

UNDERSTANDING CHALLENGES OF ZIMBABWEAN MIGRANTS IN MAHIKENG, SOUTH AFRICA

BY

Kagiso Glen Phake

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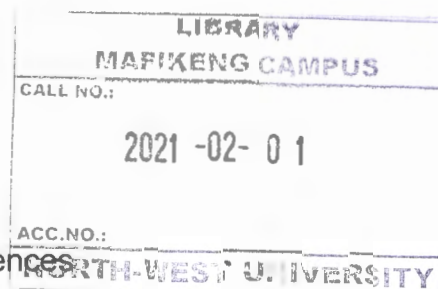
A mini-dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree

Master of Social Sciences

(Population Studies)

In the

Faculty of Human and Social Sciences



At the

Population Training and Research Unit (POPUNIT) of the North West
University, Mafikeng campus

SUPERVISOR: Prof. A. Mturi

DATE : OCTOBER, 2016

Declaration

I, Kagiso Glen Phake declare that the mini-dissertation titled **Understanding Challenges of Zimbabwean Migrants in Mahikeng, South Africa** is my own work and that all the sources and texts used in the study have been properly acknowledged in my list of sources, and that this document has never been previously submitted at any university in order to acquire a similar qualification.

Signature.....

Date.....27/09/16

Dedication

I dedicate this work to my loving mother Mmabatho Phake, my son Laone Mogori and nephew Oteng Mosenogi.

Acknowledgements

Firstly, I would like to thank God for providing me with the ability to think, without him none of this would be possible. I wish to thank again the individual who made this possible, my supervisor Professor Akim Mturi for his endless support, patience and motivation, in you I found a mentor and I honestly could not wish for a better supervisor.

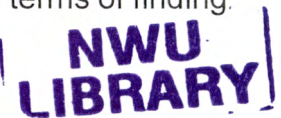
I would also like to thank all the PhD students and staff of the Population Training and Research Unit (POPUNIT) of the North West University (Mafikeng Campus), for always motivating and believing in us from the moment we were accepted into the program. A special thank you goes out the Research Focus Area "Population and Health" for the financial support that they gave me.

I would also like to acknowledge my mother Mmabatho Phake who has always been my pillar of strength, moreover I would also like to acknowledge my girlfriend Dipuo Mogori who has always been by my side and always pushing me to work on my study, your contributions are acknowledged. To my friends and extended family thank you for believing in me.

Abstract

The study attempts to understand the social challenges that Zimbabwean migrants face in South Africa, with special emphasis on the town of Mahikeng in the North West Province. The research looks at the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants face in Mahikeng by analysing how they are treated by the residents of this town. In addition to understanding the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants encounter in Mahikeng, the study also, investigates the reasons for Zimbabweans migrating to Mahikeng.

The study makes use of the qualitative research method. In-depth interviews were conducted with 28 Zimbabwean migrants who reside in Mahikeng, which constituted of both males and females. Snowball sampling was used to acquire the 28 research Participants. A research interview guide was developed for data collection purposes. The research revealed that many migrants who participated in the study were not facing any significant challenges, while others stated that they were facing some social challenges, either by being mistreated by the locals or government officials. The study also revealed that migrants are being pushed out of Zimbabwe by the current socio-economic situation and pulled into South Africa. The study further outlines that Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng have developed a network which in part assists them in terms of surviving in the town. The network assists migrants in terms of finding a place for them to stay and a job as soon as they arrive in the town.



In terms of assisting these migrants it would be advisable for the South African government to develop a policy that would protect these migrants from abuse by citizens of this country. The Mahikeng local government should ensure that migrants who are staying in this town are allowed easy access to basic public services such as clinics. With that in mind when looking at the policy implications, one could state that South Africa has created a flow of different migrants, but has not yet developed an encompassing policy to properly address this flow. The South African legislation does not cover the influx of migrants and only has two instruments of law that deal directly with immigration. These laws are namely the Immigration Act of 2002 and the Refugee Act of 1998, and should develop one that covers such a flow.

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List of Abbreviations

ANC	African National Congress
AU	African Union
CBD	Central Business District
DHA	Department of Home Affairs
FMSP	Forced Migration Studies Programme
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IMR	International Migration Review
LHR	Lawyers for Human Rights
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SADC	Southern African Developing Cooperation
SAMP	South African Migration Programme
SANDF	South African National Defense Force
STATSSA	Statistics South Africa
UNISA	University of South Africa
WHO	World Health Organization
ZANU-PF	Zimbabwean African National Union (Patriotic Front)

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, there has been increasing attention placed upon the issue of Zimbabweans attempting to leave their country for other countries, particularly South Africa. Studies of international migration have stated that the largest contributors for relocation to foreign countries are economic challenges or inequalities. Supporting these studies was the significant and unprecedented number of Zimbabweans that immigrated to South Africa starting in the year 2000 (Waller, 2006).

The political and socio-economic challenges of Zimbabwe have seen many Zimbabweans migrate to other countries. It has been argued that in most cases Zimbabweans migrate for political and socio-economic reasons. According to Tara (2008:33), from 1994 onwards, the South African government displayed increasing hostility towards the new concept of migrants with skills from the rest of Africa. However, this has not served to limit the number of immigrants; Zimbabwean migration to South Africa since 2000 has been described as the "largest concentrated flow" in the country's history (Kiwauka and Manson, 2009: 23).

Migrants previously consisted of young people arriving alone to look for work, but since 2000 have increasingly shifted towards women, children, and the elderly who are not able to work and require humanitarian assistance. A large proportion of the migrants are irregular; they typically pay R200 to smugglers to take them across the Limpopo River at night and coordinate with taxi drivers who transport the migrants to Johannesburg and watch for the approach of police or soldiers (Ncube, 2014).

While in the case of Mahikeng, most of the Zimbabwean migrants who come to the city access it through Botswana. According to Bolt (2015:23), Botswana recorded a total of 1,027, 177 million Zimbabwean who came to the country in 2008 (Campbell and Crush, 2012). With that in mind these migrants then decide to come to Mahikeng as it the closest South African city to Botswana.

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Zimbabwean immigrants are said to be in the majority in South Africa. When looking at the situation of South Africa, most of these migrants move due prospects of finding employment and this may be a significant reason to leave behind family, friends and the community.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, stated three reasons for the increase of Zimbabweans (cited in Siegfried and Siefert-Vogt, 2011:36). South Africa, compared to other African countries was economically advanced, that South African employers were more willing to hire foreigners including vulnerable and undocumented immigrants, and that Southern African countries were historically and economically connected to South Africa which, in and of itself influenced migration patterns (cited in Siegfried and Siefert-Vogt, 2011:40). According to Tevera (2007:44), temporary labour migration to South Africa has long been a feature of Zimbabwean citizens. A 2002 survey by the Southern African Migration Project showed that almost 25% of adult Zimbabweans' parents or grandparents had worked in South Africa at some point in their lives (cited in Landau, 2005). Lovemore (2002:20), outlines that however, permanent emigration is a relatively new phenomenon. There have been two major waves of emigration from Zimbabwe. The first wave of emigration was that of white people in Zimbabwe who left the country soon after the Zimbabwe Rhodesia government ended, the second, still ongoing, was that of black people. In both cases, South Africa was again their primary destination (Trevera and Zinyama, 2002:22).

1.2 RESEARCH PROBLEM

Zimbabwe has been facing many problems during the past years, dealing with social, political and economic problems within the country (Derman and Kaarhus 2013: 155). According to Rwomire (2001:201), one of the examples of problems in Zimbabwe is the issue of insufficient energy. Land problems have also led to difficulties within the different races of the country. Zimbabwe is one of the African countries which are poverty stricken, its economy has collapsed and it has experienced a high political turmoil which in return has affected its citizens (Lu and Treiman, 2007:17).

Many Zimbabweans have in the past and are currently seeing South Africa as a place to build a new life, rather than viewing it as a temporary place of residence or a place where they could make quick income (Moradi 2009: 21). South Africa is one of the countries in Africa which has a better economic system and has lesser social problems as compared to other countries in Africa (McDonalds, 2000: 13). Therefore, many Zimbabweans have seen South Africa as a viable destination because of such attributes. Zimbabweans have migrated to South Africa for a variety of reasons such as: political refuge, employment opportunities, better social structures and better health care facilities and access just to mention a few (Polzer 2008: 33).

Mahikeng is one of the areas that are experiencing an influx of migrants from all over Africa. Most of these migrants tend to participate in cheap labour for many reasons but without a certain specific objective (Cross, 2006: 271). It is not very clear why these migrants prefer this town. What seems to be causing the problem is that these migrants have easy access to the town through the Botswana borders which directly gives them access into the Ramatlabama village which is situated outside the Mahikeng town, while others come to the town through the Musina border. What seems to be intriguing about this whole situation is that these migrants pass many towns and cities to come to Mahikeng. Zimbabwean migration into Mahikeng is seen by the local residents as one of the factors contributing to high unemployment and poor service delivery but these have not been scientifically proven (Everett and Kate, 2004: 246).



1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following are the research questions addressed in the study:

- Why do Zimbabwean migrants migrate to Mahikeng specifically?
- What are the experiences of Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng?
- How are Zimbabwean migrants been treated in Mahikeng?
- What are the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants face in mahikeng?
- How do Zimbabwean migrants feel about xenophobia?

1.4 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The general research objective was to understand why Zimbabwean migrants prefer Mahikeng as their destination and to also analyze and explore the challenges that these migrants encounter in Mahikeng. How they are been treated in the town and what encourages them to migrate from Zimbabwe to Mahikeng.

The specific research objectives are to:

- Explore how Zimbabwean migrants are being treated in Mahikeng;
- Understand the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants encounter in Mahikeng;
- Investigate the reasons for Zimbabwean migrants to migrate to Mahikeng; and
- Assess the effects of xenophobia on Zimbabwean migrants.

1.5 JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

The Aim of the study was to understand why Zimbabwean migrants prefer Mahikeng as their destination and to also analyze and explore the challenges that these migrants encounter in this town. When looking at the situation of Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng, there have not been enough studies conducted on the phenomena, as most studies conducted on migrants in Mahikeng have exclusively concentrated on the economic aspect of their situation. Thus, the purpose of the study is firstly, to add to the existing knowledge on Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng.

Secondly, to give an in-depth insight on the challenges that migrants encounter on a day to day basis. Overall, the study sought an understanding of how Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng survive and how they deal with their day to day challenges. Mahikeng has been viewed by many migrants as a city which presents a lot of informal employment opportunities hence the influx to the city.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The importance of this study is to ensure that the research contributes towards understanding the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants face in South Africa. The researcher believes that this would be done by adding new perspectives and ideas on challenges that migrants encounter on a day to day basis, but with special emphasis

on Mahikeng. The study gathers the views of migrants about their challenges in Mahikeng as well as to understand the main influences that advocate their migration to this city. This will assist policy makers to better understand the push and pull factors.

