSG) impact on beneficiaries. Probing allowed the researcher to ask follow-up questions and gather more data. In this study, the researcher conducted semi-structured interviews using semi-structured questionnaires to explore CSG. Three social workers were individually interviewed to obtain a deeper understanding of the benefits of CSG, and experiences (negative and positive) regarding the use of CSG,

among other things. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with social workers at the North West Department of Social Development. The interview enabled the researcher to deduce first-hand information from the participants regarding their experiences, challenges, and opinions about CSG. The primary caregivers were also interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. The researcher embarked on door-to door visits to identify primary caregivers of CSG and requested them to be part of the study.

3.5.2 Semi-structured questionnaires

A questionnaire is an instrument for collecting data that consists of a series of questions for gathering information from participants (Kumur, 2019:18). Through a semi-structured questionnaire, the researcher was able to collect qualitative and quantitative data. The questions were in two broad forms. Some of the questions and their sequences are determined in advance, while others evolve as the interview proceeds. In this study, semi-structured questionnaires assisted the researcher in bringing new ideas/questions (probing) during the interview because of what the participants were saying.

Sixty-three (63) primary caregivers as well as three social workers from the North West Department of Social Development were interviewed through semi-structured interview. The researcher collected data using a semi-structured questionnaire, which assisted the researcher to have some form of discussion with participants rather than a straightforward question-and-answer (closed-ended) format. The semi-structured questionnaire was based on the literature reviewed. Assistance from the Statistics Department at the North-West University was sought, particularly to get advice regarding the validity of questions for statistical purposes. The sample size for primary caregivers was determined upon data completion. The researcher collected data until saturation was reached. The researcher collected enough data from 63 primary caregivers. The researcher reached saturation (i.e., reached from interviewing 66 participants) and the data was starting to replicate and consequently the researcher stopped. While the sample size for social workers is three, the reason for the researcher to sample the three social workers is because they (social workers) work with communities in the North West Province

3.5.3 Documents

A document refers to all types of written communication that assists researchers to understand the phenomena under investigation (Schwand, 2014:207). Documents compliments interviews and questionnaires when it comes to the collection of data. Documents assist researchers in answering questions that were not addressed through interviews, questionnaires, and focus groups (Kankam, 2019:85). The researcher gathered data from printed and electronic sources of data (i.e., published, and unpublished documents, annual reports, and articles). These are printed and electronic documents about/related to the topic under investigation (i.e., CSG).

3.6 DATA ANALYSIS METHODS

Data analysis is all about organising data that the researchers heard, collected and read in order to make sense of what they have learned. This involves understanding appropriate information collected from different sources, that includes focus groups, documents, and in-depth interviews and properly presenting what the data revealed (Creswell, 2014:42). For this study, the researcher identified two main sources of primary data, namely semi-structured interviews and a semi-structured questionnaire. Semi-structured interviews, and semi-structured questionnaires are referred to as primary sources of data, while the literature review is viewed as the secondary data (Schabenberger & Gotway, 2017:33). The researcher made use of SPSS and Atlas.ti to analyse the collected data to reach conclusions and formulate recommendations.

SPSS was used to analyse quantitative data, whereas Atlas.ti was used to analyse qualitative data. SPSS involves a software that performs statistical procedures in the social sciences field. It assists the researchers in analysing data to generate meaning (Opie, 2019:309). According to Bazeley (2013:26), Atlas.ti is used by researchers to analyse text, visual and audio data. The Atlas.ti software assists researchers in the analysis process by interpreting data using coding and annotating activities. The researcher started by coding participants' responses from the questionnaires and captured the coded data in the SPSS software. Coding is an analytical process in which raw data is transformed into a format understandable by statistical software. The researcher assigned each response a numerical code before it can be captured. Researchers can use Atlas.ti to comprehend literature review and exploring data, as well as using variety of available functions to code,

sorting data, study quotations, and creating links that facilitate the process of understanding the original meaning behind the collected data.

3.7 CONCLUSION

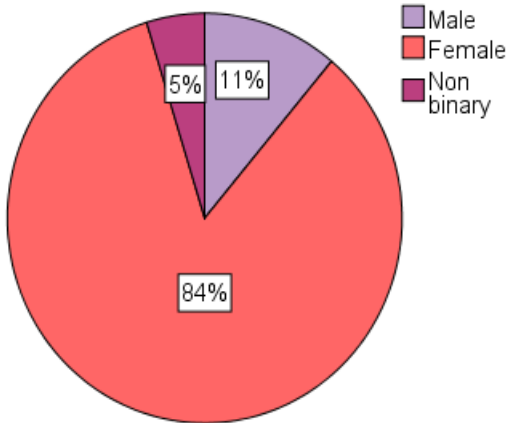
Chapter three provides the research methodology employed for the research study, as well as data collection methods used in the study. The research methodology used in this study assisted the researcher to achieve the study's objectives and answer research questions. The methodology further helped the researcher to gain clarity and understand the effectiveness of CSG and the impact of the grant on beneficiaries. The chapter further discusses sampling techniques, and the sample size used in the research study is also provided in this chapter. It further outlines the population of the study as well as the reason for the sample. The results of the data collected using mixed methods as explained in this chapter are presented and discussed in the following chapters. The methodology employed by the researcher assisted the researcher in achieving the research objectives and answering the research questions as well as broadening the researcher's understanding and knowledge of CSG. The reason for choosing the methodology was discussed in detail and the way it assisted in generating the data for the study. The next chapter presents and analyses the acquired data.

CHAPTER 4: DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter four displays the presentation and interpretation of data acquired. This chapter deals with analysing the data collected by the researcher during semi-structured interviews. The researcher collected data using semi-structured questionnaires. The semi-structured questionnaire for primary caregivers of CSG was divided into two sections, namely biographical information, and the exploration of CSG. In this study, the researcher analysed data through the assistance of statistician using SPSS and Atlas.ti tools.

