

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE INCREASE OF GUN CRIMES IN NAMIBIA:  
A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA, 2005-2010**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS IN SECURITY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES**

**OF**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA**

**BY**

**THOMMY UUKUNDE**

**FEBRUARY 2012**



AN INVESTIGATION OF THE INCREASE OF GUN CRIMES IN NAMIBIA:  
A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA, 2005 – 2010

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE  
DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS IN SECURITY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA

BY

BY THOMMY UUKUNDE (STUDENT NUMBER: 2007470370)

FEBRUARY 2012

MAIN SUPERVISOR : DR V. MWANGE

CO-SUPERVISOR : DR S.B.L. LWENDO

## **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed at investigating the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura from 2006 to 2010. It is also investigating ways how guns are increasingly misused, factors such as availability of guns, common categories of gun crimes, age, sex and what influences gun crime. There are perceptions that violent crime is rife in the Katutura in Khomas Region in particular hence some of the people have acquired licensed firearms intended for self-defense.

The research reviewed a number of aspects of the cause of the increase of gun crimes in Namibia particularly in Katutura, including the inadequacy of existing gun control laws; the adequacy of existing law on gun crimes, the context of gun abuse, the community most affected by it, and vulnerable victims, the age group, gender of criminals, vulnerable victims, the police, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) NANGOF and the respondent's suggestions to minimise the problem of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura. This study also reviewed literature dealing with criminals, psychological, sociological, crime and crime control theories pertinent to gun crimes. The study used combined qualitative and quantitative methods. Structured and unstructured questionnaires (open-ended) were used. About 30 key respondents were interviewed. Respondents were in three categories, namely, victims of gun crimes, convicts of gun crimes and professionals such as, the police, Members of Parliament (MPs) and NGOs. The Police provided qualitative and quantitative data on gun crime statistics and data of the victims for interview.

During data collection, Prison and Correctional Services availed 5 convicts in three different categories for interview, namely, convict for gun murder, convict for armed robbery and convict for murder and attempted gun suicide.

Among the major findings were: too many illegal guns in circulations, inadequacy in the gun control law Act, there is a significant relationship between age and misuse of guns, and women were found to be more domestically vulnerable to gun crimes. However, one strong evidence from the study is that most of the problems associated with the cause of gun crimes require social and economical intervention rather than criminal justice solutions.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This study is the product of collaborative efforts involving many people who assisted me with technical, material, morale and emotional support. I wish to thank the lecturers and staff of the Faculty of Economics and Management Science for their technical support and advice. Similarly, I wish to thank Ms Dempers from the (NANGOF,) Chief Inspector Nghishidimbwa from Namibian Police Crime Investigation Department (NAMPOL), Deputy Commission Ndungula, Chief of the City Police, Abraham Kanime, for assisting me with the data, for identification of victims and other respondents.

I also wish to thank all my friends, without singling out specific names, for their support and assistance they rendered in proofreading and in the choice of suitable computer software for data analysis and data interpretation. The same gratitude goes to my beloved wife Penny and my Secretaries Katjaimo, Pohamba and Tjiroze for their assistance in the design and customisation to the graphs, sheet and tables I used to analyse the data.

I also wish to express my thanks and profound gratitude to my academic mentor and supervisor, Dr Vincent M. Mwange and co-supervisor, Dr S. B. Lwendo for their tireless mentoring, modification and perfection of the questionnaires and guidance as I progressed in my research and thesis writing that culminated in the production and presentation of this study. Their guidance will remain a source of inspiration for the whole of my life.

Last but not least, I wish to sincerely thank the leadership and management of the Ministry of Defence for according me the opportunity to pursue this degree course. My special thanks and profound gratitude go to the Permanent Secretary Mr. Petrus Shivute and the Chief of the Defence Force Lt-Gen Martin Shalli for allowing me to spend some hours away from my office.

You have been a wonderful team and I am proud to have been associated with you. Keep up the good work and let the torch of your wisdom shine to the benefit of our posterity.

**Dedication**

This thesis is dedicated to my wife Penny and all my children for their encouragement and support, and to my late parents.

God bless them, I love you all.

## DECLARATION

I, Thommy Uukunde, declare here that this study is a true reflection of my own research and that this work or part thereof has not been submitted for degree in any other institution of higher learning.

No part of this thesis maybe reproduced, stored in any retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, for example, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior permission of the author, or the University of Namibia.

I, Thommy Uukunde, grant the University of Namibia the right to reproduce this thesis in whole or in part, in any manner or format which the University of Namibia may deem fit. This study may be used by individuals or institutions requiring it for study and research, provided that the University of Namibia shall wave this right if the whole thesis has been or is being published in a manner satisfactory to the University.

..... {Signature}

Date ...../...../.....

Thommy Pendapala Josephat Uukunde

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Content:</b>	<b>Page:</b>
<b>Abstract .....</b>	<b>i-ii</b>
Acknowledgement .....	iii
Dedication .....	iv
Declaration .....	v
Table of Contents .....	vi
List of Tables .....	ix
Appendices .....	x
List of Abbreviations/acronyms .....	xi
<b>CHAPTER 1: Introduction and Background of the study.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Background of the Study.....	1
1.3 Statement of the Problem.....	4
1.4 Objectives of the Study.....	7
1.5 Research Questions.....	7
1.6 Significance of the Study.....	8
1.7 Limitation of the Study.....	8
1.8 Outline of the thesis .....	10



<b>CHAPTER 2: Review of Related Literature.....</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1 Introduction .....	11
2.2 Comparative Theories on Activities Related .....	13
2.3 Understanding the Metric of Misuse of Small Firearms.....	15
2.4 General Views and Perceptions from Previous Case Studies .....	20
2.5 Transnational Crime and proliferation of Small Arms in SADC Region .....	22
2.6 Theoretical Framework on Human Behaviour.....	23
2.6.1 The relevance of Realism Theory in Relations to Guns, Crime and Guns Control.....	25
2.6.2 The Problem of Crime.....	29
2.6.3 Ethnicity and Crime .....	30
2.6.4 The explanation of Crime .....	30
2.6.5 Dealing with Crime .....	32
2.6.6 Improving Policing.....	34
2.7 Conclusion .....	36
<b>CHAPTER 3: Research Methodology .....</b>	<b>38</b>
3.1 Introduction .....	38
3.2 Research Design.....	38
3.3 Population .....	39
3.4 Sample and Sampling Techniques .....	40

3.5	Research Instruments .....	41
3.5.1	Questionnaires .....	41
3.5.2	Interview and Observation .....	42
3.5.3	Focus Group Discussion .....	43
3.5.4	Pilot Study to test the validity and reliability .....	43
3.6	Procedure for Data Collection .....	44
3.7	Data and Analysis Procedures .....	45
3.8	Research Ethical Considerations .....	45
3.9	Conclusion .....	46