1.7 ORGANIZATION OF THE DISSERTATION

The mini-dissertation is made up of five chapters. Chapter One serves as an introduction and covers the importance as well as the objectives of the research. Chapter Two discusses the existing literature on Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa with special emphasis on Mahikeng. Chapter Three covers the method used to conduct this study. It describes the study population, the sampling technique that is used, and the research methods. Chapter Four analyses the findings that emerged from the interviews that were conducted. Chapter Five provides a discussion of the results. Conclusions are then formulated and recommendations for future policies, as based on the findings.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The focus is on migration, Zimbabwean migrants, characteristics and challenges of migrating from Zimbabwe into South Africa with special emphasis in the Mahikeng town. The literature reveals the possible experiences that migrants might be facing in this town.

The South African border areas have been experiencing a great influx of migrants into the country. Many suggest that this great influx is characterised by high levels of poverty, poor local economies with a weak manufacturing base, undeveloped infrastructure, and a limited tax base that offers limited opportunities for employment in other African countries (Solomon, 2003: 71). This is accompanied by the high cost of basic services, poor access to natural resources that support subsistence, as well as low levels of skills.

Solomon (2003: 90) suggests that migrants flow into South Africa because of the economic opportunities that they believe the country might offer. He suggests that these migrants migrate from their country of origin without understanding the challenges that they might face the moment they enter the country.

2.1 CHALLENGES OF ZIMBABWEAN IN SOUTH AFRICA AND BOTSWANA

Migration has been seen as an element that has been moving towards South Africa since the late 1880s, these movement has been constituted by the opportunities that South Africa has presented in terms of employment in sectors such as mining and farming. These opportunities show that Zimbabwean migrants have been coming to South Africa for the past 100 years (Hungwe, 2013: 4).

According to the International Migration Organization (2013:1), Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa feel that the South African government and its authorities have failed to guarantee their safety. When looking at the situation of migrants the report states that the most vulnerable migrants are children and women. This statement is supported by the fact that it has been evident when xenophobic attacks take place in South Africa that women and children are unable to protect themselves from such

violence. Ngwato (2010: 23), states that the insecurities that these migrants face in most cases are factored by their own place of residence or the community in which they reside. The same author states that since these migrants are viewed as those individuals who are not born residents of South Africa it creates a line of limit for them when coming to access of services such as sanitation, banking and education. He continues to mention that the most important thing is where these migrants reside in South Africa that determines their access to proper housing and proper sanitation.

Migrants have realised that there are problems associated with moving to another country, thus these migrants in many countries have created what is known as social networks. In South Africa these networks seem to be instrumental at the beginning of the migration process for most migrants (Dinat and Peberdy 2005:73). However, Rwomie (2001:200), outlines that the purpose that these migrants establish these networks in terms of bettering their lives usually disappears over time. He states that in most cases, one of the major factors that will determine the strength of a network is solely based on nationality. An example based on the interrelationship between nationality and the strength of a network would be that of Somali immigrants and Indians, who have had a long tradition of trading networks.

Despite the favourable legal and policy environment, it has been evident that there are barriers to accessing healthcare services that are specific to migrants in general and to certain migrant workers in particular (such as those in mining and commercial farming).

The conditions associated with these barriers have seen migrants having to face challenges such as health care problems which in return have resulted in them being vulnerable to HIV infection, especially women. High HIV prevalence rates hamper not only migrants' well-being but also the well-being of migrant-sending and host communities, and ultimately impacts development negatively, migrants rate their health status higher than of South African-born, long-term residents in Johannesburg. This might be due to the fact that generally, only physically healthy individuals will migrate (Hungwe, 2013:7).

According to the Southern African Migration Programme (2012), a number of studies have reported that the Batswana people from Botswana are not different from the

South African people in terms of attitudes towards migrants. The report continues to allude that one of the studies that were conducted focused on capturing the views of people through attitudinal surveys. The studies proved that cases of xenophobia were very high in Botswana. Kiwanuka and Manson (2009: 23), state that when looking at both the situation South Africa and Botswana, one can outline that the Botswana authorities are not as strict as the South African authorities when coming to migrants, but he continues to say that Botswana just like South Africa, has policies that restricts migration. These, include the arresting and deportation of migrants which they call the clean-up campaign.

When looking at the situation of Botswana and Mahikeng it is clear that Botswana has a problem of Zimbabwean migrants as compared to Mahikeng. The main reason for such problem is that Zimbabwean migrants have direct access into Botswana, as the country shares the border with Zimbabwe.

Table 2.1 shows that in the capital city of Botswana, Gaborone migrants receive different treatment from different people who reside in the city. A study that was conducted to look at the treatment of Zimbabweans in Botswana showed that migrants where mostly mistreated by government officials including police officers, which is also the case in Mahikeng. Other people treated migrants very well as the table has shown that other Southern Africans and people from Zimbabwe had treated them better as compared to the rest.

Table 2.1: Distribution of Zimbabwean migrants according to how they are being treated in Gaborone, Botswana

Type of treatment received from various groups					
Group	Very good	Good	Neither good nor bad	Bad	Very bad
Other people from Zimbabwe	22	15	35	15	0
Other Southern Africans	13	19	23	9	3
Batswana	10	20	43	18	19
Employers	3	21	14	15	13
Landlords	18	33	10	25	10
Government officials	11	15	21	33	25
Police officers	25	11	22	35	33

Source : (Campbell, Crush, 2012) Unfriendly Neighbours: Contemporary Migration from Zimbabwe to Botswana

Lesetedi (2007:107) explains that the reason in the shift of Zimbabwean migrants' attitudes when they arrive in Botswana seems to be supported by personal experience. In most cases Zimbabwean migrants have been running from the Botswana police. Furthermore migrants outlined that they have experienced discrimination in the workplace, at schools and at public hospitals (Lesetedi, 2007)

2.2 EXPERIENCES OF ZIMBABWEAN MIGRANTS IN DIFFERENT PROVINCES OF SOUTH AFRICA

In South Africa migrants from Zimbabwe settle in different areas in different provinces. According to the Forced Migration Studies Program (2013), estimations have summed up a total of 1 million to 2 million Zimbabwean migrants who have migrated to the different provinces of South Africa in the year 2000. The report continues to state that most of these migrants migrate specifically to Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the North West provinces.

In South Africa migrants face different challenges in the different provinces of the country, for example, Zimbabwean migrants migrate to Limpopo province to work in farms and become street hawkers (Hungwe, 2013:8). According Idemudia, John and Wyatt (2013:24), many migrants stated that in Limpopo where they work on white farm lands, they have experienced some sort of discrimination because they are black. The report continued to state that Zimbabwean migrants face more social challenges as compared to any other migrants in other provinces of South Africa as they have to deal with discrimination at work and xenophobia within the communities that they reside.

Jeffreys (2014:8) outlines that Zimbabwean migrants who reside in the Gauteng province have stated that in most cases their stay in the province is very unpleasant. Most migrants in the province reside in informal settlements where they experience challenges of improper housing and sanitation. In Gauteng province there is a total of 43750 Zimbabwean migrants which constitutes a total of 58.6% of migrants who have migrated to South Africa, (Statistics South Africa, 2011). Most migrants migrate to the Gauteng province as they believe that it is a province which provides a lot of economic opportunities, the problem, however, is that they tend to encounter many South Africans who also believe that Gauteng province provides a lot of opportunities and they migrate from their respective provinces into Gauteng. Upon arrival there is

competition for employment between South African citizens and migrants including Zimbabweans. In most cases migrants tend to be awarded these opportunities as they bring cheap labour as compared to South Africans, thus it has resulted in these migrants being abused and mistreated by the citizens of the country as they believe that these migrants are taking their jobs (Jeffreys, 2014).

Zimbabwean migrants in the North West province and specifically in Mahikeng, are migrants who participate in informal employment such as gardening, welding and building to mention a few. Some migrants who have migrated to the North West province came to seek employment in the mining and farming sectors as the province's economy is based on these two sectors (Matshoane, 2015:18).

The North West province is a province whose citizens are mostly the Batswana people. Zimbabwean migrants have found it easy to migrate to the province as they access it through the Botswana border. The city of Mahikeng is made up of many rural areas and a few suburbs. According Matshoane (2015), Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng are not relatively experiencing challenges as compared to those in the other cities of the country. The author continues to allude to the fact that migrants in Mahikeng have developed a system which has been working for them ever since they migrated to Mahikeng. It is this system that has seen them being accepted by the various communities of this town. The citizens in Mahikeng have seen migrants as experts in most of the unofficial employment sectors of the small town as they are seen as the best in terms of the service that they provide (Matshoane, 2015:14).

According to the South African Immigration Act of 2011, as amended, when an immigration officer has been granted the ability to search any premises with a search warrant he or she must conduct it in a decent and orderly manner, including; a person's rights to, respect for, and protection of, his or her dignity, the right of a person to his or her personal privacy. The immigration legislation also makes it an offense for any civil servant to accept bribes, and requires an immigration official who takes documents or any other thing from a suspended, illegal foreigner to issue a receipt.

According to Kriger and George (2006:25), incidents of the immigration legislation violation, randomly occur in a town in South Africa known as Musina. He outlines that at the Makhado police station, a Zimbabwean migrant once reported having been

beaten by police during arrest. The migrant stated that early in the morning the police stopped them as they were going to the market where they usually buy food and sell it. He states that two police officials took him and his Zimbabwean acquaintance into the bush where they beat them up.

Another incident that took place was of a farmer in Weipe who complained to Human Rights Watch about the police and soldier raids where his workers reside. The farmer stated that during the early hours of the morning the police would arrive at his farm where his employees reside and they would abuse and mistreat them (Human Rights Watch, 2006).



According to the South African Immigration Act of 2011, as amended, no illegal foreigner must be arrested or held in detention for longer than 30 calendar days without a warrant of a court, which on good grounds may create such an extension of being detained for a certain period not exceeding 90 calendar days. The immigration regulations require an immigration officer intending to apply for the extension of detention period to give written notice to the detainee of his or her intention within 20 days following the arrest of the detainee. The officer should also provide the detainee with an opportunity to make representations in this regard with three days of receiving the notice, and within 25 days following the arrest of the period of detention.

A Zimbabwean migrant told the Human Rights Watch that he was detained for more than three months in South Africa. He had bought a car, and had the papers and receipts of this purchase. The only problem was that he had lost his passport, but stated that he had a passport number. The police officials confiscated his car and no docket was opened for the case to go to court. (Kriger and George, 2006:34).

According to the South African Immigration Act of 2011, illegal foreigners must be detained in compliance with minimum prescribed standards and should protect their dignity and relevant human rights. The Immigration Regulation stipulates the minimum standards for accommodation, nutrition, and hygiene in detention. Every detainee must be provided a bed, mattress, and at least one blanket. Male and female detainees, unless spouses, detained minors who are not with their parents, and detainees in different security risk categories should all be kept separate.