4.2 DATA PRESENTATION FOR PRIMARY CAREGIVERS



Summary of biographical information

		Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	7	11.1
	Female	53	84.1
	Nonbinary	3	4.8
	Total	63	100.0
Age	20-30 years	25	39.7
	31-40 years	25	39.7
	41-60 years	11	17.5

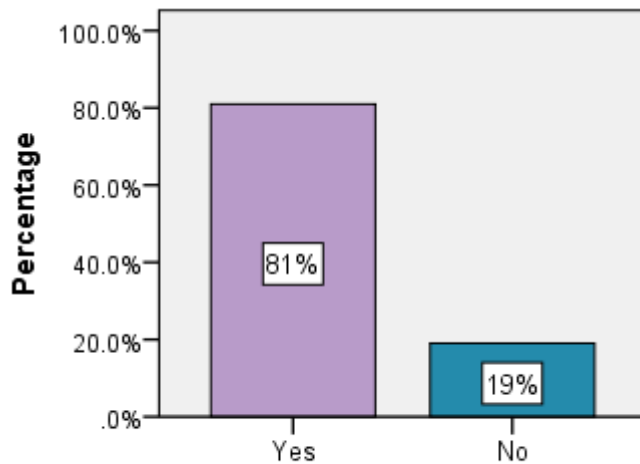
	Above 60 Years	2	3.2
	Total	63	100.0
Number of children receiving CSG	One	17	27.0
	Two	27	42.9
	Three	12	19.0
	Four	7	11.1
	Total	63	100.0
Employment status	Employed	12	19.0
	Unemployed	51	81.0
	Total	63	100.0
Total household income	R0 to R1000	37	58.7
	R1001 to R2000	16	25.4
	R2001 to R3000	7	11.1
	R3001 to R4000	3	4.8
	Total	63	100.0

The above table depicts a summary of biographical information for primary caregivers. The table shows the frequency, percentage, for the gender, age group, number of beneficiaries of CSG per caregiver, employment status as well as the total amount of household income. The table indicates that female primary caregivers are dominant (84%) in receiving CSG and these primary caregivers receive CSG for two or more children. Majority of primary caregivers receiving CSG are in the Middle Ages between (31-40 years). The graph further summaries that the frequency of unemployed primary caregivers is 57, therefore majority of primary caregivers are unemployed in the studies community. The highest total household income ranges from 0 to R1 000 per month.

Section B

4.2.1 Exploration of CSG

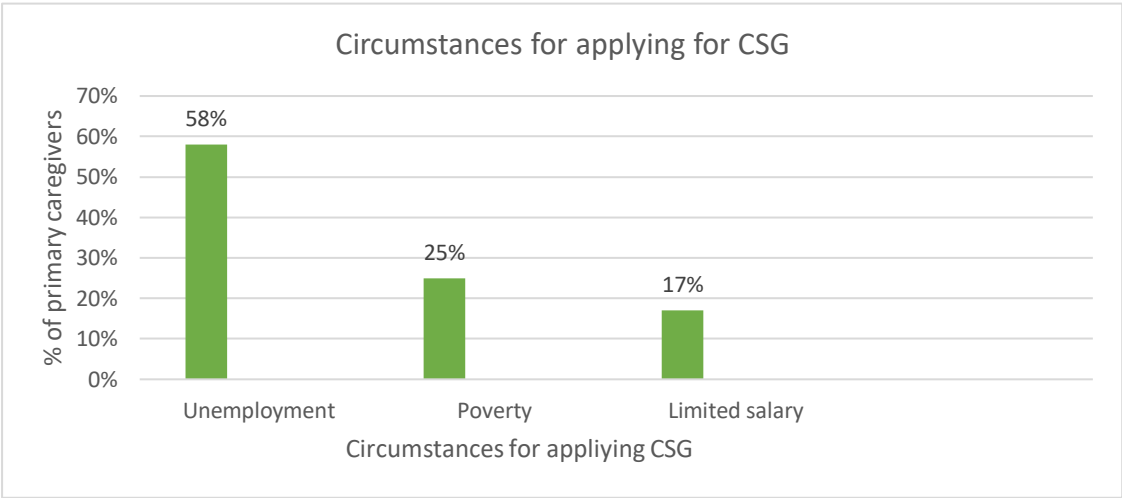
Bar graph 2: Does CSG improve the quality of the beneficiaries lives?



Source: Developed by NWU Data Analyst, 2021

In the graph above, 19% of participants do not agree that CSG enhances the quality of the beneficiaries' lives. They are of the view that CSG is not enough. It can only be spent on food or the beneficiaries' educational needs. This leaves them with a choice to choose between buying food or paying educational costs for the beneficiary such as paying school transport or buying extra required school material. However, majority (81%) of primary caregivers agree that CSG improve the quality of beneficiaries' lives. CSG assists primary caregivers to meet basic needs of beneficiaries. The reason for these caregivers to feel that the grant is not enough to cover all the basic costs of beneficiaries might be due to higher number of primary caregivers do not have other means of getting an income. The CSG is their only source of income. They entirely depend on the grant. Most households that receive the CSG, have experienced enhanced social status as well as built their relations with others within the society they live in. These households have experienced a reduced risk behaviour as their social security safety net has improved.

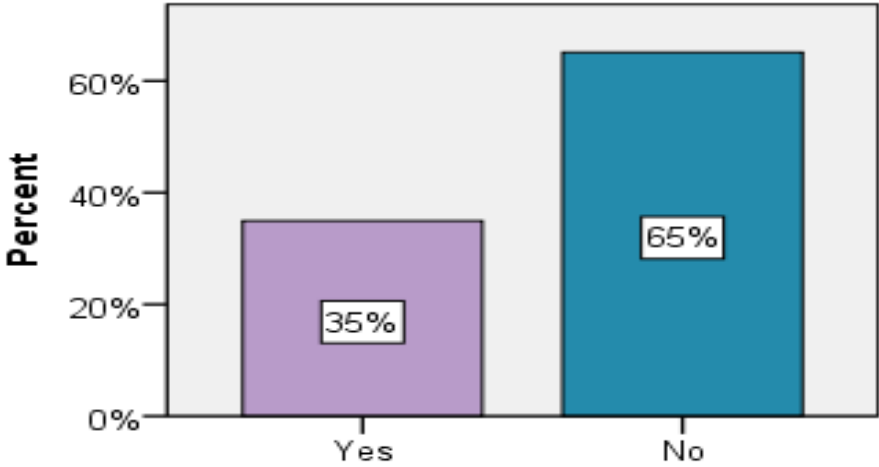
Bar graph 3: Which circumstances enable you to apply for the grant?



Source: researcher, 2021

From the participants' responses, 58% of primary caregivers applied for the CSG because of being unemployed. These caregivers depend on CSG to look after their children. Twenty-five percent (25%) of participants agree that they applied for the grant due to living in poverty. They were unable to provide for themselves and their dependents, and therefore they also depend on CSG. Seventeen percent (17%) of participants are employed and they all agree that their salary is not sufficient to cover all their primary needs, including the basic needs of their children as well as covering educational costs for beneficiaries. For these reasons, they applied for CSG to complement their salaries and to be able to afford and pay for all the household necessities and cover educational costs for their children.