#### **CHAPTER 4: Discussion and Interpretation of Research Findings.....47**

4.1	Introduction .....	47
4.2	Demographical and Biographical Information .....	52
4.2.1	An analysis to questions, do gun crimes exist in Katutura? If they exist what are the causes?  Decrease or Increase? .....	52
4.2.2	An analysis according to gun crime categories and causes.....	54
4.2.3	An analysis of the vulnerable areas to gun crimes.....	56
4.2.4	An analysis of who are vulnerable to gun crimes.....	56

4.2.5	An analysis according to age, gender, and crime categories.....	57
4.2.6	An analysis how guns are obtained .....	57
4.2.7	An analysis of the opinions how to manage gun crime in Katutura .....	58
4.2.8	An analysis the Victim's Experiences in Gun Crime .....	64
4.2.9	An analysis of the impact of the gun crime to individual and state .....	65
4.2.10	An analysis opinions of the Convicts on the gun crime .....	65
4.2.11	An analysis of the Namibia Gun Law Act .....	67
4.2.12	An analysis commonly gun abusers, gender, and age.....	69
4.2.13	An analysis Statistic of gun misused in all the regions and Katutura.....	71
4.2.14	An analysis according to gun used in murder/homicides.....	79
4.2.15	Summary of an analysis according to gun ownership per region, gun crimes reported per stations, in Khomas region.....	83
4.3	Summary .....	92
<b>CHAPTER 5: Discussion Conclusions and Recommendations .....</b>		<b>94</b>
5.1	Introduction .....	94
5.2	Conclusions .....	98
5.3	Recommendations .....	101
<b>References.....</b>		<b>104</b>
 <b>LIST OF TABLES AND GRAPHS</b>		
Table 1: Motive/Purpose of owning a gun.....		50

Table 2: Characteristics of the study population.....	52
Graph 1 Comparative Analysis on how to manage gun crime.....	61
Graph 2 Gender of person interviewed .....	62
Table 3 The characteristics of the study population in totality interviewed.....	61
Table 4:The number of the total study population as interviewed in categories.....	63
Table 5: Comparative analysis of yes and no responses from convicts of gun crimes.....	67
Table 6: Eight Categories of Gun Crime incidents known in Katutura.....	71
Table 7: Statistics of armed robbery in Katutura.....	73
Table 8: statistics of robbery with fire arms in .....	74
Table 9: Gun pointing in Katutura .....	75
Table 10: Gun pointing in the regions.....	76
Table 11: Statistics of attempted murder with gun in Katutura.....	77
Table 12: Statistics of attempted murder with guns in regions .....	78
Table 13: Statistics of murder with guns in Katutura .....	79
Table 14: Statistics of murder with guns in regions .....	80
Table 15: Statistics of gun theft in Katutura .....	81
Table 16: Statistics of gun theft in regions .....	82
Table 17: (A) Illustrate statistics of robbery with guns and robbery with other weapons.....	84
Table 17: (B) Illustrates statistics of murder with guns and murder other weapons.....	84
Table 18: Statistics in number and percentage of private guns recorded in regions.....	85
Graphs 3: Summarised and interprets correlations of gun crime trends.....	86

Graph 4: Interprets correlations of gun crime reported at various Police stations in Khomas region .....	87
Graph 5: The numbers of foreign nationals who were in custody for gun crimes.....	88
Graph 6: Depicts total crime of robbery with guns in all 13 regions .....	89
Graph 7: Comparative analysis of crimes of robbery committed with other weapons.....	90
Graph 8: Depicts total cases of reported murders with guns in all 13 regions .....	91
Summary .....	92

## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix A: Questionnaires**

Interview questions for victims of gun crimes.....	111
Interview questions for Police.....	115
Interview questions for NGOs/NANGOF.....	121
Interview questions for Parliamentarians.....	125
Interview questions for convicts of gun crimes.....	128

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

AA	Ammunition Act
CID	Crime Investigation Department
CP	City Police
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
LAC	Legal Assistance Centre
NAMPOL	Namibian Police
NANGOF	Namibia Non Governmental Organisation Forum
NAPCPSALW	National Action Plan to Combat Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons
NNAP	Namibia National Action Plan
NPGR	Namibia Police Gun Registration Record
PCS	Prison Correctional Services
SA	South Africa
WACP	Woman and Child Protection
WHO	World Health Organisation

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

#### 1.1 Introduction

This thesis is investigating some of the major causes of the increase in gun crime in Katutura. This research covered the period from 2005 to 2010. This period was selected because of time limitation and also it is the period one is likely to find comprehensive data on gun crime. The study covered the following: Orientation of the study, Statement of the problem, Objective of the study, Research questions, the significance of the study and the limitations of the study. The thesis also provides the outline of the chapters.

#### 1.2 Background of the Study

Gun crime has become a common phenomenon in many parts of the world, Namibia included. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), there are three factors that influence the use of guns over other possible choices of weapons: availability, variety, and social norms regarding their use (Villaveces et al.2001). It is not uncommon to find people dying every day from gun shootings, and many more injured, as a result of gun related incidences. Walton, (1992:122) defined that the logic of case study is to demonstrate a causal argument and produce result in particular setting. In Southern Africa guns are the primary cause of violent deaths, although there are also victims who are assaulted with other weapons such as knives. In the view of Hansson (1998), guns are five times more likely to kill than other weapons.



Namibians have been exposed to guns for more than hundred years and have been subjected to the wars that were waged by colonial military forces of Germany and South Africa (Nujoma, 2001). This has made it possible for the majority of Namibians to have access to guns, hence the increase in gun related crimes.

Gun statistics from the Namibian Police records indicate that, after independence, small firearms became accessible to a greater number of people. Some guns were sold at prices as little as N\$270.00 (about U\$ 39.00) or traded in exchange for cattle, clothes and foodstuff. Some of these guns originated from countries that had civil wars such as Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (Namibia National Police Conference on Small Arms, (2008).

In Namibia, the law regulating gun usage is the commencement of the Arms and Ammunition Act (1996). One of the objectives of the Act is to regulate the policy governing firearms, ammunitions, explosives and related materials in accordance with international and regional action agreements. According to section 3 of the Act, in order for a person to own a firearm one must be at least 18 years old and not be declared unfit by the Namibian Police Force, under the Arms and Ammunition Act (1996). In most cases, the reasons for the high demands of individuals' need of ownership of guns in Namibia include: self-defence, hunting, farming, the protection of livestock and businesses (Gould and Lamb, 2004).

The Namibian Police Gun Registration Record (NAMPOL Report, 2008) indicates that 121 000 gun licenses were issued. The report shows that between 1998 to 2006, 117 204 guns were issued. Most of these guns are owned by individuals, security companies, embassies and business entities.