Unaccompanied minors should not be detained. Each detainee must be provided with food. The Department of Home Affairs must provide the means for every detainee to keep his or her personal, clothing, bedding and room clean, (Kriger and George, 2006:11).

According to the Sunday Times (2009: 8), in Musina police station, often over a hundred men, women and children slept outside in a fenced area in bad weather conditions. It outlined also that these migrants who are being detained are brought into and adjacent roofed area. The men and women are evidently made to sleep separately. It was observed that the only drinkable water was outside the fenced area where they could not reach. Each of the detainees was given a blanket but with no bed or mattress and had to sleep on the cold floor.

The International Organization of Migration in 2006 created offices in South Africa to assist migrants. The main objective of these offices was to provide humanitarian services to all Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa those who were legal and illegal. The organization stated that they offered all Zimbabwean migrants, free meals every day, medical assessments, information and materials on HIV and irregular migration (Kriger and George, 2006: 22).

2.3 INFLUENCES OF MIGRATION FROM ZIMBABWE TO SOUTH AFRICA

According to Ngomane (2008), the issue of migration is not new to South Africa and that it has been happening since the 1800. This migration in South Africa was influence by the discovery of diamonds in the Orange Free State and gold in the Witwatersrand. Minerals in South Africa have been the main influence of individuals leaving their countries and coming to South Africa. The IOM (2006), states that since the discovery of minerals in South Africa, it has resulted in many migrants coming to South Africa as they provided cheaper labour as compared to South Africans. The IOM continues to outline that ever since these minerals were discovered it has seen migrants coming from countries like Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Botswana.

According to Crush (2001: 50), the problem of illegal border crossing is not a new thing in South Africa. It has been stated that the volume of migrants has increased in the

last two decades more especially since 1990 in South Africa (Solomon, 2003: 25). The IOM (2006) states the situation of migration in most countries is influenced by the economic inequalities that take place within the regions that these migrants come from. This has in turn led to high volumes of migration and usually South Africa is the destination.

During the Apartheid era, South African companies believed that it was more strategic to utilise labour from other African countries, which resulted in many illegal migrants coming to South Africa (Pillai, 1995: 13). Illegal migrants in South Africa are divided into two groups which are mainly, those who enter through official entry points but overstay after their visas have expired, and those who enter into the country by crossing the border in an illegal manner such as jumping over the border fence and are without proper documentation such as visas (Tevera, 2002: 11).

Migration has created a debate among Southern African countries as there is a compelling need for Southern African countries to harmonise regional migration policies and to ensure the freer movement of people across the region (Crush and Tevera, 2007: 17). According to (Crush, 2001: 18), countries such as Botswana and South Africa have shown fear in terms of free movement which is created by migrants, the fear is that these migrants will flood these countries. The author continues to state that such free movement should raise concerns in these countries as these flooding of migrants will result in the citizens of the host community not taking this movement well, which will result in intolerance and xenophobia.

Over the past decade, the issue of Zimbabweans attempting to leave their country for other countries, especially South Africa, has been a burning issue, by the news media. It has been estimated that 3.4 million Zimbabweans, which represent a quarter of the country's population, have left Zimbabwe, making this country one of the largest contributors of immigrants in Southern Africa (Idemudia *et al.*, 2013). Studies of international migration have stated that the motivators for relocation to foreign countries by Zimbabweans were mainly economic challenges or inequalities. Supporting these studies was the significant and unprecedented numbers of Zimbabweans that immigrated to South Africa starting in the year 2000 with the country's economic collapse (Bolt, 2015: 22).

When looking at motivators of relocation such as individual economic challenges which may be poverty, unemployment, and homelessness, one could state that this may not be the only factors contributing to international relocation. Institutional and structural factors such as civil unrest, wars, and political instability may also serve as motivators of immigration to other countries and have yielded almost 15 million refugees and 22 million internally displaced persons throughout the world. Furthermore, the consequences of civil unrest and political violence commonly result in individuals being deprived of basic necessities such as food and water and being exposed to severe and threatening experiences such as torture or imprisonment (Idemudia *et al.*, 2013: 27).

2.4 EFFECTS OF XENOPHOBIA ON MIGRANTS

According to Crush and Ramachandran (2009: 44), xenophobia is attitudes and behavior that reflects rejection and mistreatment of migrants by a way of viewing them as outsiders. These authors continue to state that xenophobia is a term that many people use to classify people who they feel do not belong in a particular country or community and that they are not of the same nationality as them. Osman (2009:27), outlines that the term xenophobia is associated with foreigners and that it originates from the Greek word *xeno* and *phobos*, which together means fear.

In most cases xenophobia is influenced by the locals fearing the possibility of the rise in crime and of economic competition which they believe it is being caused by migrants. In South Africa migrants are referred to as *Amakwere kwere* which is a term used to refer to particularly Africans who cannot speak the local languages (Human Rights Watch, 2006:10).

According to Lubbe (2009:1), in May 2008 there was an outbreak of violence that took place in South Africa and that affected many South African cities. Before the 2008 attacks, South Africa had already been witnessing xenophobic attacks, but because the cases were few the authorities ignored them. But in 2008 the situation escalated beyond the control of authorities as acts of violence and aggression took place in the streets of every township in South Africa and these could no longer be ignored.

The events that took place during the Month of May in 2008, resulted in mobs of angry citizens who burned the shacks and tuckshops of migrants and looted their property. When asked what was the root of all the hatred, South Africans stated that migrants leave their countries and come to South Africa where they cause problems such as high unemployment rates because they bring the same services that they offer but at a cheaper price (Zidzatane, 2011: 43).

Xenophobia is a stigma that many South Africans have adopted when they cannot find solutions to their problems (Crush and Trevera, 2007: 44). It is believed that the 2008 xenophobic attacks were influenced by the South African government because whenever they had to explain to the citizens of South Africa, why the country was facing socio-economic problems, which resulted in high unemployment and poor health benefits, they stated that it was because of many migrants who are coming into the country illegally that makes it impossible for them to find solutions to such problems (Moradi, 2009: 21).

According to Idemudia *et al.* (2013: 21), South African citizens tend to blame migrants for every crime and social problem that takes place within their communities. Migrants in many South African townships are viewed as criminals, drug lords and job stealers. In most cases these are the main reasons that usually encourage South Africans to abuse these migrants; South Africans tend to believe that they have more rights as compared to migrants because this is their birth country (Idemudia *et al.*, 2013: 17).

After 2008, the South African government sought to stabilise the situation of xenophobia that had taken place in the country and left many migrants injured and dead. But in 2015 it seemed as if the 2008 dilemma would repeat itself. On the 15th of April 2015, King Zwelithini gave a speech to address the Kwa-Zulu Natal community and in his speech he made the following statement.

"It is painful to me when I look at a country that our forefathers and thousands of people fought for became a criminal den. In 2015 we are talking about South Africans as people who don't want to listen, who don't want to work, who are thieves, who rape children, housebreakers, lazy people who don't want to work the land. They are people when if other nations look at them, will say let's go and eat the inheritance of the stupid people. As I'm talking to you now there are all sort

of things hanging outside the stores, they brought untidiness to our streets, it's filthy, and you can't even see what were these stores were foreigners in these country. I know sometimes it is difficult for politicians to speak out against these things, because bad doers become voters after five years. I won't keep quiet when people who have no say are playing with this country, the time is now for us to have a say, and I would like the South African government to help us. We must deal with our own lice. In our heads let's take out the ants and leave them in the sun. We ask that immigrants must take their bags and go where they come from." (South African e News Channel, 2015)

After the King had made this statement, he sparked the second national xenophobic attacks. In the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal migrants were being attacked and killed. This was caused by the statement that the king made as the citizens' believed that he did not want them in his province and that they should remove them. The attacks began to spread across the country and took place in cities like Johannesburg and Pretoria, where migrants were abused.

2.5 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

According to Jansen (1940: 93), there have been many attempts in constructing the proper migration theory. Jansen continues to state that with these in mind, one should understand that the phenomenon of migration is practically as old as the history of man. According to common understanding it is clear to state that migration is a population problem, one could argue that it influences sizes of populations at origin and destination, migration is also an economic problem. Silva (2008: 290), states that this can be explained by simply looking at international migration, and in the case of South Africa and Zimbabwean migrants it can be taken from a context where these migrants come into the country and they are not catered for as they are regarded as non-citizens. In this case restrictions and conditions apply to mainly those who want to come into the country.

When coming to the migration theory, the study looks at different migration theories and tries to understand the influences that constitute the migration of Zimbabweans to Mahikeng. The study outlines that there are different types of migration theories that can explain why Zimbabweans leave their countries for South Africa.

2.6 A LOOK AT THE MIGRATION THEORIES

According to (Richard, 1998: 52), one of the migration theory known as the Neo-Classical economic theory assumes that movements by individuals from one area to another are influenced by mere factors of maximizing or increasing their income.

When arguing the Neo-Classical economic theory, one could outline that it is being supported by the Harrison Todaro model. The model which is sometimes referred to as the decision making model. The model in the case of Zimbabweans migrants outlines these individuals make choices to increase their welfare or to better their lives by moving to another place where they expect to find better jobs and increase their income (Wolff and Severiens, 2008: 89).



The model continues to allude that migrants will search for places that will offer the advantages of employment as compared to the ones that they are currently residing in. When such a comparison occurs the migrants will be motivated to move to that place (Wolff, 2012: 89). According to Stephen (2013: 98) because of this pattern, discussions have emerged to determine whether migration has a positive or negative impact on various stakeholders. The fact that sending countries and the migrants themselves benefit, because these migrants get jobs, develop their skills, make income and send some of it to their country of origin to support their families. This also applies to the host countries as they benefit from the skills and labour that they receive from migrants (Baker, 2015: 73).

The Harrison-Todaro, Neo-Classic model has been challenged by the dependency theory. The theory assesses the impact of structural and institutional arrangement on the lives of migrants. It challenges the school of thought of Todaro's model that states that migration is influenced by an individual's choice to relocate to places where they could find employment (Ghosh, 2001: 135).

The dependency theorists argue that migration results from economic forces of a western dominated world system, which is characterized by structured inequalities, which includes the under-development of regions (Cross, 2006: 100).

One of the most important migration theories when looking at the situation of Zimbabweans migrating to Mahikeng would be the push and pull theory. This theory is a Neo-Classic theory that outlines the influences of people moving from and undeveloped area to those that are developed, (Mamboodiri, 2013: 143).

According to Ghosh (2001:136), pull factors are known as demand for labour and availability of land, lack of economic opportunities, and political turmoil. One should also understand that these are man-made factors and that there are other factors that constitute the pull factors, such as droughts and tsunamis.

With the pull factors in place, there are also push factors that attract people to migrate to other places. These are usually constituted by employment and economic reasons. People prefer to move to places where they will be exposed to opportunities and where they are given the platform to develop. These are the factors that are found in semi-developed or developed areas. These factors are made up of better job opportunities, availability of regular employment, high wages, political freedom, better health care facilities and education (Cross, 2006: 47).