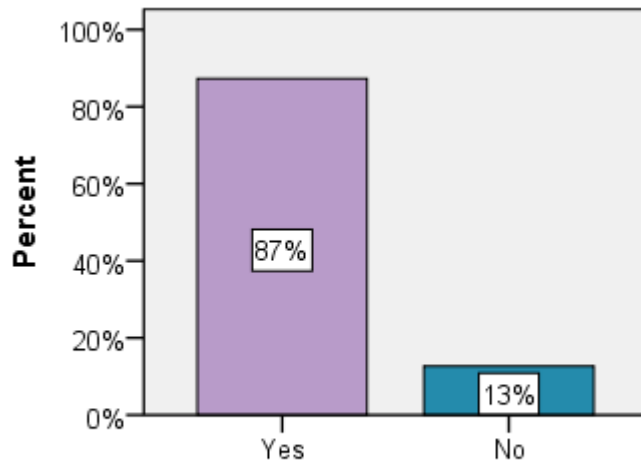
Bar graph 4: Besides CSG, do you have any other income?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

From the presented results above, 65% of the participants do not have alternative income; they are not participating in the labour force. These primary caregivers are entirely reliant on CSG. This means the CSG does not only focus on the child, but also focus on meeting basic needs for the family. However, 35% of participants have alternative income. They are either working or getting assistance from their neighbours, relatives or, NGOs through food parcels or food vouchers. Majority of primary caregivers of CSG are depended on the grant as their only source of income, rather than seeking formal employment.

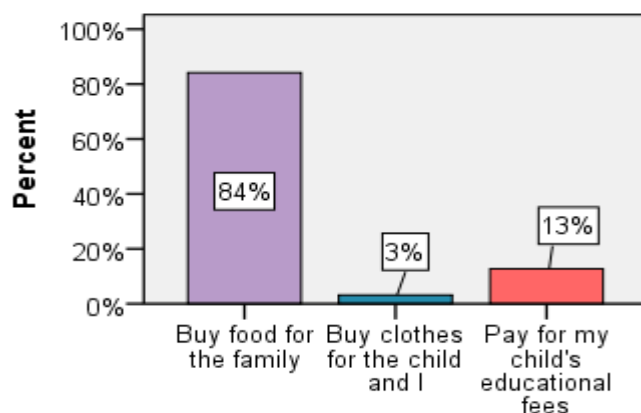
Bar graph 5: In your view, does CSG reduce poverty?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

From the graph above, most participants (87%) agree that CSG reduces poverty. Through the grant, many participants' families can meet their basic needs. This means the grant has improved access to food, clothing, and settling educational costs. According to Grinspun (2016), CSG not only reduces poverty but also contributes to realising the children's right to social assistance. The CSG is also associated with nutritional, health and education outcomes. However, the minority of participants (13%) argue that CSG does not reduce poverty. When the researcher probed by asking why they believe that CSG does not reduce poverty, they all agreed it is not enough, as food is expensive, especially after and during the Covid-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the grant has decreased (81%) the number of children experiencing poverty.

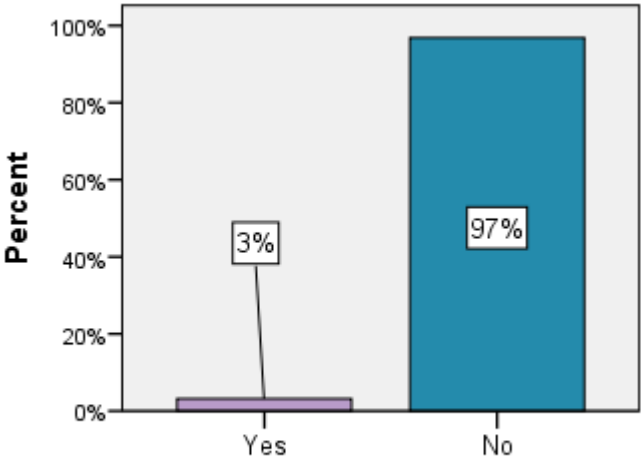
Bar graph 6: How does CSG assist you?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

Based on the participants' responses, 84% spend the grant on buying food for the whole family, 13% spend the grant on paying for the beneficiary's educational needs, and 3% buy clothes for the child and for themselves. This shows that the grant is spent on different things depending on the needs of the family. It also shows that the grant does not only contribute to the child, but to every member of the household.

Bar graph 7: Is the grant sufficient to cover all the beneficiary's needs?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

In the above graph, only 3% of primary caregivers agree that CSG is sufficient, while 97% of primary caregivers are of the view that CSG is not sufficient. They believe the grant is not enough to provide for all the primary needs of the children and it is shown to be more effective if it focuses on the child only as well as when the primary caregivers have alternative form of income.

Relationship between perceptions of child support grant and the respondents' biographical information

	Chi-square tests	Value
Gender * Does CSG improve quality lives of beneficiaries?	Likelihood ratio	1.639
Gender * Which circumstances enabled you to apply for CSG?	Likelihood	.869

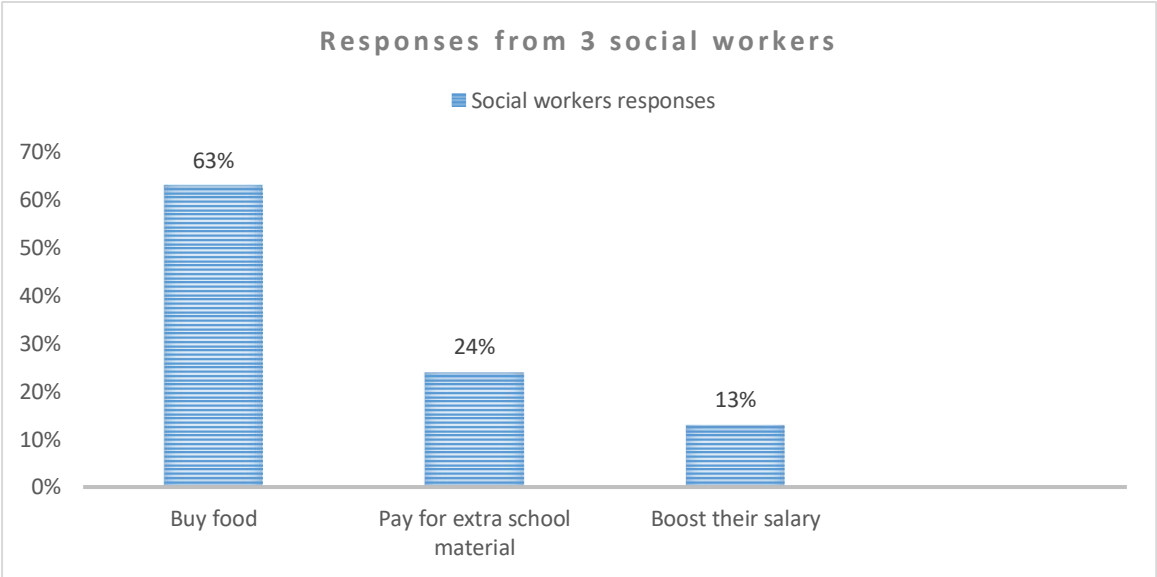
	ratio	
Gender * Besides CSG, do you have any other income?	Likelihood ratio	6.63 2
Gender * Does CSG reduce poverty?	Likelihood ratio	.961
Gender * How does CSG assist you?	Likelihood ratio	6.75 0
Gender * Is the CSG sufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' needs?	Likelihood ratio	.704
Age * Does CSG improve the quality of lives of beneficiaries?	Likelihood ratio	2.07 5
Age * Which circumstances enabled you to apply for CSG?	Likelihood ratio	5.84 9
Age * Besides CSG, do you have any other income?	Likelihood ratio	6.13 3
Age * Does CSG reduce poverty?	Likelihood ratio	4.59 1
Age * How does CSG assist you?	Likelihood ratio	5.19 7
Age * Is the CSG sufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' needs?	Likelihood ratio	6.56 6
Number of children receiving CSG * Does CSG improve the quality of lives of beneficiaries?	Likelihood ratio	.371
Number of children receiving CSG * Which circumstances enabled you to apply for CSG?	Likelihood ratio	16.4 85
Number of children receiving CSG * Besides CSG, do you have any other income?	Likelihood ratio	6.23 7
Number of children receiving CSG * Does CSG reduce poverty?	Likelihood ratio	1.29 9
Number of children receiving CSG * How does CSG assist you?	Likelihood ratio	3.41 6
Number of children receiving CSG * Is the CSG sufficient to cover	Likelihood	3.47