Namibia National Action Plan (2005) on the other hand, focuses on how to reduce guns in Namibia, and the implementation of national, regional, and international agreements that relate to small firearms and light weapons.

Namibian Police Force Crime Statistics (2010) has indicated that there has been an increase in gun crime from 2000- 2009, with Khomas Region topping the list.

Although most gun owners use their guns safely and responsibly, it is also recognised that there are others who choose to use them in a wholly irresponsible and dangerous manner. An example would be the incident at Katutura single quarters where three people were killed at once with a licensed gun on 27 April 2007 (The Namibian, 2008: 3).

Although the gun crime situation may not officially constitute a crisis beyond control in Namibia, there is a general perception that abuse of guns is a serious problem in the country. Therefore, this research seeks to examine the common causes of increased gun crimes and the impact of such crimes to lives of residents of Katutura.

### 1.3 Statement of the Problem

The Namibian Police report indicates that in January 2007, there were 323 cases of robberies and 29 cases of murder in the country committed with guns (NAMPOL Report, 2008).

During the same period, it was reported in the media that Jekonia Dimbulukeni Hamukoto, killed three people at Katutura single quarters. (The Namibian, 2008: 3).

According to the newspaper, "The Namibian," Godfried Katjaemo, a resident of Hakahana was murdered in a random shooting (2010:5). Furthermore, an article written in the local newspaper cited residents of Katutura who felt threatened by gun crime thus appealing to the Government for stiffer gun control laws (The Namibian Sun, 2010: 4).

The Vice Chairperson of Namibia Non-Governmental Organisation's Forum Trust (NANGOF) during the launching of a gun free awareness campaign in Namibia suggested that: "An environment characterised by gun crime is a deterrent to development, investment and tourism" (New Era, 2007).

Muloongo and Kariri (2005) are of the opinion that, while the limited data available show that the overwhelming majority of female victims were murdered by domestic partners or ex-partners, it is evident that small guns are a major factor in domestic violence. The literature that is available provides rough overview of information on the gun misuse in Namibia and elsewhere.

The study by Sandema (2005), on the factors that influence armed robbery in Namibia, confirms that there is a significant relationship between age and armed robbery. According to him armed robbery is committed by young people between 18-30 years of age. A study conducted in Brazil by Barak (2002) revealed that the profiles of the most offenders are youngsters with less education, and that guns are readily available in the public market.

A study by Hassen (1998: 50) a Case Study on Fatal Gun Use in Metropolitan Cape Town, South Africa 1984-1991, indicated on the legal possession of gun under current Arms and Ammunition Act 75 of 1969 that there is no limit to a number of guns to be held by an individual while during the Apartheid era it

was difficult for the majority of people to possess gun licences, today there are so many people with guns.

According to Best and Kahn (2006: 6), the most difficult and most crucial step of the research process is the identification of the problem that is to be investigated. After independence, many people in the country have access to guns. Namibia counts hunting and sport shooting as one of the popular games and this includes the need for self-protection, which in recent years has pushed up the demand for firearms.

Since independence, there has been an increase in crime in Namibia (Southern Africa Institution for Public Policy Research, 2003). John Grobler, a freelance Journalist specialising in crime, wrote an article about gun crime in Namibia citing that, “the newly acquired freedom of movement in the country is high, but unmet, expectations of the poor contribute to this increase” ( Gould and Lamb 2003:122-125). It is often argued from a general sociological perspective in some society that firearms may be acceptable for some people owning a gun as a part of life, a tool for hunting and target shooting or a chosen means of self protection, while for others; guns represent more dangerous a tool to be feared especially when they fall into wrong hands.

In the past in Namibia, guns were seldomly used in dispute. To date guns are now generally regarded as a risk to individuals’ economic and social development. Now there have been increasing incidents where guns are used, in domestic violence, homicides, robberies, and even suicide cases. In Namibia there is a common perception in some culture that a man should possess a weapon as a sign of showing your courage as a protector of your family or homestead from aggressors or threats.

Long before, some cultures in Namibia regarded weapons as a symbol of manhood, a father has to present a new born baby boy with a knobkerrie and bow and arrow as a mandate to protect, defend and to conquer wealth. According to Boer (2004) there is common perception both inside and outside that Namibia is a country of hunter farmers. Many Namibians live in rural areas and use file and shotguns to shoot game and protect livestock from predators and thieves.

The information derived from the writing of Southern Africa Institution for Public Policy Research (2003) suggested that Namibia is experiencing a high degree of intensity of brutality, pertaining to passion killing, murders, robbery with aggravating circumstances armed robberies, car hijacking, rape, just to mention but a few of the serious crimes committed with guns. In relation to this case-study, in Katutura for example, there are certain areas which are not safe to go into at certain times especially during night because of the high rate of crime related to guns.

This negative trend affects the community living in these areas and those who wish to go there. The feeling of insecurity impedes the quality of life for those living in the area. Sometimes criminals are firing randomly in these public settlements.

A specific case was recorded by the Namibian Police whereby a victim by the name Gottfried Katjaemo was killed on 27 June 2010 from a gunshot wound when an unknown offender came out of a local drinking place firing aimlessly into the darkness. In this context, an article in the local newspaper cited residents of Katutura who felt threatened and appealing to the Government for stiffer gun control laws (The Namibian Sun, 2010, July 15:4).

The researcher selected Katutura as an area of study for investigating the increase in gun crimes because of the following reasons: Katutura is a place that is characterised by people with different socio-economic background and demographic dynamics. Additionally, Katutura is a place where most cases of

gun crimes and related violence are a common feature. It is against this background that the researcher found it necessary to investigate the common causes of the increase in gun crimes in Katutura.

#### 1.4 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this research is:

- a) to investigate the underline factors that might contribute to the increase of gun crime in Katutura between 2005 and 2010.

#### 1.5 Research Questions

Essentially, the study focused on the following main research question:

What are the common causes of the increase in gun crimes in Katutura?

This study has also answered the following sub question:

- (a) What impact do the gun crimes have on the residents of Katutura?

#### 1.6 Significance of the Study

The importance of this study is that it contributes to the expansion of the knowledge base related to gun control. It will further inform government, law makers, and other interested groups such as Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) involved in the control and combating of the misuse of guns. The findings of this study will assist policy makers in formulating relevant policies that will effectively address the problem. The study is also of importance as it intends to provide remedies aimed at combating gun

crimes. Furthermore, the researcher feels that the study will also stimulate other researchers to do further research on this subject.

### 1.7 Limitation of the Study

Although there were some substantial literatures dealing with this research topic in other countries, the literature available on this topic in Namibia is very limited. The researcher has encountered some limitations that put strains on this study such as the shortage of enough resources required to carry out this study. This made it difficult for the researcher to cover all areas. These constraints include expenses for transport, money to pay for the assistant who can translate in other languages other than English, which is not understood by some respondents, paper work, limited time to talk to most of the respondents because of their busy schedules such as Members of Parliament and Police Station Commanders in Katutura.

