

# Chapter 1

## Human Trafficking Discourse in Zimbabwe

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Despite being confronted with a myriad of challenges that are economic, social, and environmental, the Zimbabwean nation is overwhelmed by human trafficking cases. Previous studies have established that human trafficking proliferation is orchestrated by religious, social, and economic motives aimed at in most if not all cases self-enrichment. The chapter presents that the Zimbabwean form of human trafficking can take different forms whereby victims may be lured to participate in prostitution, robberies, and suicidal killings whilst in some cases, they can be killed for body organs usage in rituals. The study established that Zimbabwe has experienced many painful years of economic decay. Hence, it has become a breeding ground for both old and new forms of human trafficking. The chapter recommends that awareness campaigns, maximisation of law enforcement agents in combating human trafficking prevalence, and crafting human trafficking-combating policies are some of the various ways the Zimbabwean society can nip human trafficking in the bud.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The proliferation of human trafficking is not a recent phenomenon in Africa and Zimbabwe specifically as kings and chiefs of the ancient times would forcibly barter trade their people to other kingdoms in exchange for cattle, minerals and or any other preferred goods (Dodo & Dodo, 2012). The study has established that in most cases, the victims of human trafficking can either be illegally transported with a country and or beyond its borders (Mhlanga & Mhlanga, 2021). Zimbabwe, just like most of the world is making great in the quest to eliminate human trafficking. The chapter is premised on highlighting Zimbabwean efforts in combating human trafficking as is supported by the setting up of an anti-trafficking inter-ministerial committee (ATIMC) that has adopted a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) buttressed

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by Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on victim identification and referral (2019 Trafficking in Persons Report: Zimbabwe). As argued by Dodo & Dodo (2012), most Zimbabweans have increasingly become victims of human trafficking due to economic recession which proliferated in the country since late 1990s that has led to most of the people being trafficked to United Kingdom (UK), South Africa, China, India, Canada, New Zealand, Botswana and Dubai. This chapter is hinged on unpacking causes of human trafficking in Zimbabwe as well postulating the its future on the nation buttressed by possible ways the government has employed to nip the evil in the bud.

### **CONTESTED DEFINITIONS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Palermo Protocol (2000) has defined human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of person, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation (Barner et al., 2014; Burke & Brujin, 2017)). This view gained support of Mhlanga & Mhlanga (2021) who envisaged exploitation as including the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or the removal of organs. In the same perspective, Dodo & Dodo (2012) bring to the fore the prevalence of human trafficking along the shores of the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans where victims were targeted for cheap labour as well as their beauty in relation to young women. Human trafficking can be attributed to issues that relate to poverty, conflicts and ignorance (IOM, 2011), but, can also be perpetrated on the basis of traditional and religious rituals. From the definitions above, it can be noted that human trafficking is both a violation of human rights and modern form of slavery for it infringes one's right to life, health, freedom from slavery, liberty, security and freedom of choice and movement (Lee, 2007)

### **CAUSES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ZIMBABWE**

Apart from poverty, HIV and AIDS and terrorism, Musademba (2017) concurs with Dodo & Dodo (2012) and Gromova (2015) cited in Mazuru, (2017) that human trafficking is currently considered as one of the most sombre challenges confronting many nations in the world. As highlighted by Sachikonye (2013), Zimbabwe encountered cases of human trafficking between 1998 and 2003 when the nation witnessed the land invasion epoche. Apart from the invasions, the Zimbabwean context envisages a myriad of factors that expose the general citizenry to human trafficking. These factors entice victims to succumb to human trafficking by default argue Mhlanga & Mhlanga, (2021). The factors point to issues that have to do with poverty, unemployment, lack of income, poor health facilities and opportunities, the HIV and AIDS pandemic, natural and man-made disasters with the Corona Virus (COVID-19) as a recent example, political instability and poor institutional systems.