all the beneficiaries' needs?	ratio	7
Employment status * Which circumstances enabled you to apply for CSG?	Likelihood Ratio	52.2 12
Employment status * Besides CSG, do you have any other income?	Likelihood Ratio	31.0 35
Employment status * Does CSG reduce poverty?	Likelihood Ratio	3.64 5
Employment status * How does CSG assist you?	Likelihood Ratio	9.39 3
Employment status * Is the CSG sufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' needs?	Likelihood Ratio	1.00 8
Total household income * Does CSG improve the quality of lives of beneficiaries?	Likelihood ratio	6.11 3
Total household income * Which circumstances enabled you to apply for CSG?	Likelihood ratio	38.1 45
Total household income * Besides CSG, do you have any other income?	Likelihood ratio	25.7 48
Total household income * Does CSG reduce poverty?	Likelihood ratio	4.61 4
Total household income * How does CSG assist you?	Likelihood ratio	6.61 0
Total household income * Is the CSG sufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' needs?	Likelihood ratio	4.51 3

The above table provides a summary of the likelihood of the responses of primary caregivers towards all the semi-structured questions asked based on their gender, age, unemployment status and total household income. The table shows the total value of each question that primary caregivers of CSG responded to. The total value of each response to questions differs depending on the majority of responses by primary caregivers of CSG at the community of the North West Province

4.3 DATA PRESENTATION FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

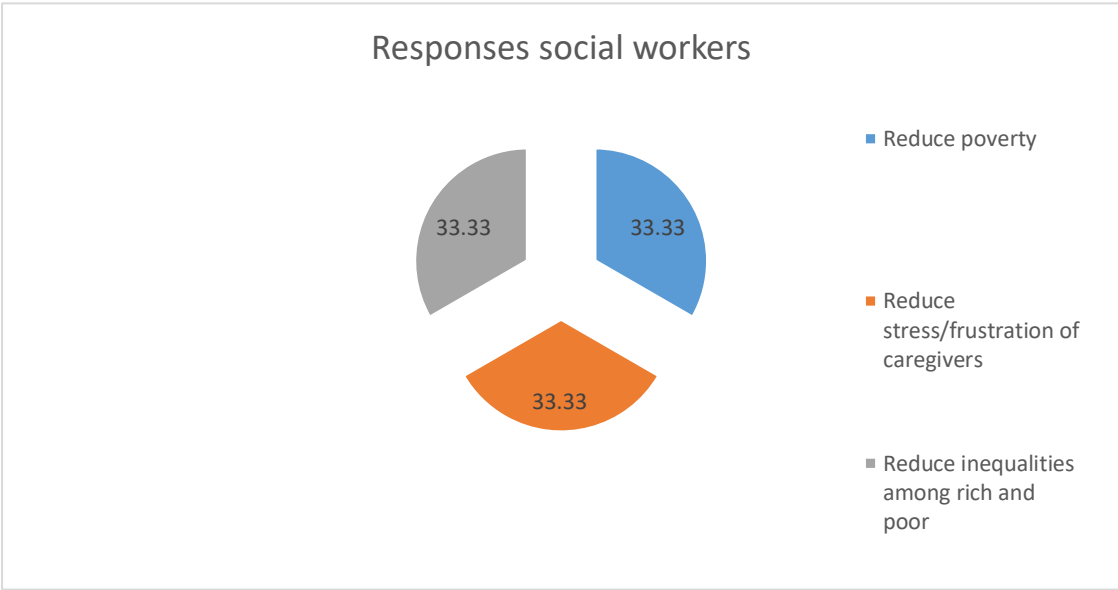
Bar graph 8: What is the importance of CSG on primary caregivers?



Source: Developed by the researcher, 2021

In the bar graph above, social workers explained how CSG impacts on the individual lives of primary caregivers. Sixty-three percent of social workers are of the view that caregivers buy food with the grant, while 24% agree that caregivers can pay for all the educational costs for the beneficiary and 13% who are employed are of the view that CSG boosts the salaries of caregivers. Primary caregivers can pay for other household costs with their salaries, while the CSG only looks after the child. The three social workers agree that CSG is often effective when the caregivers are employed or has alternative income. Therefore, the CSG enables beneficiaries to be active role players in the economy as they participate temporarily in economic activities during paydays around markets and malls which supports local business.

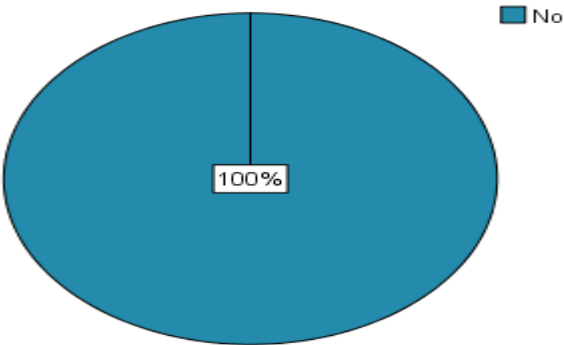
Pie chart 5: What impact has CSG made to the community?



Source: Developed by the researcher, 2021

The pie chart above explains that CSG assists in reducing poverty, contributes to social cohesion and has a positive impact on the economic opportunities of households. The CSG further increases the number of disadvantaged children enrolling in schools. It has reduced the stress of primary caregivers due to unemployment and being unable to provide for their children. CGS has reduced inequalities within the community of the North West Province.