On the sampling method, the researcher is entirely depending on the information from the police records to select the sample of the victims and convicts. Therefore, information may not be wholly accurate due to human errors. Furthermore, because of the nature of the topic and the sensitivity of the information required from prospective respondents, the researcher has limited access to some data on the grounds that the sources (respondents) might be reluctant to divulge information for personal safety. As a result of the limitations enunciated elsewhere in this study, the study was confined to Windhoek, and Katutura Township. This is purely for purposes of undertaking a thorough in- depth- study, given that this was the first investigation of its kind in peace and security circles in Namibia. It must, therefore be noted that the views and perceptions are those of Katutura Community and do not

necessarily cover the views of the entire Namibian population. It can safely be concluded that readers should be cautious when considering recommendations and conclusion of this study because the researcher has encountered some of these limitations that put strains on this study.

#### 1.8. Outline of the thesis

The thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one has given an introduction to the context of the study. Chapter two presents a theoretical framework based on the review of the literature relevant to the study area.

Chapter three discusses methodology and a theoretical framework of the research design which was selected for this study. The study focuses on the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Namibia, particularly in Katutura.

Chapter four focuses on the population of the study, the sampling and the research instruments which were used to collect the data. These include structured and unstructured questionnaires, direct-in-depth interview, focus group discussions, archival sources analysis are used as well as content analysis. The researcher used a note book and audiotape-record/cassette during interviews.



Chapter five includes the findings of the research study and recommendations. The study was projected to get the data that exist in the minds of the respondents, hence requiring them to express themselves verbally, by answering to the interview questions and through non-verbal communications such as facial expressions during the interview process Oyedele, (2003).

## CHAPTER TWO:

### REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.1. Introduction

Chris (2005) looks at literature review as the selection of available documents on the topic which contains information, ideas, data and evidence written from a particular stand point to fulfill certain aims or express certain views on the nature of the topic and how it is to be investigated, and the effective evaluation to the research being done. Furthermore, he maintains that review of the literature is important because without it one would not acquire an understanding of the research topic. Within

the dimensions of this study the following could serve as the rationale for conducting a thorough literature review:

- a. To ascertain the relevance of the identified research question.
- b. To provide a conceptual and theoretical context of the question.
- c. To understand the problem from a philosophical or historical perspective.
- d. To identify views, ideas and approaches that will help in the process of developing the research study.
- e. To critically evaluate and implement the new findings with those already known.

To date, there is very little research that has dealt with the subject and the causes of an increase in gun crime related to the misuse of guns.

The literature that is available provides rough overview of information on small arms proliferation. The National NGO Conference on the Tanzanian National Action Plan to Combat Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (2002:2) indicated that Tanzania has been at the hub of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons fallout from decolonisation and the struggle for the liberation of Africa.

The proxy wars and political machinations of the Cold War that have been played out as the region was used as a battleground and logistical base for these conflicts has left many guns in wrong hands. Saldomando (1999:121-166), points to the key reasons for the armed bands. Firstly, the culture of gun violence created by the conflict has taught many people that violence is potentially a valuable tool for survival and material gain. Secondly, the availability of and access to guns has made this an easy choice for many. Thirdly, criminal and banditry is often the most lucrative economic option for the many

criminals who lack formal education. These studies are fundamental as they form the background and provide classic scenarios for comparative analyses on the increases of gun crime.

Other previous related studies that have been reviewed in the broader context of crime sought to explore the theoretical understanding and conceptual models such as the left realism theory. The prominent proponents of this school of thought were cited by Lea, Matthews and Kinsey in the studies of Haralambos and Holborn (1995:426). Another famous author and supporter of left realism theory cited in the work of Haralambos and Holborn (1995:432) was Hughes whose ideas of left realism theory will be examined during this study for theoretical insight in relation to cases of crime incidents with the use of guns. It is therefore of paramount importance to underscore that these studies would form the cornerstone of the literature review in this study.

## 2.2 Comparative Theories on Activities Related to gun Crime

The researcher concurs with the theory of the above NGO Conference to combat the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Tanzania when they posit that there has been little detailed analysis done at the national level to assess the exact nature and extent of the small arms problems in different countries, Namibia being no exception. The general observation is that there is no enough literature that has yet dealt with issues pertaining to causes of an increase in guns crime with particular focus on the Katutura Community.

It is important to note, however, that other perused case studies related to this topic conducted in countries such as Brazil (Barak, 2002:2) has shown that crime emanating from the misuse of guns is rampant.

These studies make it clear that cases of using guns in the commissioning of acts of homicides seem to be an epidemic in some countries as cited in the study of Barak (2002). Barak maintains that according to a United Nations Report of 1977, Brazil was cited amongst those countries in the world where some of these activities were detected as taking prominence.

Furthermore, Barak (2002) records that cases of homicides committed with guns have reached an average rate of 25,8 victims per number of 100,000 inhabitants (2002:4). The same report also revealed that the profiles of the Brazilian criminals nowadays are the youngsters with less education and tendencies to commit serious crimes compared to the past. The study goes on to suggest that cases of homicides committed with guns between 1980 and 1991 were on the rise in all age groups, which is a different scenario in the post 21<sup>st</sup> Century whereby the youngsters between 15 – 24 years of age are prominently involved in crime incidents related to homicides (Barak, 2002). In addition, Barak (2002) confirms that guns are readily available in public markets hence most of the cases related to homicides in Brazil for example, were committed with the use of guns that the Law Enforcement of the State cannot easily control. This remains an international security concern which transcend across international borders irrespective of geopolitical regions worldwide.

To further illustrate the gravity and danger associated with the misuse of guns and its social impact elsewhere in the world, the study conducted in the United Kingdom by Squires et al, (2003:6) confirmed

that in February 2007 four teenagers were shot and killed in Southern London in the United Kingdom over eleven days, while another 11year old boy was reportedly killed in London, Sheffield in the same period.

According to the study of Sandema (2005), the crime incidents linked to the use of guns recorded in Windhoek were committed by people below the age group of 20 years, while 54 cases (31%) were committed by people between the age group of 21 - 25 years, the rest 16 (9%) cases and 17 (10%) respectively were committed by elders in the age brackets of 31 and 37 years old, similar study conducted in Namibia revealed that in 1996 there were 195 cases of armed robbery Sandema (2005:52).