The migration theory states that, migration involves social psychology in so far as the migrant is in a process of decision making before moving and that his personality may play an important role in the success with which he integrates in the host society (Lutz, 2004:13). Migration can also be viewed as a social problem since the social structure and cultural system both of places of origin and of destination are affected by migration and in turn affects the migrant (Kleinschmidt, 2006: 254).

The migration theory tries to explain a phenomenon of what distinguishes a person who migrates from one who does not. The theory states that many philosophers and writers have attempted to discover the most important migratory differentials. However, after all these attempts one philosopher conducted an extensive study on the existing knowledge of migration (Kate and Everett, 2004: 246). Everett (1996:50), came to the conclusion that the only difference that had some form of consistency in several context over a long period of time, is that persons in their late teens, twenties and early thirties were more migratory than other groups. The philosopher then alludes that it is therefore difficult to construct a general theory of migration.

What motivates migration according to the migration theory when focusing on the issue one should firstly ask the question of, why do people move? However with this in mind it has been realized that the majority of migrants themselves do not know the answer to the question. However, usually when migrants are asked this question they give a general answer, such as for work, studies and family reasons. These are usually the reasons which help a little in the study of the socio-psychological process involved in the decision to migrate or in the construction of general theory of the decision making process (Hass and Berriane, 2012: 253).

Of all the aspects of migration, that of the integration of the migrant has probably been given most attention by sociologists such as Halfacree and Boyle (1993: 24), who points out that this re-socialization is not unlike basic process of an individual basis. Of course, the majority of studies of integration have focused on international migrations but various aspects of integration have of internal migrants, such as their participation in urban structures, the aid received from relatives and friends who had migrated earlier and so forth, have also been the subject of several studies. It is appropriate here to mention Vezzoli's discussion of indices of a number of new roles, norms and customs and the internalization of these new patterns of behavior, personal adjustment so that there are few or no indices of personal disorganization like suicide, delinquency, crime, mental issues, political, ecological or cultural spheres and hence cease to have separate identity.

But not only must migrants interact with the host community on a formal plane, they must also interact in informal groups of society before full absorption occurs, usually, out of the absorption of large scale immigration there develops a structure or work of sub-structure, for example a society composed to some extent of different sub-systems allocated to different immigrant groups (Kleinschmidt, 2006: 254).

The work does not focus directly on migration but is relevant to the problem of integration of several ethnic groups is that of Milton and Gordon (1969), who assert that seven basic processes take place in assimilation of a group. These are changes in cultural patterns and complete entry into the societal network of groups and institutions through large-scale primary group relations with the host society. Another aspect of

integration of migrants in the role played by relatives and friends who had migrated earlier or that of an already established immigrant community. This role is seen to be very important.

Jansen (1969: 68), he stressed that if people are torn too rapidly away from cultural traditional framework of their lives, and thrown too quickly as strangers into a cultural environment which is unfamiliar, the damages of social disorganization is very great. The migrant community is beach headed from which they move with strength. This probably explains why migrants tend to go to the same places as earlier migrants, for example chain migration, and why when arriving at place of destination, they tend to settle in similar areas, as evidenced by a number of studies both internal and international migrants (Milton and Gordon, 1969).



While the study of integration of migrants has been formalized and a number of theories concerning migrants developed, though various aspects of the integration have been studied. However if there is a problem within the social structures of origin and destination of internal migrants which might be similar, then the issue of integration would be much simpler and become a minor problem for migrants (Kapur, 2004: 91). In fact, in highly industrialized societies where there is a high rate of mobility among skilled professional persons and where in the building of his career or her career, the migrant has little or no intension of settling in one place. He or she may not want to integrate into any given society. The progressive ascent of specialists of different skills through a series of high positons in one or more structures and a permanent or actual residence which might be mobile and might have occurred through many communities at one or more steps during the ascent, forming a characteristic combination of special and social mobility which has been termed as spiralism (Goldstein, 2004).

According to the sub-Saharan Migration Policy (2006: 22), migrants' rights often remain unobserved and poorly protected. This is the case especially in situation where migrants are ignorant of their rights, are in an irregular situation or otherwise suffering difficult and inhuman conditions. The Migration Policy (2011), it outlines that most countries have not ratified ILO convention number 97, for example migration for employment convention, or adopted other recommendations pertaining to migrants'

rights and the rights of their families. With these situation in mind and interrelations of work with African governments, NGOs and civil society required to correct and provide observation to the principles and provisions of international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention for the protection of rights of all migrant workers and members of their families which at the end of October 2000, still needed five more ratifications to enter into the force (Cross, 2006: 244).

In order to achieve these, it is very important to advocate and create awareness on the positive contributions that migrants might be bringing to a particular host community. Furthermore, one should also look at the challenges and difficulties that they encounter and what are their rights as human beings. The obligation of migrants also needs to be highlighted.

According to the migration policy, the issue of migrants trafficking and smuggling poses heavy threats to the migrants' rights, in particular those of women and children. Victims of these inhumane practices often lack both knowledge of risks and legal consequences of resorting to such illegal practices and information on the realities awaiting them at their destination (Cross, 2006: 249).

One could outline the type of challenges of trafficking and smuggling to those of Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa. Cross (2006: 59), states that Zimbabwean migrants who are being smuggled into South Africa tend to face many challenges, such as sexual abuse and are seen to be a problem by citizens of the country as they are illegal.

The observance of human rights for all migrants, including those in situations of mass outflows and those sheltered under trying circumstances in camps, requires that persons who are expected to ensure their protection are well aware of the relevant principles. Human rights education is thus an integral part of training personnel dealing with such situations (Potts, 2010: 173).

It seems as the issue of migrants trafficking has turned into a profitable business which thrives on the collision of organizations in countries of origin and destination. It seems as if it is a business which includes many people, and also seems as if it is a

regional, national and international problem. However, it seems as if many African countries seem to be oblivious to or not sufficiently concerned about this inhumane practice which violates human rights and undermines human dignity. It seems obvious to outline that migrants trafficking usually targets those individuals or groups in society who are disadvantaged or are facing poverty. In most cases these issue of migrants trafficking targets women and children.

2.7 SUMMARY

Migration to South Africa has a long history, the migration began when natural mineral were being discovered in the country. When looking at the migration into South Africa the chapter outlined that these type of migration came into existence since the 2000s, where South Africa experienced a high influx of Zimbabwean migrants. Migrants in South Africa have been experiencing a lot of abuse the chapter stated that the type of abuses were constituted by many factors that were indirectly influenced by the government of South Africa. The chapter also looked at the xenophobic attacks that took place both in 2008 and in 2015 and explained what the influences of these attacks were. Zimbabwean migration to South Africa and in Mahikeng has seen these migrants build a network, these networks are used for survival purposes and it assists other migrants who have just arrived in the country or city.

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the research methodology. It dwells on explaining the differences between quantitative and qualitative research methodology. It also outlines the method that was used to undertake this study and the reasons for choosing this method. It also explains the role that the researcher has played in undertaking this study.

The chapter also provides an overview of how this study was designed. The focus was on understanding the experiences of Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng, the data collection instrument which was relevant to the research, population and the interpretation of the collected data.

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

According to Babbie and Mouton (2007:30), a research design is defined and expressed as a plan of how the researcher intends to undertake his or her research. The research design is based on the end product; focuses on the type of the study that is being planned and what type of results does the whole research intend to achieve. There are two main types of research: quantitative and qualitative.

This study used the qualitative research methodology. Franklin (2012: 169) outlines that when coming to qualitative researchers, more emphasis is placed on issues of richness, texture and feeling of raw data because their inductive approach emphasizes developing insight and generations out of the data collected. This author also continues to note that with this in mind it allows the researcher to go deep into the study at hand, which enables him or her to have the ability to analyze the relevant collected data and make some generalizations on the data collected. According to Neuman (2003: 243), the qualitative method of researching enables the researcher to explore concepts in more depth with the research participants. This method allows the researcher to obtain the data collected as raw as it is as he or she gets the chance to hear the research participants talk about the concept that is being researched.

Qualitative research distinguishes itself from quantitative research through the following:

- Qualitative research is usually conducted in the natural settings where the research participants are found.
- The method focuses on process rather than outcomes.
- The method tries to understand the social actions in terms of its specific context rather than attempting to generalize to some theoretical population.
- The researcher must conduct the study while trying to understand different people and should have different views and beliefs.

3.2 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

Designing a research project means that the researcher must go back to the research questions, and has to think about what needs to be achieved with the data that has been collected. When coming to qualitative research, the researcher has to look for similarities and differences from the data collected. When coming to understanding qualitative data, one must understand that the method works with data that has been extracted from the research participants in their own words, then this data is interpreted and structured by the researcher as part of the analytical process (Mvuyana, 2010: 61).

One of the reasons that Qualitative studies are different from that of quantitative studies is that the qualitative method focuses on investigating real life situation of the people who are being studied (Caputi, 2001: 15). The method usually uses open ended questions to collect its data. When a qualitative study is being conducted, it allows the research participants to respond to the questions that are being asked by the researcher, the method does not limit the respondents and allows them to respond to questions in their own words and without any limitations to answering the questions (Franklin, 2012: 173). With this in mind and all the advantages mentioned, qualitative studies also have disadvantages. The method is time consuming when coming to the analysis of its data. In most case it becomes very difficult when trying to determine validity and reliability of information due to the subjectivity of some exploration.

This method was chosen as it was appropriate for the study. The study used an interview guide which is related to the qualitative methodology in terms of collecting

data. This method allows the researcher to collect data using open ended questions, which in turn allowed the participants to answer the questions without any limitations. The method also enabled the participants to state their views in line with the study.

3.2.1 POPULATION

The community of Mahikeng consists of mainly its formal residents (South African Citizens), and partly of non-citizens from other countries. Because of the nature of the research, the researcher focused on the informal population of Mahikeng. Within the population of Mahikeng the study identified the research participants who are Zimbabwean migrants, and both males and females to take part in this study.

3.2.2 SAMPLING

The research participants were identified by visiting local areas in and around Mahikeng, such as the townships, semi-suburbs and the Central Business District (CBD). The study used snowball sampling method as it allows the researcher to select the requested sample for the study. The identified research participants were asked if they know other Zimbabwean migrants who were currently staying in Mahikeng.

Neuman (2003: 214) defines snowball sampling as a method that is used for identifying and sampling the cases in a network. It is based on an analogy of a snowball which begins small but becomes larger as it is rolled on wet snow and picks up additional snow. Snowball sampling deals with procedures in which the first participants are chosen by probability methods. Additional participants are then selected based on information supplied by the initial participants. According to Krippendorff (2004), snowball sampling commences with sampling units, which the researcher should choose carefully. When the study has obtained the necessary information from the first participants, they are requested to recommend other participants. This did not prove to be a difficult exercise given the fact that most of the migrants in Mahikeng knew each other.