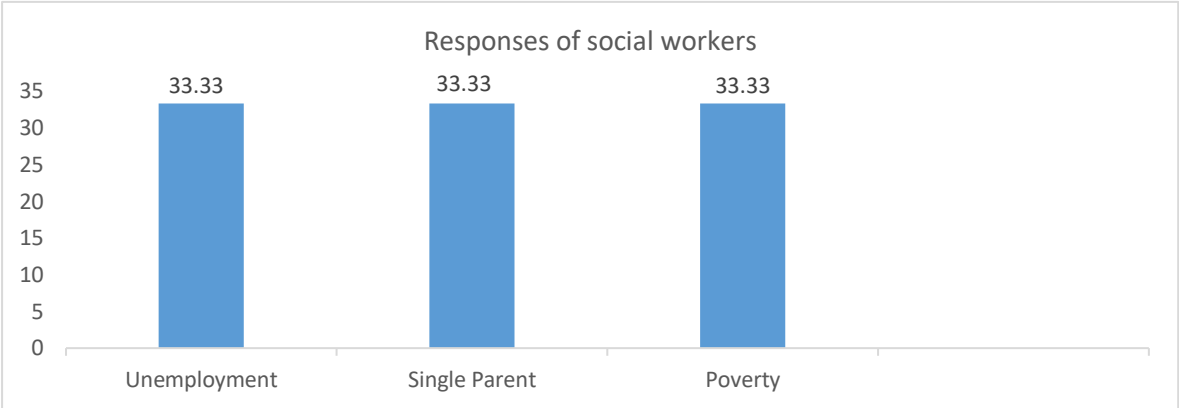
Pie chart 6: Do you think CSG provides for all the basic needs of beneficiaries?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

CSG is considered as a social security relief for sustenance and not enough to cater to all the basic needs of a child. According to the pie chart above, all the social workers at the North West Department of Social Development are in agreement that CSG does not cover for all the needs of beneficiaries. Based on them (social workers), the CSG is insufficient to cover the basic needs of beneficiaries, such as buying healthy food for the child, paying for educational costs, and buying seasonal clothes for the beneficiary.

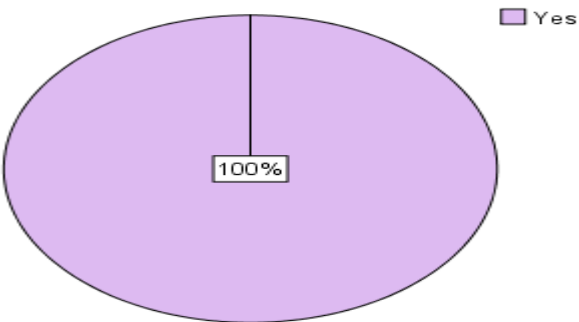
Bar graph 9: Which circumstances enabled primary caregivers to apply for CSG?



Source: Developed by the researcher, 2021

Based on the above bar graph, social workers responded with the same views on the circumstances that enable caregivers to apply for child support grant. They believe primary caregivers apply for CSG for different reasons, such as being unemployed, being a single parent and living in poverty. According to social workers, many (81%) households in the community of the North West Province are headed with adults that are not employed in either the formal or informal sector, and where it is unlikely that any household members derive income from labour or income-generating activities. Therefore, the community is dominated with grant-receiving households and the primary caregivers in these households are often single parents.

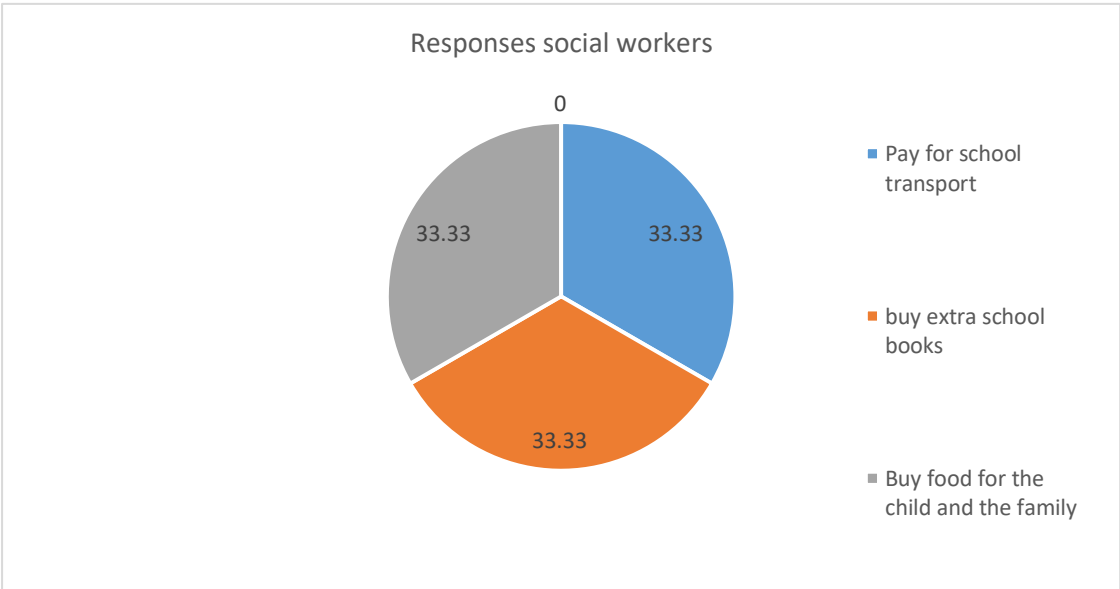
Pie chart 7: Do you think CSG promotes domestic violence?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

Based on the pie chart above, CSG contributes to domestic violence. Participants agree that some primary caregivers fight among themselves for the CSG. They use CSG for their personal things such as buying alcohol, clothes for themselves and paying burial societies. They tend to forget that the grant is supposed to assist the child and not meant for their personal leisure.

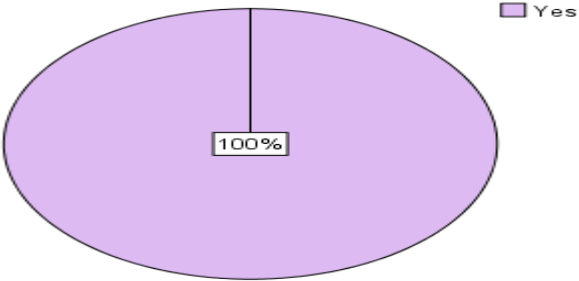
Pie chart 8: How does CSG assist beneficiaries?



Source: researcher, 2021

The pie chart shows that CSG plays a fundamental role not only to beneficiaries but also to the family as a whole by buying food. Social workers explained that CSG often assists in buying groceries, paying for beneficiaries' educational needs such as additional books, and paying transport fees in cases where the child travels to school.

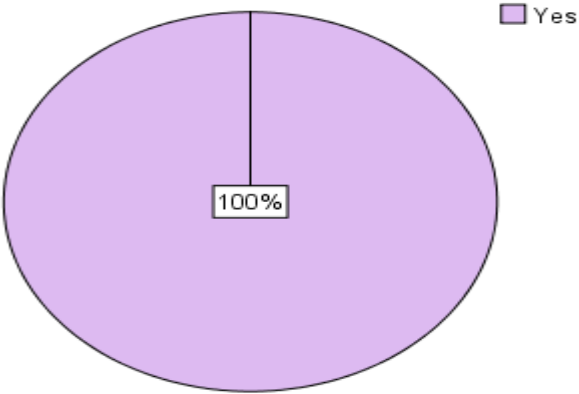
Pie chart 9: Do the selection criteria for CSG cater for all the primary caregivers?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

According to the social workers, the requirements for CSG are fair and accommodate all primary caregivers. They all agree that primary caregivers earning above R4 000 should not apply for the grant because their salaries are sufficient to cover their basic needs and the basic needs of the child.