These scenarios as highlighted in the studies above seem to ably describe the trends of crime incidents committed with the use of guns in countries mentioned above which vividly indicate the problem of crime related to the use of guns as having a universal trend. However, what is not coming clear in all these studies, are the implications in terms of the causes of such increase of crimes and its impact in society, apart from security implications which concern the threat of public security and proliferation of small firearms across transnational borders. These scenarios have gone without identifying the causes of the increase in gun related crimes. In Katutura, there are certain areas, which are not safe to go into at certain times especially at night, because of high rate of crimes related to guns. This negatively affects the community living in this area and those who want to go there. This feeling of insecurity impedes the quality of life for those living in or go there. The intention of this research therefore is to close the gap by analysing the causes of the increase in gun related crimes and also to unravel, synthesis and synchronize the possible causes of the increase in misuse of guns in Katutura.

### 2.3. Understanding the Metrix of Misuse of Small Firearms

Squires et al, (2008:29) argue that it is impossible to develop a full understanding of the phenomenon of gun crime without consideration of the relevant social and cultural contexts. The above-mentioned authors maintain that gun crime, should be viewed within the social context that considers the relationship between gun crime and illegal drugs, the relationship between gun crime and the existence of a gun culture Hales et al, (2006:30) citing the work of Hallsworth (2005) proposed the following typologies of gangs:

- Close friendship groups - having social focus, involved in localized and time limited conflicts, which occasionally escalate to more serious violence.
- Associates – not close friends, and periodically involved in low level criminality.
- Criminal Crews - focusing on activities such as controlling local drugs marketing, and in some cases other offences such as armed robberies.
- Organisational crime network - whose activities include middle market drug activity, more serious armed robberies, and
- Quasi - legitimate enterprises such as door security companies (2005:30).

The research done by Hales et al (2006) provides some useful contributions to this study as it exposes the social gang typologies that culminate from the misuse of guns in society. This information will

undoubtedly assist the researcher in analysing the gang and crews in Katutura evolving from the misuse of guns and how they impact on the social fabric of Katutura Community.

Pitts (2007) points out that gang development could be seen as an extension of younger bullying networks that vulnerable young people were required to negotiate in their communities. Furthermore, Pitts (2007:31) goes on to indicate that for some, joining the gang albeit reluctantly, was preferable to being victimized by it.

Hallsworth (2005) cites young people thugging up, adopting the behavioural convention of gangs or even joining them as the most viable form of self-protection Hallsworth (2005:31). Complementing the views of the above cited authorities is the United Kingdom Home Office which described the attractions of guns and gun culture by citing the following:

To show allegiance to a gang, to imitate icons such as rap artists or action heroes, or more generally to increase one's status in the neighborhood, to get respect, to have or use a gun for protection on the street, to use a gun to commit crime or to fight conflict situation Hallsworth (2005:31). The focus was on young men who have or use guns because they believe that guns give a person respect, power and protection.

These insights filter into some of the understandings in terms of victims, particularly the young ending up joining gun gangs for purpose of protection and committing crime with guns as giving them power and respect. These contributions only give the extent to which the use of guns in committing crimes distorts the social fabric of society particularly the young. It can safely be argued that gun crime destroys

the social fabric of society as it (criminal activity) curtails and distorts the lives, opportunities and aspirations of young people growing up in them. The contributions seem to have lost sight of the causes of increase in gun crime on all sections of society. Using these contributions as a foundation, this study looks at the Katutura Community in its entirety including the old, working class, business community, and the disadvantaged such as the poor, disabled and others.

Brans et al, (2004), contend that homicide and suicide are intentional acts of violence that disproportionately involve firearm. According to Cohen and Felon (2004) as cited by Stephen, Brown, Finn-Aage and Geis in the fifth edition 2007, explaining crime and its context: "routine actively theory is their familiar method of interpreting and distinguishing situation that lend themselves to criminal violence Cohen and Felon (2004:27). This theory holds that violent crime results from the convergence of three elements; namely, suitable target, motivated offender, and absence of capable guardians. Firearm homicide and firearm suicide are opposite activities, but are equally violent crimes. It is argued that; a suitable target is any person or commodity (such as money) that may invoke criminal inclinations, a motivated offender is anyone with an inclination to commit crime, and a capable guardian is a person who can protect a target, Cohen and Felson (2004:27-29).

Yet this theory could not explain fully what is the characteristic associated to evoke on an individual becoming a natural violent person as some people are naturally hostile and they are prone to committing crime at any given moment, and as such, they are supposed not to possess guns.

The realistic theory which frames through this argument is evident in Namibia like in most countries where there are many law-abiding citizens owning guns who are not being motivated in the way of



Cohen and Felson's theory framework of crime violence concept. However, misuse of guns in the country is demonstrating the common tool for perpetrating societal violence. The deadly use of guns increases the risk of injury and death and raises the perception of threat. The fact remains that misuse of guns has facets impacting on the economic, social and development of the community.

Nevertheless, the above theories could not explain fully what the characteristics associated to the cause of an increase in gun crime and what evokes individuals to become a natural violent person as some people are naturally hostile and they are prone to committing crime at any given moment, and as such they are not supposed to possess guns. One may argue that the misuse of guns is not necessarily influenced by these individuals philosophical theories, but rather provide the opportunity for debate or moral judgment to justify and qualify that the authority should reject individual applications for possessing guns based on their personal behaviour or records.

The realistic theory enforces the background and provided the conceptual framework of this study. It also gives general evidence that Namibia like any other country is part of international system of states, which has many citizens who possess guns, as indicated in (Table 1 in Chapter 4 ). The misuse of guns according to the theory of Waltz vividly demonstrating that common tools for perpetrating societal violence is part of human nature, anarchy and violence Kenneth Waltz (<http://www.gwias.co/glob/2007/09terrorism-and-realism-how-non-state.php>.)

The balance between the two shapes, namely gun culture and what triggers the causes of increases in gun crime in Namibia for example; is still the topic for debate based on cited theories on gun cultures,

namely the American gun culture as stated by Franklin and Hawkin (1985), and other case scenarios such as Namibia culture of owning guns, and the realistic theory on gun crime (Waltz, 2007). Cohen and Felson's study gives the frames and interpretations on what leads to criminal violence in support of the study of Cohen and Felson (2004:27-29).

All these hypotheses prompted the researcher to examine causes of gun crime in Katutura. These theories and perceptions of gun cultures would possibly assist to enhance correct understanding when investigating about gun crime, and possibly establishing the causes and motives behind crime perpetrators. As earlier revealed in this chapter, some of the cited researchers have highlighted the most crucial factors that have to be reviewed.

#### 2.4. General Views and Perceptions from Previous Case Studies

A multiplicity of studies on the subject, views and perceptions of the public concerning how the justice system handles crime related to the misuse of guns have been conducted, one such study is the Brazilian study which explains that fear and security have increased in all sectors, from the poor to the very rich. The study goes on to indicate that since the 1980s there seems to be a consensus in the Brazilian public opinion that is critical of the states role in crime control and prevention. In the same study, the general observation is that the Brazilian perceptions of the state's inability to control crime and its causes have led to condemnation of the continued absence of a strategic plan in crime prevention and control. Kahn (1973) argues that in Rio de Janeiro, for instance, 7 percent of the citizens were dissatisfied with the justice system and 12 percent were satisfied.