3.2.3 DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

The research participants were informed about the nature of the study and how it will be conducted. Semi-structured interviews were used to collect data. The main aim of the research study was to analyze how Zimbabwean migrants are treated in Mahikeng, so as to understand the challenges that they face in this town. It was also to investigate the influences that encourage these Zimbabwean migrants to settle in Mahikeng.

The research participants had the following characteristics to participate in the research. Firstly, the participant must have stayed more than a month in Mahikeng, secondly, the participant must currently be residing in Mahikeng, and finally, they should have moved directly from Zimbabwe into Mahikeng.

The study focused on using in-depth interviews to collect data from the research participants. It was decided that the use in-depth interviews was appropriate for the study because such a method would extract more information than what would be available from other methods of collecting data.

When conducting a study which deals with real life situations Zidzatane (2013), mentions that it is best to conduct it relying on a strategy which will involve in-depth interviews. Mason (2002) also mentions that interviews are one of the most acknowledged method of collecting qualitative data. In-depth interviews are characterized by communication between the interviewer and the respondents at certain times in a particular place (Zidzatane, 2013). The importance of conducting interviews is to understand how the participants feel, what their perspective on the subject at matter is, as well as their viewpoints on the subject.

In-depth interviews are a qualitative research tool that involves conducting intensive one-on-one interviews with a small number of respondents (Boyce and Neale, 2006:201). In-depth interviews provide an opportunity to define what is ethical and what is interesting (Fox and Bayat, 2007: 1). This assists in supplying the standard for judging research quality, the level of courtesy during the interviews, and the accuracy of the research report (Fox and Bayat, 2007: 3). According to Marshall and Rossman (2011: 23), the in-depth interview has the benefit of providing a wide range of data at a rapid pace. The primary advantage of the in-depth interview is that it offers very

detailed information (Boyce and Neale, 2006). It also provides a more relaxed atmosphere in which to collect information.

In the in-depth interviews, there is always the prospect of being able to promptly rectifying any misunderstanding whilst still conducting the interview (Amisi, 2005: 57). Unlike the focus group discussions, respondents sometimes feel more comfortable engaging in a one-on-one conversation with the interviewer about their experiences than they do talking about those experiences in front of a group of people (Boyce and Neale, 2006).

The researcher therefore ensured that trust was maintained with all the research participants and that they had the right to withdraw at any time of the interview.

3.2.4 INTERVIEW GUIDE

Qualitative method of interviewing has various forms of interview designs that are used to collect data. According to Gravetter and Forzan (2011: 10), qualitative data collection methods can be classified into three groups, which are informal conversational interview, general interview guide approach and standardized open-ended interview.

In the case of this study, the researcher used general interview guide approach to collect the data (see interview guide in the Appendix A). When looking at all three methods for collecting data one could outline that the interview guide was more appropriate. According to Fox (2008:11), when coming to the interview guide approach, the structure of questions and its wording depends on the researcher who is conducting the interview. Gall and Borg (2003: 23) state that when coming to this type of interview, one of the obvious issues with it is that it lacks consistency in the way that the research questions are posed because researchers can interchange the way they pose them, thus it may result in the research participants not answering questions in the way that the researcher poses them.

According to Zidzatane (2013), the advantage of this method is that it enables the researcher to collect proper raw data. He continues to allude to the fact that this can be achieved when the researcher ensures that the same general areas of information are collected from each interviewee, this provides more focus than the conversational approach, but still allows a degree of freedom and adaptability in getting information

from the interviewee (Turner 2010: 53). Daniel (2010: 61) outlines that when conducting the interview guide method for data collection purposes, it assists the researcher by allowing him or her to stay in the driver's seat and allows him or her to control the interview.

3.3 TRANSCRIBING DATA

Transcripts were created from the data which was obtained using a recording device to record all the answers that were provided by the interviewees. The researcher also noted any outstanding or interesting comments made by the participants. The raw data was recorded in spoken words then it was transcribed into written words by the researcher; all 28 recordings were transcribed. The researcher also made sure that when creating the transcripts, no spoken words by the participants were omitted.

3.4 QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

The study made use of the qualitative data analysis because of the nature of the study. Qualitative data analysis is referred to as the range of processes and procedures where the researcher moves from the qualitative data that has been collected into a form of explanation, understanding or interpretation of the people and situation that the study is investigating (Cresswell, 1994).

The study used qualitative research methodology hence the data was analyzed qualitatively. The interpretative analysis was used as a research tool to analyze the data that was collected. The interpretive approach attempts to "understand phenomena through meanings people assign to them" (Patton *et al.* 2003: 815). According to Lewins *et al.* (2005), the approach of analysis becomes advantageous when used because of its simplicity and how its methods are clearly described. The study utilised the interpretive approach because of its relevance to it. Interpretive analysis was an essential tool for interpreting and analysing all the data that was collected so as to use the findings to formulate a conclusion.

When collecting the data the researcher used documents of real life events, where people were recorded with what they were saying when the research was conducted. In this research the data consists of transcripts that were produced from face to face interviews conducted with the participants. When coming to the analysis of the data the researcher had to read through all the transcripts that were produced in order to

gain familiarity with them. The researcher interpreted the data collected by giving meaning to it and translating it to make it more understandable. The data was grouped into categories where open coding was used. The researcher interpreted the data by understanding how the research participant felt and viewed the research topic at hand.

The researcher then used interpretive analysis as a research tool for analyzing the data that had been collected. According to Lewins, Taylor and Gibbs (2005:171), the advantage of the interpretive approach is that it is easy to use and its methods are clearly described. The interpretive approach was utilized by the researcher because it is relevant to the study.

Interpretive analysis was a very important tool for interpreting and analyzing the data that the researcher had collected by doing so it enabled the researcher to use the findings to formulate a conclusion.

3.5 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

According Gerard (2014:180), researching vulnerable populations such as migrants, is very difficult. With that in mind the researcher should understand that some of this migrants could be engaged in some illegal activities, or they have migrated to the country illegally. This in hand raises many ethical problems. The political and legal marginality of migrants and IDPs means that they have few rights and are vulnerable to arbitrary actions on the part of the state authority (Gerard, 2014:187). With the above statement being said, it was important that I comply with the research obligations "to safe guard the research participants".

The study had to ensure that before the interview was conducted it had received the research participants' informed consent and voluntary participation. The study ensured that it was clear to the participants that they were not forced to participate in the study. Before the interview began, the study ensured that the participants knew their rights in terms of participating in the study, and that they could pull out of the study as soon as they felt uncomfortable.

3.6 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

One of the limitations that the study encountered was the challenge of migrants being afraid to participate in the study, as at first they were scared. Migrants were scared as the study was conducted during the period of xenophobic attacks in South Africa in 2015. Some of them believed that it was a government strategy to identify them. With that in mind it was explained in detail to them what the purpose of the study was.

3.7 SUMMARY

This chapter explained the qualitative method of data collection and analysis which was used in the study. It also explained how the interview guide approach for collecting data was used and why the researcher decided to use these methods. The chapter also explained the target population for the study: Zimbabwean migrants. When coming to sampling for the study, the researcher decided upon snowball sampling where four research participants were chosen and asked to name four other participants until the point where the researcher had a total of 28 participants. Data was collected and transcribed into 28 transcripts. The data was then analyzed using the descriptive method of analysis.

CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

4.1 OVERVIEW

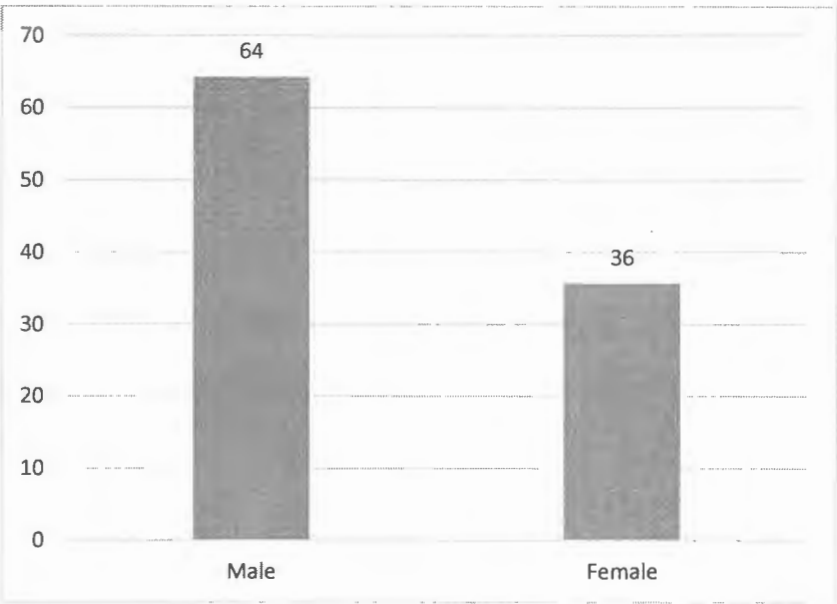
This chapter presents the data which was collected as well as the findings which were obtained from the interview guides. The research used 28 Zimbabwean migrants as participants. The chapter begins by presenting the characteristics of the respondents. Then the results presented including the challenges faced by the Zimbabwean migrants, as well as their reaction towards the treatment of migrants by the residents of Mahikeng.

4.2 RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

The study did not limit itself in terms of gender of the research participants and opted for both females and males. The study also had no restrictions based on age because its main focus was not based on the age of migrants but was based on the experiences of the migrants. During the collection of the data it seemed as if the study interviewed more males than females, thus this linked the research participants with the type of employment that they take part in Mahikeng (figure 1).

As mentioned, the participants of the research study were both males and females. The males constituted 64% of the research participants, while the females constituted 36%.

FIGURE 4.1: DISTRIBUTION OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS BY GENDER IN (%)



SOURCE: Zimbabwean migrants study

In Mahikeng, urban residential is very expensive as compared to rural residence, since the research participants where participating in informal employment, most of them resided in rural areas. It was also evident that many migrants prefer rural areas as compared to urban areas due to the fact that they can afford it and this was constituted by the number of research participants who resided in rural areas.

TABLE 4.1: PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Residential area	Frequency (n)		Percentage (%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Rural Area	14	6	50	22
Urban Area	4	4	14	14
Total	18	10	64	36

SOURCE: Zimbabwean migrants study

The education level of the participants is presented in Figure 3. It shows that most of the migrants who reside in Mahikeng had some form of education. The Zimbabwean government has always encouraged education and even at some point offered free education; hence most of the research participants had obtained their Grade 12.