Pie chart 10: Do you think CSG encourage unemployed women to fall pregnant?

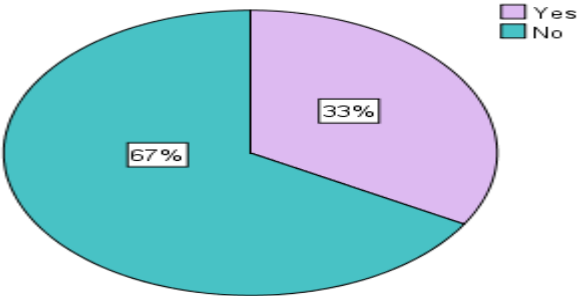


Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

The pie chart above depicts that all the participants agree that CSG has made an enormous impact to the community. Out of three social workers interviewed, they all agree that CSG increases pregnancy rates because some caregivers fall pregnant with the aim of increasing the amount of the grant they receive. According to these social workers, primary caregivers claim that there is no employment, and therefore they depend entirely on the grant. These social workers indicate that having a child without a

stable source of income is a choice and should not be rewarded through the grant. CSG creates a dependency as primary caregivers choose to have kids to access social security benefits.

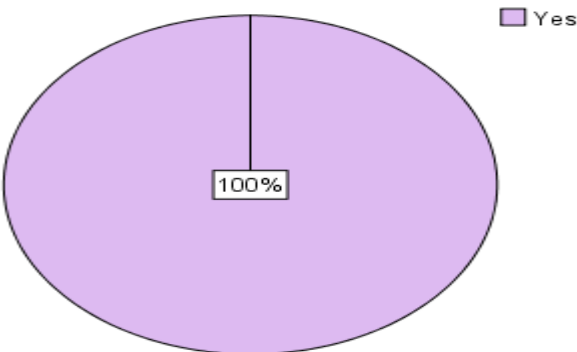
Pie chart 11: Do you think CSG enhances laziness?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

Out of three social workers interviewed, only 67% of the social workers agree that CSG enhances laziness. They also believe CSG discourages employment as many primary caregivers are not actively looking for employment and acknowledge the grant as their monthly income. However, 33% argue that CSG does not enhance laziness; it only assists with the basic needs of beneficiaries and reduced inequalities within the community.

Pie chart 12: In your opinion, does CSG reduce poverty?



Source: NWU Data Analyst, 2021

The pie chart above explains that all the 3 participants interviewed are of the view that CSG has made an enormous impact to the community. They all agree that CSG has

reduced poverty since its inception in South Africa. They further explained that CSG often assists in buying groceries and paying for beneficiaries' educational needs in the community of the North West Province.

4.4 RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

4.4.1 Research question one: **What is the importance of the CSG in a community of the North West Province?** The results of the research question one are shown in bar graph 2, bar graph 5, 6 and 8 above. The importance of the CSG in the community of the North West Province is that the grant improves the quality of life for all the beneficiaries. Based on the results of the study, majority of households (81%) receiving the CSG are less likely to experience hunger. The CSG is important to the studied community as they believe the grant reduces poverty, furthermore, the CSG is important as it enables primary caregivers to have access to basic needs of beneficiaries such as food, educational material and clothes as well as participating in the economic activities.

4.4.2 Research question two: **How does CSG contribute to poverty reduction?** Based on the above sections (4.2 and 4.3). Question two is answered by bar graph 6 and pie chart 5. The CSG reduces the stress of primary caregivers through enabling them to afford the primary needs of beneficiaries as per section 27(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, which provides that everyone has the right have access to social assistance such as the CSG. The CSG has reduced inequalities between the rich and the poor in the community of the North West Province. South Africa is categorised as a high middle income country; however, the World Bank classifies the country as the most unequal country in the world (World Bank, 2020). Therefore, in South Africa, including the community of the North West Province, income and wealth are heavily racialized. The CSG further provides beneficiaries with access to primary education, through the grant school enrolments have increased in the community.

4.4.3 Research question three: **How effective is the criteria put into practice by the North West Department of Social Development to select primary caregivers?** The results of the study revealed that the criteria used by the South African Social Security

Agency to select beneficiaries is effective, fair and accommodates all the disadvantages primary caregivers. Single primary caregivers who earn below R4000 and married couples earning below R8000 combined salary are considered to qualify for the grant. However not all children of eligible age from poor backgrounds benefit from the CSG, secondly the cost of running the CSG programme in putting plans into effect (increasing number of beneficiaries) as well as the outcomes of the intended programme may not be realised due to mismanagement and mal-administration associated with the implementation of the CSG as more focus is on previously disadvantaged group rather than subgroups in South Africa.

4.4.4 Research question four: **Which needs of the beneficiaries are provided for by CSG?** The CSG is aimed at lower income households to assist primary caregivers with the costs of necessities of the child, therefore this question was answered by pie chart no 8. The results of the study depict that the CSG is used by primary caregivers in the community of the North West Province to pay for the child's school transportation costs, buying school material and food for the beneficiary. Therefore, through the CSG primary caregivers are able to have financial security to access all their basic needs.

4.4.5 Research question five: **How does CSG assist primary caregivers in providing for all the basic needs of the beneficiary?** The last question is answered by bar graph 8 and pie chart 5. The CSG is the only financial source of income to majority (81%) of primary caregivers, these primary caregivers can provide for the basic needs of their children. The grant contributes to reducing poverty in the community of the North West Province through provisioning of financial security to disadvantaged households. The grant further reduces the frustration of being unemployed. The grant further boosts the confidence of primary caregivers for being able to take proper care for their children. Lastly the grant has reduced inequality between disadvantaged primary caregivers and those who have the means to provide for their children.

4.5 CONCLUSION

This chapter has pointed out the positive impact of CSG on the child's health and development. An analysis of this data has revealed that, even though CSG has a fundamental impact and reduces poverty, it is not sufficient to cover all the needs of the

beneficiary, especially by caregivers who are unemployed. Due to the CSG not being sufficient to cover for the needs of beneficiaries, primary caregivers end up falling pregnant with the aim of increasing the CSG amount they receive on behalf of the beneficiary. The results further revealed that unemployment prevents the poor from investing in the child's future, as many families use the CSG to meet their immediate households needs. Most disadvantaged families use the CSG for the basic needs of whole family rather than the child, *per se*.

CHAPTER 5: SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the conclusions of the study drawn from the research findings, and the chapter offers recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of policies on the CSG. The study looked at the role that CSG plays on beneficiaries and the impact it has made to the community of the North West Province. Summary of the chapters is discussed below.