In the African perspective, poverty is the main cause of any form of human trafficking. On the African soil, poverty is the deprivation of basic goods, or a low income that limits one's access to basic goods (Banda, 2020). Poverty has been characterised by colonial legacies, geography, weather, epidemics, incompetent and corrupt leadership, gender imbalance, religion and sin (Banda, 2020). The West understands poverty as economic poverty as seen in the World Bank's definition of people living on

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less than US\$1.90 per day (Tearfund, 2019). Biblically, poverty is viewed as intrinsically linked to the social and systematic consequences of broken relationships between God, people and the wider creation (Thacker, 2017:58). Tearfund (2019) argues that poverty comes from a distorted understanding of self, which affects how individuals interact with other people, with the wider creation and with God. Poverty has been picked as the main cause of human trafficking in Zimbabwe since most people live under the poverty datum line it has become a general trend for every person to employ whatever he/she can think of to access money. This has led to orphans engaging in prostitution or giving themselves to prostitution cartels where their masters will enjoy the money they prostitute for whilst they get the basics like food, clothes etc. Since most women live in the rural areas whilst their men counterparts go to towns and cities in search of money, they are vulnerable to few rich community men who in most cases sexually and physically abuse them in return for money to cater for the family needs.

Issues that have to do with unemployment, lack of income, lack of accessible health facilities, the impact of pandemics, economic depression, political instability and poor legal institutions are direct consequences of poverty in Zimbabwe. The proliferation of poverty in the nation exposes the most vulnerable people which include women and girls, children as well as the weakest men. A United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2005 situational assessment of human trafficking in the SADC region reported that most Zimbabwean human trafficking victims are known to be deceived with promises of job opportunities in overseas countries and the region, particularly in Botswana and South Africa. The report further argues that some cases have been found where women and at times men have been lured with employment opportunities in Egypt and Israel for example. The jobs are reportedly advertised in newspapers and on the internet and potential approaches to potential victims are sometimes made. Examples of typical advertisements in local newspapers might read as follows: *'International job opportunities. Strike a chance to fly, live and work abroad as maids/general hands. Advance tickets available.'* As argued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's 2005 situational assessment of human trafficking in the SADC, such advertisements sound both enticing and innocent. In the same perspective, the International Organisation on Migration (IOM) has traced a number of Zimbabwean women to Hillbrow, Johannesburg and two of them admitted to have been trafficked. The IOM further argues that both women had been promised high paying jobs in South Africa, one by a relative and both ended up being offered to clients as sex workers. These snap shorts exemplify that Zimbabwe's economic challenges and the belief that jobs are in abundance in South Africa have made many Zimbabweans vulnerable to human trafficking.

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS IN ZIMBABWE**

According to the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (2016)'s Global Report on Human Trafficking, 51% of the identified victims of trafficking were women, 28% children and 21% men. As reported by the Department of Immigration, approximately fifty thousand, 50 000 Zimbabweans were deported from South Africa in 2005 bringing an average of 4 200 people a month. Again, 12 000 Zimbabweans cross the border to South Africa every month to look for work making Zimbabwe an easy hunting ground for would be human traffickers. Moreso, 72% of most trafficked persons were based on sexual reasons, 63% of the traffickers were men with about 37% of women actively participating in the social vice. In the same perspective, Dodo & Dodo (2012) observe that human trafficking prevalence is biased towards labour exploitation in relation to men, sexual exploitation in relation to women and girls and a few victims are trafficked for ritual purposes. It is clear as observed by Luty & Lania (2012) perpetra-

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tors of human trafficking consider cost-benefit analysis since in most cases their push factors outweigh the possibilities of being persecuted. However, in the case of Zimbabwe, the motivation for trafficking can be varied depending on the period as the chapter discusses.

The first major block is pre-independent Zimbabwe, which can be further sub-divided into before European colonisation and post European colonisation. During pre-independent Zimbabwe, the proliferation of human trafficking was pushed by the retention of power by kings whereby opponents were either killed or traded. The rapid growth of the demand for labour by the European plantations in tropical America culminated in an '*irruption*' of Africans being captured as slaves and would be transported to America by ships (Oliver & Fage, 1990). Oliver and Fage (1990) further argued that the nineteenth century witnessed the establishment of the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa which culminated in white engaging in extensive farming and mining that attracted a huge demand for labour force where Zimbabweans would be forcibly taken from their homes to work in the South African farms and mines. Moreso, beautiful women would be taken by stronger men against their will. In some cases tribes would fight between themselves and losers would be trafficked for the benefit of the winning kingdom or empire. This rivalry was witnessed between the Shona and the Ndebele whereby the latter would raid the former for food, animals, minerals and beautiful women. The post-European colonisation epoch witnessed the continuation of tribal oriented human trafficking discourse which ended up in slave trade.