Such dissatisfaction according to Kahn (1973:3) is consistent with victimization surveys that revealed very low rates of reporting crime related to the misuse of guns. Most of the victims justified their decision not to report their victimization to law enforcement authority by claiming that the police were inefficient, largely important and highly bureaucratic. A similar study that is, determining the views and perceptions of the public regarding the issue of handling crime related to the misuse of guns was carried out in Russia. The study indicated that Soviet citizens had mistrust for each institution of criminal justice administration and control. In the minds of the Russian people according to the study, are Soviet criminal policies and systems of criminal justice with few procedural protections and a resulting crime control that was not only arbitrary and subject to unpublished decrees and bureaucratic regulations but unable to enforce its laws. On the other hand, the views of some Chinese, corruption, greed and disorder are an acceptable price to pay for economic and social liberation (Hornick, 1993:19). While a critical analogy of the two cited studies seem to suggest that public opinion of the justice system in Brazil and Russia is inefficient and therefore not to be trusted, a similar study carried out in India revealed that the public considers the justice system in the country to be fair and just. The study revealed that Indians view their justice system as increasingly becoming more effective in combating crime. However, Hales et al (2006:45), advances that one strong message that does emerge from the current evidence base is that most of the problems associated with the illegal gun use require social and economic rather than criminal justice solutions.

This scenario is valuable to this study for comparison of the situation of the public regarding their views and perceptions or the effectiveness of the justice system in dealing with crime related to the misuse of guns in Katutura.

## 2.5 Transnational Crime and proliferation of Small Arms in SADC Region

The findings of a study conducted by Sandema (2005) on the contribution of foreigners to crime in general in Windhoek are that foreign nationals from neighbouring countries such as Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Africa, Zimbabwe and other countries in the region and beyond have contributed to the prevalence of crime in Namibia. The comparison of Sandema's (2005) survey of non-Namibians held in custody in Namibia gives evidence on this case in point. The data shown on graph 5 in chapter 4 page 87 demonstrate numbers and percentages of foreign nationals who were in custody in Namibia by 2005.

The data displayed in (Table 2 in Chapter 4 ) show the number of foreign nationals from Angola, (DRC), South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana held in custody in Namibian prisons in 2005 in connection with cases of crime ranging from armed robbery, car theft, drug trafficking and money laundering among others.

A local newspaper, The Namibian, (1996 June, 4:5) reported that, in an effort to show the seriousness of crime and its impact on their lives, close to 300 residents of Katutura Township situated to the northwest suburb of Windhoek where crime is believed to be on the increase, joined together and declared war against criminals who infiltrated their premises. In a similar development, Police Records (NAMPOL Records, 2009) indicated that armed robbery, which is one of the country's serious crimes was on the increase. For example, in 1996 there were 195 cases of armed robberies reported countrywide. The Police Records (NAMPOL Records, 2009:9) further stated that the statistics on serious crime increased from 249 cases in 1997 to about 339 cases in 1998. In comparison, Sandema's (2005) survey

on foreign nationals' (Graph 5 in Chapter 4) involvement in criminal activities in Windhoek suggests that some of the perpetrators of crime were refugees who ran away from conflict war zones in their respective countries.

These refugees team up with local criminals by forming up organised syndicates of armed gangs. The finding from Sandema (2005) is therefore empirical for cross-examination and thus provided impetus and useful information for in-depth analysis in relation to the case of Katutura.

## 2.6 Theoretical Framework on Human Behaviour

It must be pointed out here that it is imperative to have a conceptual framework in order to understand the epistemology that deals with ethos and attitudes of human behaviours in relation to acts of crime with the use of guns as a guiding statement of this study. The theoretical framework behind this study is underpinned in the theory of "Left Realism" prominently advocated by famous authors in the names of Young, Matthews and Kinsey cited in the study of Haralambos and Halborn (1995). Unlike the criminologists and believers of Marxist theory. Neo-Marxist and Radical Feminists on one camp who perceive longer sentences and more prisons as the solution to crime, on the other hand, the antithesis as identified by Haralambos and Halborn (1995) are the classic "Left Realities" who present what they call a classic realistic concept for change within the framework of existing societies which addresses the concerns of ordinary people in terms of crime and crime control. The famous author John F. McDonald and believer on "Left Realism", in his study on the analysis of gun crime and gun control indicated that realism theory paradigm contextualise the association and demand of firearms from economic point of

view whereby he argues that guns are demanded for a series of reasons citing examples such as 'recreation, self-protection or criminal purposes' in which crime is applied (1999:11-12).

The same author further contended that crime rate can influence guns demand, hence, guns are being demanded by criminals contesting against the laws that permit citizens to carry concealed guns ([www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/index.html](http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/index.html) Online: website, retrieved 1999, Feb 17). Other authors (Brannas, et al., 2000) further contended that homicide and suicide are international acts of violence that disproportionately involved guns whereas in contrast other writers Cohen and Felson (2004) revealed that violent crime converges into three elements, notably, such as suitable targets, motivated offender, and absence of capable guardians.

These philosophers further explained that a suitable target is any person or a thing such as money that may invoke criminal inclinations, while a motivated offender is described as a person with inclination to commit crime, whereas a capable guardian is described as a person who can protect a target. It is therefore concluded that a lack of any one of the three factors cited above is inefficient to prevent the assurance of successful crime.

The realist theories therefore, will help the researcher as well as the future analysts and readers of this topic to understand the epistemology behind human behaviour in relation to crime and crime related to the use of guns as a key statement of this research. The conceptual frame will help the researcher to investigate and analyse the causes of the increases of gun crimes, and social impact not only in Katutura Community where this study is directed, but to generalise the findings from the broader theoretical discoveries.

### 2.6.1 The Relevance of Realism Theory in Relations to Guns, Crime and Guns Control

In the view of McDonald (1999) the relevance of the theoretical framework based on the study of guns, crime and gun control is the 'Realism Theory Paradigm', which is associated with the demand of guns and its misuse and the impact of gun violence from an economic, social and development perspective. McDonald (1999) cited advances that the concepts of 'Realist Theory' explain why demand of guns is a debatable topic in the studies of economic versus social science (*Journal of Criminal Justice* Volume 27, 1990:11 – 19). Similarly, Waltz, 2007 further defined 'Realism' as a concept that is structured around human nature to explain neither international nor central authority, nor its anarchies. Waltz (2007), therefore believes on three images of international relations: a) human behaviour; b) international structure; and c) international anarchy (*Journal of Criminal Justice* Volume 27). To understand the analysis of Waltz (2007) and understand the realist principle is to comprehend the third image. Waltz (2007) stated that, in international structures there is no unified system of enforceable law among states. Therefore, each state judges its grievances and ambitions based on their own reasons or desire. Therefore, grievances and ambitions depend on the societal norms, in most countries.