5.2 SUMMARY OF THE PRECEDING CHAPTERS

Chapter 1 dealt with the orientation to the study, covering necessary aspects such as the aim and objectives of the study. The chapter explained the reason for the study through the problem statement of the study as well as outlining the research objectives, and research questions that arise from the problem statement.

Chapter 2 introduced the theoretical basis of this research study. The literature review addressed the child support grant and poverty alleviation in South Africa. The requirements for eligibility for the grant in South Africa, and the grant application process, the history of CSG in South African and other countries (i.e., OECD countries), impact of the CSG on beneficiaries as well as legislative frameworks governing the use of CSG in South Africa were discussed.

Chapter 3 addressed the question of research methodology, where aspects related to the research approach, methods, design, population, and sampling were discussed. It is in this chapter where the researcher gains clarity and understands the effectiveness of CSG and the impact of the grant on beneficiaries through the research methodology employed.

Chapter 4 dealt with data analysis and interpretation of the study. In this chapter, the data collected by the researcher during semi-structured interviews was analysed through SPSS and Atlas.ti and interpreted. Different charts are used to present all the information collected and analysed.

5.3 CONCLUSIONS OF THE STUDY BASED ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The key objective of the study was to **explore the child support grant in a community of the North West Province**. The research identified problems and challenges regarding to the grant at the studied community. The results revealed that there is a high rate of unemployment among primary caregivers of CSG. The results also revealed that caregivers are lazy to actively look for employment. The CSG creates domestic violence between caregivers as they end up fighting for the grant to use it for their own personal needs. Furthermore, some caregivers fall pregnant with the aim of increasing the CSG amount.

The second objective was **to assess how CSG contributes to poverty reduction**. The research found that CSG brings positive and negative impacts to the beneficiaries and primary caregivers. Since the implementation of the grant in 1998, the levels of poverty have been reduced by the CSG, especially among families who are entirely dependent on CSG and have no other sources of income. The grant has reduced the frustration and stress of primary caregivers led by unemployment. Through the grant, caregivers can provide for their children's basic needs. The CSG has reduced inequalities between rich and the poor children. However, some primary caregivers are now reluctant to actively look for employment. They treat the grant as a monthly salary. This has created high dependency on the government. Some caregivers end up falling pregnant with the aim of increasing the CSG and this increases the pregnancy rates within the community, especially among the youth. The CSG creates domestic violence as some caregivers fight for it to use it for their personal needs, such as buying alcohol, paying burial societies, and purchasing their own clothes.

The third objective is **to determine the effectiveness of the criteria used by the South African Security Agency to select primary caregivers**. Based on the above objective, the research found that the current procedure used by SASSA to select primary caregivers who qualify for the grant is fair and not biased. To qualify for the grant, both the applicant and the beneficiary need to be South African citizens and reside in South Africa, the household income needs to be below R4 000 for single caregivers per month, while for married caregivers, the household income needs to be R8 000 or below. The beneficiary needs to be below the age of 18 years.

The fourth objective is **to determine the basic needs of beneficiaries provided by CSG**. The research found that CSG is often used for various purposes depending on the household. Based on various responses, CSG is used for educational needs of the beneficiaries such as paying for school transportation in a case where the school is far and buying extra school material. In other households, CSG is used to provide food for the beneficiary as well as the entire household. Lastly, other primary caregivers use the grant to purchase or layby seasonal clothes for the beneficiaries.

The last objective was to **determine whether CSG caters for all the basic needs of beneficiaries**. The research has found that many participants are of the view that CSG is not sufficient to cover all the basic needs of beneficiaries. Primary caregivers agree that with the CSG amount they cannot provide for all the basic needs of their children such as buying food, paying for educational needs, purchasing clothes as well as purchasing toys. Primary caregivers therefore need to choose every month how to spend the grant for the benefit of their children. Participants were of the view that the R460 CSG amount per month is not sufficient to cover for all the basic needs of the beneficiaries. They suggested that government could at least consider providing them with food vouchers in addition to the CSG amount they currently receive.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STUDY

Based on the findings in this study, the researcher proposed the below recommendations:

- Due to high unemployment level among caregivers of CSG at the community of the North West Province, the democratic government could consider provision of social grants by encouraging primary caregivers to work for it.
- In five years, the government in power may consider reducing the number of beneficiaries to three (3) children so as to encourage parental responsibility and avoid an increase in pregnancies with the aim of increasing the amount for CSG.
- Government could also consider introducing a quarterly monitoring system of CSG and the child's well-being to improve the effectiveness of the grant.
- All the stakeholders involved in funding the social security programmes (including CSG), like the World Bank, OECD and political structures may consider evaluating

the effects of unintended outcomes of CSG by routinely conducting research that would give insight on how to offset the unintended results.

- As primary caregivers have suggested, government may consider introducing a food voucher system that will complement the CSG amount. In that way, the CSG will focus entirely on the child as most of the caregivers use it by buying food for the whole family.
- The study has found CSG to be insufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' basic needs. Therefore, the government could in future consider increasing the grant by more than R10 as it usually does.
- The government in five (5) years may consider saving ten percent (10%) of the amount of grant money given to primary caregivers for beneficiaries to further their studies in higher educational facilities to avoid disappointed by bursaries due to excessive number of applicants.
- The Department should provide assessments before, during, and prior to receiving the CSG to check how the grants impacts on various disadvantaged households.

5.4 CONCLUSION

The purpose of this chapter was to draw conclusions from the study and propose recommendations. It is clear that CSG impacted positively and negatively to disadvantaged families in the community of the North West Province. The research found that although CSG improves the wellbeing of the beneficiaries, it cannot sustain covering all the basic needs of beneficiaries as well as sustaining the whole family. The provision of CSG has given rise to the challenge of misusing the grant by caregivers for their own personal leisure as well as not making informed decisions through increment of pregnancy rates with the aim of increasing the CSG amount.

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ANNEXURE A: REQUEST LETTER



P O Box 2116
MAHIKENG
2745
05 February 2020

The Head of the Department
North West Department of Social Development
Private Bag X5
MMABATHO
2735

Dear Sir/Madam

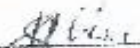
REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A RESEARCH STUDY

I hereby request permission to conduct a research study in your institution. I am currently a registered master's student in Public Administration under the faculty of Economic Management and Sciences at the North West University, Mahikeng Campus. The topic for my research study is titled: 'The Impact of Child Support Grant on the community of Dithakong village'. My student number is 26287226. The sample of my study consists of social workers (2) and the parents of beneficiaries of the child support grant at Dithakong village.