The second block is post-independent Zimbabwe, that can be further sub-divided into the first and the second Republic. The First Republic (1980-2017) witnessed a myriad of human trafficking cases that were caused by various reasons that included: political schisms, tradition, economic depression, the year 2000 white farms invasions to mention a few (Sachikonye, 2003 & Tibaijuka, 2005). It has to be noted that the Zimbabwean economic recession of 2006-2008 exacerbated by acute food shortages forced most Zimbabweans to be possible victims of human trafficking. As reported by the International Organisation for Migration (2011), most people were trafficked into South Africa ended up working in farms and estates where they, in most cases at the mercy of their masters (Dodo & Dodo, 2012). As reported by the 2005 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2007), many young Zimbabweans seek ways of escaping from their nations' high unemployment rate by crossing over to South Africa anticipating for better employment opportunities. Most of them as reported by the 2005 UNODC situational assessment of human trafficking in the SADC region do not have travel documents and leave the country illegally across unmarked land borders. Once they have crossed the border, they become vulnerable to exploitation by the hosts, who may be fellow Zimbabweans already established in the destination country or other nationalities. The most recent human trafficking cases were recorded in 2016 where more than 200 Zimbabwean women were reported to have been trafficked to Kuwait (The Herald, 12 March 2016 in Mazuru, 2017)

### **ZIMBABWEAN EFFORTS IN COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The Government of Zimbabwe has made notable huge strides in combating the proliferation of human trafficking in relation to mechanisms, prosecution, prevention and the trafficking profile (United States Department of State, Zimbabwe Human Trafficking Report, 2019).

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### **Interventions by the Southern African Regional Police Chefs' Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO)**

The Interpol Sub-Regional Bureau for Southern Africa is situated in Harare and it also serves as the Secretariat for the SARPCCO. This office has a desk for trafficking in human beings, illegal immigrants and fraudulent travel documents. The office is gathering information on human trafficking from the 14 SADC nations. The SARPCCO had its first working meeting on Trafficking in Human Beings in Harare in the month of November of the year, 2004. The meeting was convened as a response to Resolution 8 of the seventh SARPCCO annual general meeting held at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in the month of September 2002 which mandated it to motivate member states through their parent ministries of Police to ratify the United Nations Protocol on Human Trafficking of Women and Children. In 2003, the SARPCCO was funded by IOM to publish a training manual titled, 'SARPCCO Training Manual for Crimes against Women and Children.' The SARPCCO efforts have already witnessed significant strides in successful anti-human trafficking interventions in Zimbabwe.

### **Establishment of Human Trafficking Control Committees.**

The Government of Zimbabwe constituted an anti-trafficking inter-ministerial committee (ATIMC) and adopted a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) which outlined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on victim identification, management and referral. Moreso, the nation drafted and adopted implementing regulations which legalised the work of the NRM in empowering provincial task forces, defined clear roles and responsibilities for front-line workers. The 2016-2018 National Action Plan (NAP) evaluation identified lessons which informed the drafting of the new 2019-2020 action plan. Notable setbacks were the pending amendments to the 2014 Trafficking in Persons Act, prosecution and conviction of fewer cases as compared to the previous year and the backlog of trafficking cases dating back to 2016. As recorded by the report, the government recorded fewer trafficking victims and lacked funding in the provision of protective services to the identified victims. The following areas needed improvement as noted by the report:

1. Activate efforts to proactively investigate and prosecute human traffickers.
2. Provide financial support to non-governmental organisations that offer services to human trafficking victims.
3. Capacity building for law enforcers on current investigative techniques.
4. Train the Judiciary Service Commission (JSC) personnel on trafficking and trafficking-related legislation.
5. Establish safe havens for trafficking victims in each of Zimbabwe's ten provinces.
6. Implement and allocate sufficient resources to National Action Plan (NAP) to combat trafficking.
7. Develop mutual legislative assistance treaties (MLATs) and other agreements to facilitate information gathering and sharing with other nations.

(United States Department of State, Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking, 2019).

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### **Prosecution of Trafficking Offenders**

Although Dodo & Dodo (2012) has argued that the Government of Zimbabwe seem not to be moved as evidenced by lack of deliberate mechanisms in the quest to prosecute human trafficking perpetrators, it should be noted that the nation has established and maintained anti-trafficking law enforcement mechanisms. Notably, the government has the 2014 Trafficking in Persons Act that criminalise the involuntary transport of a person and the voluntary transport for an unlawful purpose, into, outside, or within Zimbabwe. Moreso, to buttress this act's lack of criminalising forced labour, the Zimbabwe's Labour Relations Act has gone a step further and criminalised forced labour prescribing penalties up to two years of imprisonment. In addition, the Criminal Law (codification and reform) Act criminalised the act of procuring a person for unlawful sexual conduct, inside or outside Zimbabwe and prescribed penalties of up to two years of imprisonment although not sufficiently stringent in combating sex trafficking, (United States Department of State, Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking, 2019).