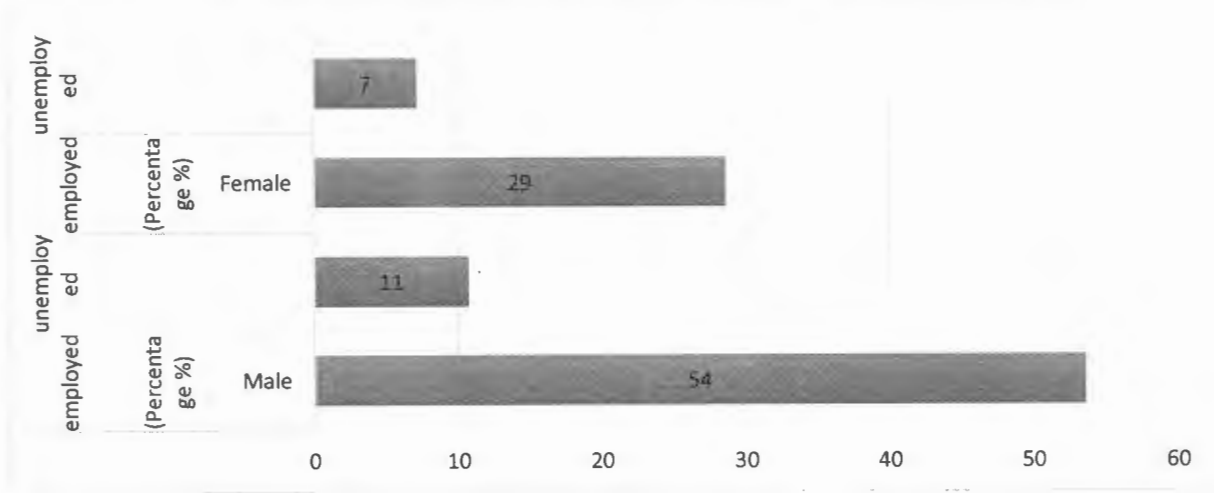
TABLE 4.2: EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Highest educational attainment	Frequency (n)		Percentage (%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Grade 1-11	6	2	21	7
Grade 12	7	5	25	18
Diploma	2	2	7	7
Degree and above	3	1	11	4
Total	18	10	64	36

SOURCE: Zimbabwean migrants study

When looking at the employment status of the research participants, Figure 4 shows that 54% of males participated in some form of employment and 11% were unemployed. Out of the 36% of female migrants, 29% of females participated in some form of employment and 7% stated that they were unemployed.

FIGURE 4.2: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS



SOURCE: Zimbabwean migrants study

4.3 INFLUENCES OF MIGRATION FROM ZIMBABWE TO MAHIKENG

In most cases many migrants leave their country of origin to another country in search of a better life. When looking at the situation of Zimbabwean migrants one could outline that the influences that encourage them to migrate is the socio- economic and political situation in their country. One of the migration theories that explains the influences of Zimbabwean migrants moving from Zimbabwe to Mahikeng is the push and pull theory. The theory explains that migrants move from their country of birth because of both push and pull factors. The theory is associated with Zimbabwean leaving their country due to push factors such as poverty, lack of economic opportunities and political turmoil.



The theory also explains the pull factors which are the ones that have seen the migrants leaving Zimbabwe for Mahikeng. Pull factors are explained as those factors that attract people to move to a particular destination. One could state that the migrants were pulled to Mahikeng by such factors as employment, exposure to opportunities economic reasons, safety and a platform for development.

Migrants were asked to state the reasons that influenced them to migrate to South Africa. Out of the 28 participants, 12 stated that they migrated because they were following family members who had already migrated before them. Four participants stated that their migration was influenced mainly by the political situation that had taken place in Zimbabwe, and 10 participants mentioned that the main reasons they migrated was to find a job. They continued to say that having family or friends in the desired place to migrate to, made the migration process easier. One of reasons that influenced Zimbabweans to migrate was associated with the Neo-Classical theory which mentions that all movements are individual decisions to find employment or maximize income. As a result, the study showed the movement of these migrants was associated with theory. Only 2 participants outlined that the purpose of their migration was mainly for education purposes.

"My family members were here and I wanted a job because in Zimbabwe there are no jobs" (ID 28 #Male).

" When I came here I wanted to be a teacher but things did not go according to plans so I just wanted a job" (ID#20 Male).

"I came to Mahikeng because I have many friends who stay here and they told me there were many jobs this side and that I should leave Zimbabwe and come here" (ID#7 Male).

"I came to Mahikeng because I had some of my family members who had moved to Mahikeng a few years ago" (ID# 3 Female).

"I came here to find a job" (ID#15 Female).

Because of the situation in Zimbabwe, the study associated what was taking place between the borders of Zimbabwe and South Africa with the Harrison-Todaro model. The model states that migrants will search for better places that will offer the advantages of employment as compared to the one that they are currently residing in. South Africa in most cases is the first country that migrants consider when they want to migrate to another country. In most cases one migrant would firstly migrate to a country to establish a life then after he or she is followed by other family members, thus it makes it easy for them to migrate to one place.

"My sister left Zimbabwe a few years ago and came to the University of North West a few years ago, so now she is working in Mahikeng and I came to stay with her" (ID#5 Female).

"I came to Mahikeng because I was coming to stay with my brother" (ID#21 Male).

"My father moved here 10 years ago so when I told him that things were not working out in Zimbabwe he advised me to move here" (ID#13 Male)

When looking at the current situation of Zimbabwe one could outline that the socio—economic and political situation of the country was one of the influencers of its citizens migrating.

"I was told that Mahikeng was a peaceful place" (ID #18 Male).

"We came here to get a better life" (ID#17 Male)

"I chose to migrate to Mahikeng because it is a very peaceful place, although there are criminal activities taking place in Mahikeng, but when comparing it to other cities in South Africa it is better" (ID#1 Male).

Moving from one place to another can have some form of effect on the family members who are left behind. In many cases parents migrate to other countries to find a job,

and by so doing they leave their children behind which in most cases might have some sort of psychological effect on the children as they grow up (Bacci, 2012:99).

The migrants were asked if their migration to Mahikeng had any form of effect on their family members who were left behind in Zimbabwe. From the interviews conducted the research participant mentioned that their move to a new country indeed had some effect on their family members back home. The participants also mentioned that they missed each other. Other migrants mentioned that their move to South Africa had no form of effect on their family members back home. Among the many reasons for such effects, many migrants stated that the effects that it had on their family members were that of them leaving them behind at home and knowing that they cannot see them whenever they wish to, as it requires money to travel back to Zimbabwe or to bring them into South Africa. The researcher quotes some of the migrants' answers to the question to support the effects of migrating to another country.

"yes it has because it is a bit far from home, and my family and friends are refusing to come and visit me because I told them that the Batswana people are very proud people and that they do not speak any other language except Setswana"(ID#1 Male).

"yes because Mahikeng is very far from Zimbabwe, I cannot visit my family very easily, and I left my father and mother back home who are both unemployed, so they are struggling a bit"(ID#2 Female).

"yes I think so because my family back in Zimbabwe is suffering, so us being here means we can work and send money and they can eat" (ID#19 Male).

4.4 THE ZIMBABWEAN SOCIAL NETWORK

In the town of Mahikeng Zimbabweans have developed a system that assists others who arrive in town for the first time. The system is known as a social network that assists the migrants in terms of settling in the town and finding employment. The system is viewed as a brotherhood and sisterhood where Zimbabweans look after each other. Such networks have existed for a very long time and have also been evident among Indians and Somalis. The purpose of such a network is to ensure that new Zimbabwean migrants who arrive in Mahikeng are taught the survival mechanisms in the city and are taught how to operate businesses (Crush and Trevera, 2007:47). In most cases the social network becomes evident where new migrants

arrive in the city and upon their arrival they stay with a friend or family member who then ensures that these individuals get a job. In order to understand the system, in the interview Zimbabwean migrants were asked who they came to the city with or who encouraged them to come to the city.

"I came here because my friends stay in Mahikeng" (ID#4 female).

"My sister left Zimbabwe a few years ago and came to the University of North West a few years ago, so now she is working in Mahikeng and I came to stay with her (ID#5 female)".

4.5 CHALLENGES THAT ZIMBABWEAN MIGRANTS FACE IN MAHIKENG

Migrants face challenges on a day to day basis. In most countries migrants are seen by locals as those individuals who travel to a country and take all the available jobs and who over use the services provided by the government. In South Africa it has been witnessed that many migrants are seen as job stealers and drug dealers or thieves, thus when these migrants travel to South Africa they encounter a lot of problems and many forms of challenges (Tawodzera, 2011).

Many migrants know that whenever they migrate to a new country they are bound to face some social problems, whether at their new job or within the community that they stay. Migrants were asked if they had faced any form of challenges when they arrived in Mahikeng. There were migrants who stated that they had not faced any challenges since their arrival in Mahikeng. Some of the migrants stated that they had encountered some form of harassment especially from the police. They, however, felt that it was a norm for the police to harass migrants with requests of bribes in order to evade arrest. The research participants alluded to the fact that they had experienced some form of problems and challenges when they were in contact with the officials from the Department of Home Affairs, stating that the officials usually mistreat them. Furthermore, 8 of the participants stated that upon their arrival in the country, they had experienced challenges and problems with the citizens of South Africa.

"I had a bad experience because when I came to Mahikeng I used the Limpopo border, the officials there are very corrupt I saw them harassing other migrants especially males, my plan was to settle in Limpopo first because I have friends there but after what I saw I decided to come and stay with my uncle" (ID#4 Female).

“When I arrived in Mahikeng I came late and we met the border police, I still remember it was on a Friday, they searched us and told us that they know we are bringing drugs into the country they treated us like dogs. (ID#7 Male).

“Nothing except for being searched for drugs, while the Batswana’s were left they only searched foreigners which I found a bit discriminative”(ID#12 Male).

According to (Crush:2001) many migrants who arrive in a particular country or community are bound to face some sort of challenges depending on the type of lifestyle they live or what they have acquired in that particular country. In South Africa rural areas are the main areas where mistreatment of migrants occurs as the residents of that certain community might blame migrants for the current situation of that particular community (Crush and Tawodzera: 2011). In most cases, unprofessional migrants usually migrate to rural areas upon their arrival in a particular community. From the 28 migrants that were interviewed the majority were residing in the rural areas of Mahikeng. The Zimbabwean migrants were asked if they had experienced any social challenges at work and in the community that they were residing in. Only 39% of the research participants stated that they had not experienced any sort of challenges, while 61% stated that they had experienced some sort of challenge at work and in the community that they reside in.

4.5.1 CHALLENGES AT WORK

South Africa has been subjected to high rates of unemployment for its citizens. This has resulted in most of the citizens of this country being frustrated and blaming migrants for the high rates of employment. From all the research participants, 50% were experiencing problems at work which amounted to a total of 11 migrants who were employed.

“I sometimes feel that South Africans hate us because of where we come from” (ID#5 Male).

“I will start with my work place, some days are good and some days are bad there are other customers who just hate migrants in Mahikeng, an example would be that when they are not pleased with the service they usually say that it is because the business is being led by a (LEKWEREKWERE), which means a foreigner” (ID#1 Male).

“ As a Zimbabwean who owns a growing company I felt that it would only be fair to hire some South Africans and not only hire Zimbabweans, but on many occasions I have fought with these people and they would tell us that we should go back home because the money that we are making belongs to them”(ID#8 Male).