According to this theory, the international structure is associated with various impacts of gun violence to various societies. For example, in some cultures in Botswana, guns are regarded as status symbol, especially among elderly men and middle-aged men.

Guns are used at cultural activities such as weddings to slaughter cattle, Gould and Lamb (2004:35). In some societies guns may be acceptable for some people as a simple part of life, a tool for hunting and

target shooting or chosen means of self protection. For others, guns represent a sinister tool to be feared especially when it falls into wrong hands.

Steffensmeier (2000:55) has added that, not only does the social structure provide differential access to legitimate opportunities, it also provides differential access to illegitimate opportunities and the availability of illegitimate opportunities is an important determining of the solutions people adopt.

In the study of Steven and Cloete (1996), it has been emphasised that sociology is concerned with behaviour, social, culture economic status, environment and consciousness. Their study will provide a fundamental framework in understanding the perceptions and attitudes on the causes of gun crime.

Franklin and Hawkin (1985:67) cited in Hofstder (1970:4-7,26-34) one of the most famous American historians, narrated that the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. brought about the revolution in the American communities against American gun culture, a Commission was established to examine crime violence committed with guns. There were two distinctions of gun cultures identified in the American study namely; culture of sports and recreation, and culture of defense.

According to Franklin and Hawkin (1985) guns have been important in American life for the fact that it was the country's first line of defense. Therefore, according to him, guns no longer play significant role in bringing food on the table yet Americans own them and use them to the degree that puzzles many.



In conclusion, it is still vital to ask this question, 'What is the political implication of gun culture? The study in America revealed that it is unlikely to achieve effective gun control despite the fact that in the efforts to control gun crime in the USA alone, more than twenty thousand legislations on gun control were enacted more than any other nations in the world. But, the cultures of gun possessions persist. Harris' research data revealed that, about 130 million households in the USA own one or more guns. It is further recorded that about 30, 000 cases of deaths and about 13, 000 cases of crimes related to homicide were committed in a year as results of gun crime, Harris (1968:77-78).

Some scholars argue that gun ownership is victimless crime, yet those who do not register their guns when registration is required or do not surrender them when guns are prohibited, will be classified as criminals even if they did not misuse them. It is argued, for example that; prostitution, drug offence, and gambling are "crime without victims" There are different views on the origin of crime: Liberals turn to view the origin of crime with institutional cost, noting elements that transcend individual such as poverty, unemployment lack of opportunities, racism and peer group influence.

Viewing the same situation, Conservatives concentrate instead on the personal qualities of the criminal, such as lack of discipline, lack of respect for and no fear of the law and evil that lurks in their hearts. Therefore, believe that nothing benefits except to set criminals apart from innocent people in the society Franklin and Hawkin (1985:161).

.

The cost of crime control laws is an issue for concern. The question of the cost of guns control is important because any control system involves administration money.

The cost of crime control such as police cost and prison, for example, money that is spend on gun's registrations programme per year, that could be question to the public that most taxpayers could ask with regard to the registration of guns Franklin and Hawkin (1985:149-153).

The argument against the theory of gun control is if guns are to be stopped from the scene, other weapons may be used "guns don't kill people, people kill people". However, guns make some attacks possible that would not be possible without a gun, Franklin and Hawkin (1985:13-14).

The argument about the possibility of more guns keeps the rate of crime low because the potential criminals would not commit crimes as they know that more people are having guns for self defense, Franklin and Hawkin (1985:33-36).

#### 2.6.2 The Problem of Crime

The "Left Realists" contend that crimes are a serious problem that needs to be explained and tackled. This is particularly pertinent to this study as it enables the researcher to dig out the causes of the increase in gun crime in Katutura with the view of suggesting mechanisms aimed at reducing or alleviating crime in the target location. Haralambos and Halborn (1995) have advanced the following arguments:

- That there has been a real and significant increase in crime since the Second World War.
- That it is the deprived groups in society who are most likely to be harmed by these crimes; it is also them who suffer most if they are the victims of these offences.
- Left realists carried out a survey in Merseyside, Islington, Hammersmith and Fulham in which 85% of those surveyed saw crime as a problem affecting their lives, some 35% felt unsafe in their homes Haralambos and Halborn (1995:426-429).

These observations have been considered relevant to this study in understanding the nature, and the causes of the increase in gun crime incidences related to the misuse of guns in Katutura.

### **2.6.3 Ethnicity and Crime**

The “Left Realists” advance the idea that certain types of crime are common amongst certain minorities. This they (left realists) believe is best explained by unemployment and racial discrimination against ethnic minorities. Concurring with the “Left Realists” as given in Haralambos and Holborn (1995) cited by Hales et al, (2006) in a study in which 80 men were interviewed, maintain that with few exceptions the men committing gun crimes came from communities characterised by economic deprivation, personal opportunities limited by a lack of qualifications, criminal records and poor work history. In this case, it is plausible to argue that the depth and breadth of crime related to the misuse of guns committed by

organised groups or individuals and possible motives behind the committed acts of crime in Katutura Community will be unveiled as the study gathers momentum.

#### **2.6.4 The Explanation of Crime**

Young, Lea, Matthews and Kinsey (1986), cited in the study of Haralambos and Halborn (1995) pointed out “how rising living standards and the development of welfare provision have gone hand-in-hand with a rising gun crime rate since the Second World War”. Young et al (1986), base their arguments to explain gun crime around three key concepts which include; 1) deprivation; 2) subculture and 3) marginalisation. The theory of Young et al (1986), on crime analysis provides useful contributions to this study by narrowing, for purposes of synthesis, the area of focus into, for example, living standard, development of welfare provisions, deprivation, subculture and marginalisation. Narrowing the areas of concentration in this study ensures an in depth thorough undertaking of the study. However, it must be noted that Silvestone (2006) posits that, the possession and uses of illegal guns is too complex to be explained by reference to a single unifying criminal gun culture and that it may be more useful to describe plural criminal gun cultures. Specifically two ideal cultures may be identified, distinguishing between an instrumental criminal gun culture in which guns are used only for offensive criminal purposes such as armed robbery and a complex criminal gun culture in which the role of guns is more generalised including offensive, defensive and symbolic functionality. It must be noted here that this study focuses on both the first category, that is, the instrumental gun culture and the generalised one, and how both impacted on the lives of the Katutura Community.