It has to be however noted that the government of Zimbabwe, in partnership with some international organisations finalised a draft, Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Act Amendment Bill and an inter-ministerial committee convened a final legislative workshop in 2020 and the bill is pending its passage by Parliament. In the relation to prosecution, the government reported two cases in 2018 as compared to fourteen (14) in 2017. Notably, amongst the twenty human trafficking cases reported in 2016 that involved Zimbabwean victims exploited in Kuwait, only three have been prosecuted whilst the others are still under investigation.

### **Human Trafficking Prevention Efforts**

The Zimbabwean government has made significant strides both in prosecuting trafficking offenders and providing services for the victims which is great testimony of the nation's notable efforts in preventing trafficking. This is supported by the fact that Zimbabwe has been upgraded to Tier 2 according to the 2019 United States of America Department of Trafficking in Persons. Firstly, the government conducted an evaluation of the 2016-2018 NAP for the purposes of taking stock of achievements and areas that needed improvement which was vital in informing the drafting of an updated NAP for the period 2019-2020 that included a variety of input from thirteen (13) government ministries. As reported in the United States Department of State, Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking (2019), the following achievements were noted:

1. In 2018, the ATIMC adopted guidelines for the engagement the government and civil society actors to establish a National Coordinating Forum (NCF) which sets to provide an engagement platform.
2. In partnership with international organisations, the ATIMC developed a team for its seven provincial task teams with targeted trainings.
3. Commemoration of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons was held in Bulawayo in 2018 where anti-trafficking materials were distributed to the public.
4. Setting up anti-trafficking booths at the annual Zimbabwe International Trade Fair and the Harare Agricultural Show where thousands of people participated, anti-trafficking materials distributed and focus group discussions held.
5. Participation of Zimbabwe at the SADC regional data collection tool where information about trafficking cases, victim and trafficker profiles and information sharing was uploaded.

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6. Screening of companies that employ foreign nationals to prohibit proxy employment permit applications.

Despite notable positives, the report picked that the government failed to provide anti-trafficking training to its diplomatic personnel and at the same time did not make notable efforts in the quest to reduce the demand for commercial sex acts and forced labour.

In the same perspective, Dodo & Dodo (2012) argued that human trafficking prevention has remained a thorn in the flesh in Zimbabwe where there is lack of enforcement of the available legal instruments envisaged in the Zimbabwe criminal code which explicitly criminalises sexual exploitation, Immigration Act, Labour Act, Child Protection Act and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/25/2000 'Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons.' Despite lack of enforcement of the above-mentioned legal instruments, the Zimbabwean government in collaboration with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

### **Zimbabwe Trafficking Profile**

The past five years have witnessed the proliferation of the exploitation of domestic and foreign victims by human traffickers in Zimbabwe and abroad. As highlighted by the 2019 United States Department of State, Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking, traffickers exploited women and girls from Zimbabwe's border towns with South Africa, Mozambique and Zambia. The main reason for such trafficking was noted as forced labour including domestic servitude and sex trafficking in brothels that catered for long-distance truck drivers on both sides of the borders. It has to be argued that, traffickers subject Zimbabwean men, women and children to forced labour in agriculture and domestic service in the country's rural areas as well as domestic servitude and sex trafficking in cities and surrounding towns. It is sad to note that some family members would recruit children and other relatives from their vicinity for work in the cities where traffickers would exploit them in domestic servitude or other forms of forced labour. Moreso, it is established by the 2019 United States Department of State, Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking, some children, particularly orphans are lured with promises of education or adoption. The traffickers would also recruit girls for child sex trafficking in Victoria Falls for example. The report has also established that the traffickers would subject children to forced labour in the agricultural and mining sectors forcing them to carry out illegal activities such as drug smuggling. The report also noted that these traffickers subjected children from Mozambique to forced labour in street vending in Zimbabwe's popular vending palaces such as Mbare. Additionally, the report also picked issues to do with the practice of '*ngozi*' that is 'avenging spirit' where a family member is given to another family to avenge the spirit of a murdered relative thereby exacerbating the human trafficking discourse in Zimbabwe.