“The job that I do, sometimes the people don’t want to pay me in time so I feel they do it because I am a Zimbabwean or I am a foreigner” (ID#23 Female).

Migrants have outlined that they feel that the South African government is to blame for this challenges that they are facing. These migrants have made mention that the South African government, has confused its citizens by saying that migrants are the main cause of high rate of unemployment in the country.

“Yes I just wanted to tell you that, I think the government is saying to its citizens that we are the main course of their problems, without them even realizing this (ID#5 Female).

“I feel that foreigners are being blamed for this country’s problems, the South African government has been unable to provide answers to it citizens, so we the foreigners came here and we do unprofessional jobs such as gardens, tiling and pavements, we identified an opportunity in this country and we realized that South African do not want to do these jobs because they believe that its below their status so when we do it and earn the little money that we do they hate us. This is mainly because they see us living an affordable life so they feel belittled and feel that we are taking their jobs”(ID#14 Female).

4.5.2 CHALLENGES BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

South Africa is a country which is ruled by the government, and has developed laws that constitute the country and are being implemented by government officials. Migrants have expressed that in South Africa, government officials have the capability of doing their jobs, but in some cases they have encountered some sort of harassment from these officials.

According to (Lesetedi:2007), Zimbabwean migrants who come to Mahikeng usually use the Botswana border posts, while some use the Limpopo border and pass through some South African cities to finally reach their destination in Mahikeng. As these migrants travel, they come in contact with government officials, such as the police, the

DHA officials, the SNDF officials and the South African public service offices. The purpose of these officials is to ensure that migrants have proper documentation to be allowed to access the country. In many cases these officials have misused their powers and this has resulted in these migrants being mistreated. Some of the Zimbabwean migrants stated that they had experienced some sort of problem with the South African officials, while others stated that they have never experienced any sort of challenges with the officials.

"My main concern is that, the South African officials are mistreating us. I just wanted to tell you these, do you know yesterday, I went to the clinic, me and my girlfriend because she was sick, when we got there it was 7 am in the morning, we were the first ones in the line, we sat there for about 2 hours and when I went back to check what was happening because my girlfriend was very ill I was told that the nurses were still drinking tea and that we should wait. One even told me that we foreigners are a problem and that we should go back home, and nag our own nurses, they are here to serve South African people not us (ID#7 Male).

" My brother when I got here I came straight from Limpopo and we were expected to pay bribes so that we can move on, they told us that if we do not pay then they were going to arrest us and tomorrow we will be sent back home(ID#17 Male).

" When we got here the taxi that we were riding in, there was no South African and it was foreigners only, so when we got to the border my brother, the police were called by those people who stamped our passports and we were told to wait in a dark room, we thought that they arresting us because most of us it was the first time we were crossing the border, so when we were in the room police came and they were with dogs and told us that if we have drugs we must give to them or they will let the dogs bite us if we didn't . My brother I was afraid for my life (ID#22 Male).

4.5.3 CHALLENGES WHEN ARRIVING IN MAHIKENG



South Africa is a country which is made of many rural areas, whereby some of its people do not have access to information and education. Similarly, Mahikeng, is also made up of rural areas as compared to urban areas, thus in most cases it will result in the residents of the host community having negative attitudes towards migrants. This attitude is rooted in the fact that citizens of the host community feel that migrants are taking their jobs or engaging in some form of criminal activities.

The research participants were asked if the locals in the community of residence were treating them well. In their answers, 11 migrants stated that they were not being treated well and were experiencing some problems with the host community. Furthermore, 17 stated that they were being treated well by the host community.

Migration into another country or area comes with the migrants in question having to settle in a specific community, whereby the migrants get to engage with the citizens of the host community (Hungwe, 2013:7). In most cases it depends on the attitudes of the citizens of that community in determining how the migrant will be treated and the challenges that they will experience (Jeffreys: 2014). The majority of participants stated that they did not face any challenges.

"I only experienced problems when I first arrived. The people in the area did not like me because they felt that I had taken one of their houses, as you may know extension 39 is RDP houses so they felt that they had some sort of ownership. Others believed that I was a drug dealer and a thief as it is a stigma with foreigners, but after they knew me they accepted me as one of their own" (ID#1 Male).

"I have not experienced any, and by the way what are social problems, no not any" (ID# 9 Male).

"I have not experience any because any because even my Setswana is fluent now (ID#12 Male).

"At work everything is ok, but in the community it is not ok, I remember when I moved here the people were treating us like we are thieves" (ID#17 Male).

4.6 TREATMENT OF ZIMBABWEANS BY THE LOCALS

South African communities have been facing their own problems that are yet to be solved. These range from proper sanitation, access to housing, employment and proper access to health services. Since these problems seem to be unsolvable the moment migrants settle in a particular area, they get to be blamed for such problems.

Many migrants have been subjected to abuse by the locals; in most cases migrants are being abused because the citizens of the country feel that they do not belong in the host community.

"My friends are always complaining about being robbed and being called (MAKWEREKWERE)" (ID #24 Male).

"In most case we become victims of crime and being name called both at work and in the communities that we stay in (ID#18 Male).

Mahikeng has been regarded by Zimbabwean migrants as one of the most peaceful places in South Africa. From the transcripts it was evident that many of the research participants were being treated well by the locals of Mahikeng while others where not.

"Mahikeng is a very peaceful place" (ID#10 Female).

With the 3 months that I have been here I can tell you that this place is a very peaceful and the life is very affordable because it's a small city" (ID#11 Female).

"The Batswana people are very kind to us as migrants and one thing that I have noticed is that they treat us with respect and love and they understand that we are one. Furthermore Mahikeng is one of the best places for migration it is a small city and it is very affordable to stay here (ID#1 Male).

4.7 ZIMBABWEAN PERSPECTIVE ON XENOPHOBIA

It is clear that the issue that comes to the mind of most Zimbabwean migrants when one mentions the situation of fear is xenophobia. All participants were familiar with the concept of xenophobia. Their explanations show that they understand the meaning of the concept as well as the effects associated with the issue. Although some participants mentioned that they had not experienced xenophobia directly, their responses show that they had some sort of xenophobic experiences. Other participants experienced xenophobia directly. Xenophobia is associated with the migrants having to go back home or back to the countries.

In the literature review, the study made mention that xenophobia is attitudes and behaviour that reflects rejection and mistreatment of migrants by a way of viewing them as outsiders. This is a term that people use to isolate those that they feel do not belong in a particular country. The term is usually characterised with nationality. Crush and Ramachandran (2009:44), in South Africa xenophobia is associated with foreigners.

The literature continued to argue that, xenophobia is a phenomenon that is associated with fear. According (Lesetedi: 2007), this fear is mainly caused by fear from the locals of economic competition between them and these migrants.

There is this problem of xenophobia which worries me sometimes. There are some citizens who do not like foreigners. They do not hide how they hate us. They say bad things about us as foreigners. They even threaten us sometimes. That is why I am sometimes scared” (ID#24 female).

“I am very angry because of the xenophobic attacks that are happening on mainly Zimbabweans and Somalians, and we know the main reasons why Zimbabweans are in South Africa is because our own government has led our economy into an economic crisis and they can’t provide jobs for us because look at me, I am a master’ degree graduate. I would like President Mugabe to take responsibility of what is also taking place in South Africa. President Mugabe has led the country into an economic plunge and as he is the chairperson of SADC and AU, I think he should plead with the South African government to strengthen its police department and protect migrants. I would also like to say that many Zimbabwean cross the Limpopo river illegally because they feel that they have no choice and many of them die on the way and mind you there are 3 million Zimbabweans in South Africa and if they are going to deport them all it will result in a logistical nightmare” (ID#11 Female).

During the interview, migrants were asked to give their own perspective on the issue of xenophobia, and by so doing referring to the 2008 and 2015 xenophobic attacks which took place in South Africa. They were also asked if they were afraid for their lives or that of their families since the attacks took place. Only 9 research participants stated that they were afraid for their lives and that of their families, while 19 stated that they were not afraid for their lives and that of their families. The 19 who said they were not afraid stated that it was mainly because they reside in Mahikeng and they felt that xenophobic attacks would not reach this city.

Some migrants live in fear, nervous that some incidents may stir up a new wave of xenophobic violence against them. Most of the participants outlined what they felt about the 2008 attacks and the current attacks.

"I feel that the 2008 attacks as compared to the current ones they were better, because this ones were very harsh because the Kwa-Zulu Natal King influenced the citizens of Kwa-Zulu Natal to kill foreigners. I think that the King of Kwa-Zulu Natal should be killed too because he has influenced many foreigners to be killed (ID#2 Male).

What I do not like is a person who sees you as a kwere kwere. They do not see you as one of their brother and sister. We are all Africans. How can you people refuse to accept us? Sometimes people do not respect you because you are on the street. More than that, you are a foreigner, a kwere kwere" (ID#7 male).

"What I can say is that in 2008 I believe that South Africans were confused as they witnessed a great influx of migrants so they believed that these migrants were coming here to take their jobs. When coming to the current attacks I believe that they were influenced by the Zulu king because he made a statement that all foreigners must leave his province thus the attacks took place" (ID#1 Male).

"South Africans are very cruel, I think they are the same. Because people were killed" (ID#4Female).

4.8 DISCUSSION

Africa Check (2013), Zimbabwean migrants constitute a total of 3 million out of the 52 million of the citizens of South Africa. When trying to understand the situation of Zimbabwe and South Africa the following outline can be provided. According to the World Bank (2011) Zimbabwe in 2011 had a total population of 14, 2 million. This amounted to a total of 5.7% of South Africa's population and 21% of Zimbabwe's population. This means that Zimbabwean migrants are finding it much easier to survive in South Africa as compared to Zimbabwe. Statistics South Africa (2013) stated that Zimbabwean migrants constitute 33.8% of all African migrants residing in South Africa.

Migrants serve a purpose in many South African cities, they contribute to the local economy and in some cases are job creators, but in most cases these contributions are not recognized by the local or provincial government. Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng have been providing services ever since they arrived in the city. According to Sidzatane (2011), mention is made that the contribution of migrants to the development of South Africa has been often disregarded. Migrants are one of the

hardest working individuals who come to South Africa as they are motivated by the poverty that they ran away from back in their own countries.

Many Zimbabwean migrants who have settled in Mahikeng, came here through a family member or a friend. Migrants in South Africa have created a network which assists in making their migration much easier. Migrants in South Africa have developed a system whereby when they arrive in a certain location they are provided with accommodation and startup capital for their business other already find employment.

From the researcher's observations during the interviews, it was clear that many of the research participants were residing in the townships of Mahikeng and this was because they could not afford the accommodation in the urban areas. When considering the situation of where migrants reside when they arrive in South Africa, the researcher came to the conclusion that these migrants reside in informal settlement and rural areas. Furthermore, the researcher believes that the reason migrants are being attacked is somehow influenced by the area in which they reside when they arrive in the country.