Upon the completion of the study, I undertake to provide the North West Department of Social Development with a bound copy of the full research report. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 082 930 9760 or email address on kegoale04@gmail.com



Student: Ms KG Lenyatsa
Date: 05/02/2020



Supervisor: Dr. SV Ubi
Date: 05/02/2020



Co-Supervisor: Mr L Masilo
Date: 05/02/2020



ANNEXTURE B: APPROVAL LETTER



social development

Department
Social Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Private Bag X 8 • Mmabatho, 2735 • President House Building, University Drive • MMABATHO
Tel: +27 (18) 388 - 2090/1668 • Fax: +27 (18) 384 - 5571 info@ndp.gov.za

Eng: Dr. Motshedi, 082 474 9189

**DR. SV. UBISI
NORTH WEST UNIVERSITY
MAFIKENG CAMPUS)
FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**


**SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO CONDUCT RESEARCH WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT
IN RESPECT OF MS. KG. LENYATSA - STUDENT NO: 26287226**

Dear Sir/Madam

This communicate serves to inform you that the Acting Head of Department granted Ms. KG. Lenyatsa, Student No: 26287226 the permission to conduct research within the Department for academic development purposes.

The registered research title is: "The Impact of the Child Support Grant on the Community of Dithakong Village".

We wish you good luck with your research project.


**Ms. MM. MEKGWE
ACTING HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**


DATE

Lefapha la Tlhabololo Loaga • Departement van Maatskaplike Ontwikkeling



ANNEXTURE C: CONSENT LETTER FOR PRIMARY CAREGIVERS OF CSG



Dear participant

You are hereby invited to participate in a research study conducted by Ms KG Lenyatsa, a master's student from the Department of Public Administration at the North-West University. The research study is titled: Exploration of the child support grant (CSG) in a community of the North West Province. The purpose of the study is to determine the importance of the child support grant. Permission has been granted by the North West Department of Social Development to conduct the research study. The gains for you if you take part in this study could lead to an improvement in the CSG application process and the Department of Social Development will be aware of the effects of CSG (be it positive/negative) in a community of the North West Province and this will assist the Department in future planning processes. Participation is voluntary and you can withdraw at any stage from participating in the study. The information to be collected will be treated with confidentiality and the only personal information required is the age, gender, other source of income, the number of the beneficiaries and any source of additional income. Please take note of the following:

- 1 This is an anonymous study; your name will not be written on the questionnaire and the provided answers will be treated confidentially.
- 2 Participation in this study is voluntary; you may decide to withdraw any time you wish to.
- 3 This study will be used for academic purposes, which include publishing an article in an academic journal.

- 4. A semi-structured questionnaire will be used to conduct semi-structured interviews, which will take approximately 15 minutes.
- 5. There are no identified risks involved in the research.
- 6. There are no costs involved.
- 7. The results of the conducted study will be disseminated through community meetings, which will be arranged by the ward councillor and ward committee members in collaboration with the researcher (me).
- 8. Ticking the box below means that you participated in the study voluntarily and agreed that your provided personal information be used in the study.
- 9. Please contact me if you need any further clarity or want to withdraw your consent after the interview at: 082 930 9780 or kegolee04@gmail.com.

Declaration by participant

By ticking the box below, I agree to take part in the research study titled: Exploration of the child support grant in a community of the North West Province voluntarily. I also agree that my personal information be used for academic purposes.

Placedate

ANNEXURE D: INFORMED CONSENT FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

Title of the research study: Exploration of the child support grant in a community of the North West Province

Dear participant,

You are hereby invited to take part in a research study that forms part of a master's degree study. Permission to conduct the research study has been granted by the North West Department of Social Development. Permission was also sought from NWU-EMELTEN-REC by sending the research proposal for assessment. The research study will be conducted according to the ethical guidelines and principles of the NWU-EMELTEN-REC. The purpose of this study is to explore CSG in a community of the North West Province. The gains for you if you take part in this study could lead to an improvement in the CSG application process and you will be aware of the effects of CSG (be it positive/negative) in a community of the North West Province. This will assist in future planning processes for the Department. The data collected will be treated with confidentiality; only the researcher and study supervisors will be able to look at your data. The data will be kept safe by locking hard copies in a locked shelf/drawer of the headboard in the researcher's bedroom and electronic data will be kept safe by using a password in the researcher's personal laptop. The data will be stored for five (5) years, after which it will be destroyed.

Please take note of the following:

- 1 This is an anonymous study; your name will not be written on the questionnaire and the provided answers will be treated confidentially.
- 2 Participation in this study is voluntary; you may decide to withdraw anytime you wish to.
- 3 This study will be used for academic purposes, which include publishing an article in an academic journal.
4. A semi-structured questionnaire will be used to conduct semi-structured interviews, which will take approximately 15 minutes.
5. There are no identified risks involved in the research.

- 6. There are no costs involved.
- 7. A final draft report will be sent to the North West Department of Social Development for participant verification purposes. A soft copy of the study final report will also be sent to the North West Department of Social Development.
- 8. Ticking the box below means that you participated in the study voluntarily.
- 9. Please contact me if you need any further clarity or want to withdraw your consent after the interview at: 082 930 9780 or kegolee04@gmail.com.

Declaration by participant

By ticking the box below, I agree to take part in the research study titled: Exploration of the child support grant in a community of the North West Province.

Place..... date.....

ANNEXURE E: SEMI-STRUCTURED QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PRIMARY CAREGIVERS OF CSG

A: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

A.1 Gender

Male	1
Female	2
Non-binary	3

A.2 Age

20-30	1
31-40	2
40-60	3
Above 60	4

A.3 Number of children receiving CSG for

1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6

A. 4 Employment status

Employed	1
Unemployed	2

A. 5 Total household income in rands

0-1000	1
1000-2000	2

2000-3000	3
3000-4000	4
Above 4000	5

B: EXPLORATION OF THE CHILD SUPPORT GRANT

B.1 In your opinion, does CSG improve the quality of the beneficiaries' lives?

B.2 Which of your circumstances enabled you to apply for a CSG?

B.3. Besides CSG, do you have any other income?

1	Yes
2	No

B.4 In your view, does CSG reduce poverty?

B.5 How does CSG assist you?

To pay rent where I live with my child	1
To buy food for the family	2
To buy clothes for myself and the child	3
To pay for my child's educational needs	4

B.6 Is the CSG sufficient to cover all the beneficiaries' needs?

Yes	1
No	2

ANNEXURE F: SEMI-STRUCTURED QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SOCIAL WORKERS AT THE NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. What is the importance of the CSG on the primary caregivers?

2. What impact has the CSG made to the community?

3. Do you think the CSG provides for all the basic needs of beneficiaries?

Yes	1
No	2

4. Which circumstances enable primary caregivers to apply for CSG?

5. Do you think CSG promotes domestic violence and why do you think so?

6. How does CSG assist beneficiaries?

7. Which criteria are used by the North West Department of Social Development to select primary caregivers?

8. Do the selection criteria cater for all qualifying primary caregivers?

9. Do you think CSG encourages unemployed women to fall pregnant?

10. Does CSG discourage employment and why do you think so?

11. Do you think CSG enhances laziness?

Yes	1
No	2

11.1 If yes, please explain

12. In your opinion does CSG reduce poverty?