The United States Department of State of 2019 Report on Zimbabwe Human Trafficking epitomised exploitation of Zimbabwean women in domestic servitude, forced labour and sex trafficking in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Reports of women lured to China and the Middle East for work were also noted. In the same perspective, reports of traffickers luring Zimbabwean students to Cyprus and other places like Finland with false promises for educational scholarship schemes but victims will be exploited in forced labour and sex trafficking activities. It has to be noted that many Zimbabwean adult and children migrants will enter South Africa with the assistance of taxi drivers who transport them to the border at Beitbridge or any nearby unofficial crossing location where traffickers would subject such victims to forced labour and sex trafficking. The United States Department of State 2019 Report on Zimbabwe

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Human Trafficking argued that some migrants would be transferred to criminal gangs that would subject them to a myriad of abuses that include: sex trafficking in Musina, Pretoria and Johannesburg or Durban to mention a few. In the same perspective, the traffickers exploit some Zimbabwean men, women and children in South Africa to months of forced labour without pay on farms, construction sites, factories, mines and other businesses. These traffickers would also transport men, women and children predominantly from East Africa through Zimbabwe en route to South Africa. The report also noted refugees from countries such as Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo reportedly travel from Zimbabwe's 'Tongogara' Refugee Camp to Harare where traffickers would exploit them and in some cases, coerce them into prostitution. It has been established that traffickers would also force Chinese nationals to labour in restaurants in Zimbabwe. There are reports of Chinese construction and mining companies in Zimbabwe who employ practices of indicative of forced labour that include verbal, physical, and sexual and various means of coercion to induce work in unsafe or undesirable conditions.

### **Protection of Citizens from Human Trafficking**

As enshrined in the United Nations' Bill of Human Rights, all national governments are mandated with the duty of protecting their citizens from any form of harm. It is against this background that governments are expected to set up deliberate policies that safeguard their people's desires and welfare from any form of evil. While reports have established that human trafficking is reality, all nations of the world cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the crisis. Moreso, scholars have established that human trafficking poses a threat to national public health systems of any nation and also undermines the democratic processes. The 2018 World Report Human Rights Watch on Zimbabwe urged the Zimbabwean government to take a deliberate stance in combating rampant proliferation of human trafficking activities.

The Zimbabwean Government is active in the creation of safe havens for the human trafficking victims. This is evidenced by the government's collaboration efforts with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in launching a programme, 'Building the National Response Capacity to Combat Human Trafficking in Zimbabwe' (BNRCCHTZ). This is deliberate programme aimed at combating and minimising human trafficking effects through facilitating provisions of care for the victims and expanding human trafficking awareness campaigns. This effort works hand and glove with social work which is a multi-dimensional profession aimed at enhancing the social functioning of persons in need of assistance (Mhlanga & Mhlanga, 2021). In this regard, social workers become critical players at different societal levels. Scholarly work has identified the roles of social workers in the quest to combat human trafficking that include: protection, rehabilitation, advocating and promoting anti-trafficking networks (Ross- Sheriff and Orme, 2015) this will promote the realisation of the four basic counter-trafficking strategies in the name of: prevention, prosecution, protection and partnership (Charukova & van der Westhuizen, 2020)

However, despite receiving negative reports, the Zimbabwean government should be given some credit for criminalising human trafficking and crafting deliberate legislative policies that address the problem as enshrined in its 2013 Constitution which is the supreme law on the land.

### **Trafficking in Persons Act of 2014**

In addition to the above-mentioned efforts the Zimbabwean government has made in combating trafficking in persons, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2014 should be greatly appreciated. The law prohibits trafficking in persons, criminalises trafficking in persons, sets standards to protect



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and compensate trafficking victims, forfeiture of trafficking proceeds and property, creation of victim centres, extraterritorial jurisdiction of Zimbabwean courts in cases of trafficking in persons and the establishment and functions of the Anti-trafficking Inter-ministerial committee alluded to earlier on in the chapter ([www.veritaszimnet](http://www.veritaszimnet)).