South Africa has a lot of rural areas which experience a lot of problems with regards to proper housing, sanitation, and access to water and health care facilities. When the migrants arrive in these areas they find the citizens already furious with the government, they are then believed to be an addition to the problems that already exist. In most cases South African leaders have been the influencers of mistreatment directed towards migrants. This is because the leaders relate the problems to migrants. Many of the Zimbabwean migrants came to Mahikeng because they felt that it was more peaceful. Some migrants even believe that Mahikeng has a lot of opportunities in terms of informal employment. The question that the researcher had in mind was in relation to the reasons that, Zimbabwean migrants decide to settle in Mahikeng. This is especially because they pass many cities between Mahikeng and either one of the two border posts in order to have access to South Africa, the post are the Limpopo border and the Botswana border. Migrants responded by saying that other cities in South Africa are very dangerous for migrants as there is a high occurrence of xenophobic attacks in the other areas.

It has been assumed that many migrants come to the country to conduct illegal dealings. However, this study revealed that these migrants come to South Africa to seek employment so that they can support their families through participating in legal employment. It is known that Zimbabwe has been experiencing a lot of socio-economic problems. As a result, these has seen many of its citizens migrating to other countries. Zimbabweans usually prefer to migrate to countries that are economically well-off such as South Africa, because it makes no sense to migrate from one poverty-stricken country to another. Many of the migrants that participated in this study mentioned that they were working in Mahikeng and all of them who participated in some form of employment were doing it in the informal sector. Within those migrants, some mentioned that they had their own businesses and that they had employed South African citizens. What this meant was that these migrants had created some sort of income for these South Africans that they had employed. It is clear that these individuals who receive income from these migrants might have been alleviated from poverty which is a good thing for the South African government as it reduces dependence on the government.

When the study was conducted it became clear that migrants understood that they would not always receive better treatment from the citizens of South Africa. It was revealed that these migrants know that some South Africans feel threatened by their presence. They understood that as they arrive in the host communities and start working, they find South Africans who are already doing those jobs so their view as a threat and competition.

Many South Africans believe that the country already has many problems to deal with, so they feel that when migrants arrive, they bring more problems. For instance, one migrant stated that South Africans are not thinking when they respond to the issue of migrants. He mentioned that South Africans and Zimbabweans are one and all black, but South African abuse their fellow black men: Zimbabweans, but not and not the white man. When the researcher was conducting the study he came across a very interesting story (Diarra, 2010: 13).

The study had to link the theoretical framework with the findings. It is outlined in the framework that these migrants have to come up with survival strategies in order to survive in South Africa and in Mahikeng (Rwemire: 2001). This situation of migrants in

different host communities has been associated with the nationalism theory. Some migrants made mention that they were being harassed by locals as they were operating small businesses or offering cheap labour. This was associated nationalism as the citizens of the host community felt that they had some sense of ownership, when coming to jobs and businesses.

When looking at the framework, it makes mention survival strategies. These strategies are associated with the social networks that these migrants develop in order to survive.

The study had to look at its objectives and relate them to its findings. It was clear to outline that the study had met its five objectives. The results of the study outlined the reason for migrants to migrate to Mahikeng; it outlined the experiences of these migrants in the town. How they are being treated. Their challenges and how they feel about xenophobia.

4.8 SUMMARY



Zimbabwean migrants play a critical role in Mahikeng, and more specifically in Mahikeng's informal businesses, which in most cases is through their social network systems. Most of these Zimbabweans come to Mahikeng with no capital to start any form of business or with no promise of employment. Zimbabwean migrants have created a social system which seems to be assisting them in terms of getting employment or starting their own business, this is done through one migrant coming to Mahikeng then being followed by his peers after he or she establishes him or herself.

Many Zimbabwean migrants feel that they made the right choice by coming to Mahikeng as compared to other cities of South Africa. They continue to outline how Mahikeng is a peaceful place and how it is full of opportunities. These migrants have stated that indeed they have experienced some challenges in the city especially from government officials and also the community that they stay in. They have, however, also made statements that the citizens of Mahikeng have accepted them into their communities.

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter an attempt is made to show how Zimbabwean migrants are being treated in Mahikeng. The chapter also touches on the experiences that these Zimbabwean migrants encounter on a day to day basis as they go about their lives. The implications that are associated with moving from Zimbabwe into South Africa. The chapter also touches on how these Zimbabwean migrants are being treated by the police, the DHA officials, as well as the locals in the communities within which they reside, public servants. Recommendations are given on how this situation of migrants should be handled. Finally, a way forward is provided regarding the issues that these migrants deal with.

5.2 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The study identified 28 Zimbabwean migrants, and within those migrants it was identified that 64% were males and 36% were females. The study also looked at the type of residence that these migrants resided in, and it was found that 50% of the males resided in rural areas and 14% resided in urban areas and that 22% of females resided in rural areas and 14% resided in urban areas.

The study also identified that most of the migrants had some form of formal education as 25% of males and 18% of females had completed grade 12. The findings of the study also showed that 54% of males and 29% of males were participating in some form of employment.

The findings proved that most of these Zimbabwean migrants were influenced to move to Mahikeng as some of their family members were already staying in the town. The Zimbabwean migrants have developed a social network which assists them in dealing with the challenges that they encounter in Mahikeng both social and economic. It was outlined in the finding that only a few migrants outlined that they were encountering challenges in the town. Most of the research participants outlined that they did not face challenges as Mahikeng was a peaceful place.

The findings outlined that most of the migrants who participated in the study were facing challenges at work. When coming to challenges with regards to government officials, the research participants outlined that in most cases they experienced cases

where they had to pay a bribe in order to attain access to certain basic services and to avoid harassment. These Zimbabwean migrants mention that one of the challenges that they were encountering constantly was that of name calling by the locals. The research participants outlined that in Mahikeng they had not experienced any form of xenophobia but had experienced it in other towns of South Africa.

5.3 CONCLUSION

The main purpose of the study was to understand the experiences of Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa, with special focus on those that settled in Mahikeng. In order for the study to achieve its main purpose, the following objectives were pursued: to explore how Zimbabwean migrants were being treated in Mahikeng, to understand the challenges that Zimbabwean migrants encounter in Mahikeng, to investigate the reasons for Zimbabwean migrants to settle in Mahikeng, and to assess the effects of xenophobia on Zimbabwean migrants.

Zimbabwean migrants who participated in the study from the results showed that migrants had encountered some sort of problem in Mahikeng, but stated that they were safe in the city. With that in mind, the results also showed that many of the participants did not experience any problems. The results revealed that migrants settled in Mahikeng because they had felt that this town was one of the safest in South Africa. This was because they were aware that the city had never been exposed to any form of xenophobic attack ever since they took place.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

The study formulated its recommendations from the findings which were made in Chapter 4. First of all, when looking at the situation of migrants nationwide, it would be advisable for the South African government to come up with a policy that protects legal migrants. With the development of this policy the National government should ensure that the policy is implemented at all provincial and local government and is monitored and evaluated as time goes on.

- Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa should form a forum which starts at national level until local level. Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng should be part of this forum as it would be a support structure to them when facing social challenges.

- Zimbabwean migrants who operate their own business should ensure that they register the businesses with the local business forum in order to have access to information and protection from such a forum.
- The provincial government should ensure that all Zimbabwean migrants who settle in Mahikeng have access to health care facilities, education and proper sanitation without any form of discrimination.
- All Zimbabwean migrants in Mahikeng should ensure that their migration to the city is a legal one in order to ensure that they are protected.
- The North West Provincial government should ensure that proper training is provided to the citizens of the province and that of Mahikeng, this training is very important as it would teach them how to handle migrants and the contributions that the migrants make in the city.
- The provincial government should ensure that no illegal activities such as bribing and abuse take place between migrants and government officials at the border posts.
- A policy specifically for dealing with xenophobia should be developed. This policy should deal with xenophobia being treated as a serious criminal offence in South Africa. The policy should ensure that it finds a way of avoiding xenophobic attacks, such a policy should be implemented and monitored. The policy should also ensure that all spheres of government are proactive in educating the local community about the negative and long-term effects of xenophobia. The South African government should stop blaming migrants for all the problems that are taking place in the country.
- If the South African government identifies that they cannot deal with migrants, another policy should be developed which discourages migration into South Africa.

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APPENDIX: INTERVIEW GUIDE

TOPIC: UNDERSTANDING CHALLENGES OF ZIMBABWEAN MIGRANTS IN SOUTH AFRICA: A CASE STUDY OF MAHIKENG TOWN

Introduction

My name is Kagiso Phake. I'm a Masters student at the North West University (Mafikeng Campus). I am conducting a study on understanding the challenges of Zimbabwean migrants in South Africa. The main purpose of this study is to investigate and understand the challenges and experiences that Zimbabwean migrants encounter as they travel to South Africa and settle in Mahikeng.

I would like to assure you that whatever is being discussed will not be shared with anyone. The information provided will not be used for anything other than for the purpose of the study. And your identity will not be revealed in the report.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT:

1. What is your name and your surname?
2. How old are you?
3. Where do you reside in Mahikeng?
4. What is the highest grade that you completed completed?
5. Are you currently employed?
6. If yes: What type of job do you do?

7. Are you alone or with a family of your own in Mahikeng?

SECTION B: MIGRATION

8. Why did you choose to migrate to Mahikeng?

9. How long have you stayed in Mahikeng?

10. Did any of your family members or friends migrate to Mahikeng before you?

11. If yes, what were their reasons to migrate?

12. Has your migration to Mahikeng had any form of effect on your family who are still in Zimbabwe?

13. If you had the chance, what advice would you give to the South African government in terms of dealing with migrants?

SECTION C: EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES OF ZIMBABWEAN MIGRANTS

14. What challenges did you encounter when you entered the South African border post, for example, with the police, the community you arrived in and the (DHA) officials?

15. If you had the chance, would you encourage fellow Zimbabweans back in Zimbabwe to migrate to Mahikeng and why?

16. How often do you experience social challenges or problems at your work place or in the community that you stay in?

17. Do you have your own house or are you renting or staying with friends?

18. If you are renting how often do you experience problems with your landlord, and what types of problems are they?

19. Have any of your friends ever encountered any sort of problems or challenges in Mahikeng and what are they?

20. Do you think Migrating to Mahikeng was a good decision?

SECTION D: EFFECTS OF THE CURRENT XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA

21. Are you aware of the 2008 xenophobic attacks that took place in South Africa? What is the difference between those attacks and the current ones?

22. There are police and soldier raids currently taking place in Mahikeng, targeting foreign internationals, are you aware of it and what's your take on the whole situation?

23. Since the xenophobic attacks took place are you afraid for your life or that of your friends and family?

24. If you were given the opportunity to address the President of South Africa, the minister of Home Affairs and the South African police Minister and Commissioner on xenophobia what would you say to them?

SECTION E: CONCLUSION

25. We are approaching the end of the interview, is there anything else you would like to say regarding your stay in Mafikeng?

Thank you for your time.