## **THE FUTURE OF COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ZIMBABWE**

As argued by this chapter that the Zimbabwean government has made significant milestone achievements in protecting its citizenry from probable trafficking, preventing human trafficking opportunities and prosecuting human trafficking perpetrators, the future of combating human trafficking in Zimbabwe seems to be in the positive trajectory. However, it should be noted that a lot still needs to be done in bringing human trafficking awareness to the general citizenry, prosecution of human traffickers, protecting citizens from probable human trafficking, prevention of human trafficking cases, counselling services to the victims, rehabilitation of victims, capacity building of victims, integration of victims back into the mainstream society, collaboration as well as research and advocacy (Mhlanga & Mhlanga, 2021). In relation to advocacy, there is need to carry out awareness campaigns in schools, college, universities, churches and other public places for all citizens to have an appreciation of human trafficking. Joint efforts would yield better results for this would call for a wide spectrum of involvement for communities in this war against human trafficking.

The future of combating human trafficking efforts in Zimbabwe lies in the implementation of both the international human trafficking protocols and the Zimbabwean laws that have been enacted. There is need for capacity building for the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) officers for them to effectively attend to human trafficking cases in a manner that leads both to speedy and successful prosecution of the perpetrators.

## **CONCLUSION**

The chapter has discussed issues to do with the human trafficking discourse in Zimbabwe, its historical background in pre-independent, independent and post-independent Zimbabwe, probable push and pull factors and its future on the Zimbabwean soil. It was established that in most cases human trafficking perpetrators forcibly recruit victims but some volunteer themselves due to poverty, unemployment, lack of income, poor health access, pandemics (HIV and AIDS & COVID-19), disasters, political instabilities and poor institutional systems.

The Zimbabwean government has worked very hard to enact legislative policies that help in combating human trafficking. Such measures include: criminalisation of human trafficking in the constitution of the land and its subsequent laws, prosecution of perpetrators of human trafficking, protecting citizens from the 'would be' human trafficking perpetrators through policing efforts and caring for the victims. However, the chapter has noted that a lot still needs to be done in Zimbabwe in the fight against the proliferation of human trafficking that point to collaborative efforts in bringing awareness to every Zimbabwean about the dangers of human trafficking as a cardinal violation of the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights.

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The chapter recommends the following: Activation efforts to proactively investigate and prosecute human traffickers, Provision of financial support to non-governmental organisations that offer services to human trafficking victims, Capacity building for law enforcers on current investigative techniques, Training of the Judiciary Service Commission (JSC) personnel on trafficking and trafficking-related legislation, Establishing safe havens for trafficking victims in each of Zimbabwe's ten provinces, Implementation and allocation of sufficient resources to National Action Plan (NAP) to combat trafficking, Developing mutual legislative assistance treaties (MLATs) and other agreements to facilitate information gathering and sharing with other nations and regulating travel agencies through licensing them.

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### **KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

**Child:** A child is any person under eighteen years of age (Government of Zimbabwe, 2014).

**Exploitation:** This includes, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs (Government of Zimbabwe, 2014 & United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's 2005 situational assessment of human trafficking in the SADC, 2007).

**Human Trafficking Awareness:** Human trafficking awareness refers to all efforts done to bring attention and opposition to human trafficking and modern-day slavery. It can point awareness campaigns and national trafficking awareness day for example.

**Human Trafficking Policies:** These are constitutional efforts the Zimbabwean government has made in the quest to criminalise trafficking in persons such as the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2014, ratification of United Nations Human Trafficking Protocols, Inter-ministerial Committee on Human Trafficking, human trafficking data capturing, establishment of victim centres where human trafficking victims receive psycho-social support.

**Human Trafficking Proliferation:** Proliferation refers to prevalence, meaning that a phenomenon is on the rise and taking unprecedented dimensions such as both the national and international impact of human trafficking.

**Illegal Labour:** The Government of Zimbabwe (2014) views illegal labour as child labour or any form of labour that is practised in conditions below the minimum standard required by the labour laws of a country or territory. Illegal labour is further clarified as any labour that is unregistered, not notified or otherwise not permitted by the labour, social security or immigration laws of a country or territory.

**Law Enforcement Agency:** This refers to the police force, immigration service, customs service and any other agency lawfully appointed to enforce law in Zimbabwe or any other country or territory (Government of Zimbabwe, 2014).

**Trafficking in Persons:** Refers to recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of persons, transfer, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purposes of exploitation (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's 2005 situational assessment of human trafficking in the SADC, 2007). The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered 'trafficking in persons' (Musadembura, 2017).