The “Left Realists” theory supported by Mentor in the work of Haralambos and Holborn (1995) argue that rising expectations of high standards of living, combined with restricted opportunities to achieve this success because of unemployment and therefore deprivation. Crime and control are viewed as

products of inequality, poverty and political oppression that accompany development based on exploitation and dependency. Young et al (1986) stressed how rising living standards and the developments of welfare provisions have gone hand-in-hand with a rising crime rate since the Second World War. They argue that, usual marginal groups in society are prone to the use of violence, and the targets for crime not the rich, but the poor and the deprived unskilled workers with low income Haralambos and Holborn (1995:426-429).

Barak (2000:xvi) cited in Humphries and Greenberg (1981), Platz and Takagi, (1981) in their *Dialectics of Crime Control* both stressed that crime and crime control are viewed as product of inequality and poverty based on exploitation. Holding the same view is Squires' et al (2008) who maintains that generally both gun crime offenders and their victims mainly come from economically deprived communities.

#### 2.6.5 Dealing with Crime

Left Realists Criminologists argue that the police have failed to deal with crime and thus have advanced the following as shortcomings of the current policing practice:

- a. Police are unable to deter crime as their clean up rate is slow.
- b. The police actually spend little time involved in investigating crime.
- c. Research suggests that public confidence in the police has declined particularly among members of ethnic minorities. As trust breaks down between the police and some sections of the public, the flow of information from the victims of crime dries up.
- d. Lacking information drifts to what Young et al (1986), call Military Policing (stopping and searching large numbers of people), the public then come to see the police as part of alien force

intent upon criminalizing local residents, and thus withhold information Haralambos and Halborn (1995:426-429).

Brown in Home office (2007) suggested the following proposals in dealing with gun crime:

- a) Use of covert operation and surveillance against gang gun crime members
- b) High visibility of police presence on the streets in target areas including on route to and from school.
- c) Use of civil orders to restrict gang members Squires' et al (2008:41).

In the Brazilian study completed by Barak (2000:3) it was concluded that impunity and fragility of the justice system, combined with corruption and a penal law with severe punishments will reproduce a criminal justice system in Brazil that continues to inadequately address the social problems of crime while it overcrowds its prisons with poor and illiterate people Barak (2000:3).

The Brazilian study goes on to suggest that time for policies in Brazil is way overdue.

The observation is that despite all these punitive measures highlighted above in dealing with gun crime, crime of this nature continues to be on the increase as alluded elsewhere in this study. This implies that there is need for a more robust, humanistic approach in dealing with crime that embraces community involvement. What Left Realists' Criminologists consider to be flaws in the current police practice of dealing with gun crime. Brown in Home Office (2007a) is relevant in this study particularly when it comes to recommendations for curbing the misuse of guns. His findings would probably help to provoke the intelligence of the justice system strategist and think tanks in mapping out strategies aimed at arresting the causes of an increase in gun crime in Katutura.

#### 2.6.6 Improving Policing

Young et al (1986), cited by Haralambos and Holborn (1995) argue that the key to the Police success lies in improving relationship with the community.

They listed the following recommendations for the Law Enforcement Agencies:

- a. A style of policing under a system of democratic accountability in which information is freely given by public and where the police are sufficiently informed.
- b. Trusted to do the job they are paid for by conducting full investigation of crime (1995:430).

In keeping with this view is Jones (2007) who states that in order to deal with crime, government's strategy should be conferred on community empowerment against the gang and gun culture and also concentrate on rebuilding trust and confidence in community policing in excluded and vulnerable communities.

Governments should strive to endorse a strategy of social and moral renewal and capacity building at community level in reducing crime related to the misuse of guns (Ennifer, 2004). These contributions appear to suggest that community involvement in bringing gun crime offenders to book is panacea in improving policing. Improving leisure facilities for the young, reducing income inequalities, raising the living standards of poorer families, reducing unemployment, creating jobs, improving housing and providing community with facilities which enhance a sense of cohesion and belonging, all help to cut crime (Haralambos and Holbom, 1995:430).

These observations have been considered pertinent to this study because as already explained elsewhere in this research will prompt the authority in the justice system to map out relevant concrete and realistic measures aimed at combating the economic and social effects of the misuse of guns in Katutura.

Although Left Realism has had numerous positive contributions to the field of criminology, it has been the subject of criticism. Hughes, (1998) has attacked the “Left Realists” by advancing the following criticisms:

- a. The “Left Realists” concentration on the study of victimisation prevented them from gathering qualitative data on the motives of committed offences.
- b. The “Left Realists” relied too much upon subculture theory thereby neglecting other responses to relative deprivation such as retreatism and ritualism.
- c. The “Left Realists” tend to oversimplify the causes of reducing law breaking to the effects of deprivation whilst giving less sophisticated explanation to the various responses to deprivation (Haralambos and Holbom, 1995:432).

The said criticisms herein go a long way in enabling the researcher to apply the perspective (Left Realism) to this study with caution to bring about the intended result that is, carrying out a realistic and informed analysis of the economic and social impact of gun crime incidences in Katutura.



## 2.7 Conclusion

Chapter 2 reviewed some of the vast amount of available literature focusing on the theories and concepts about gun crime to understand the problem from a philosophical and historical perspective. There is no doubt that the voluminous literature reviewed empower and correctly positions the researcher to meticulously focus on the salient economic and social effects of crime incidences culminating from misuse of guns in Katutura.

The Chapter also examined previous case studies on the effectiveness of the justice system in dealing with gun crime. This forms the basis in this case study to come up with realistic and workable recommendations aimed at arresting the economic and social effects of crime related to the misuse of guns in Katutura.

The study identified three causative factors to crime, that is, deprivation, subculture and marginalisation. These are embedded in Left Realism, a perspective on criminology that attempts to explain the sources and perceived possible solutions to crime.

It was realised that these theories provided an appropriate theoretical base for understanding the nature, economic and social impact of gun crime, at the same time informing the authority in the Justice Ministry to map out mechanisms aimed at overcoming the challenges arising from the misuse of guns in Katutura.

Stevens and Cloete (1996:10) argue that crime statistics not only described the extent of crime in a particular country, but also indicated fluctuations of crime over the time. This makes it possible to go

back to any time in the past to ascertain the extent of crime at that particular time. Lastly, they argue that crime statistics make it possible to keep a nation informed about its crime problems.

## CHAPTER THREE

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Introduction

Chapter two provides this study with the investigation of the related literature required to solve the research problem. This Chapter looks at the research design, methods and the sampling techniques that were employed in data collection. Subsequently, the guiding principles (ethical considerations) followed in conducting this research was also enunciated in this Chapter. The need to make distinctions between methods and epistemologies are crucial in understanding the content and context of researches. The researcher therefore concurs with a writer Paulus Shipale who cited these definitions that: “Research methods are techniques of gathering evidence. Methodologies are theories of how research should proceed. Epistemologies define what counts as adequate theory and how research finding can be judged” (New Era, July 02, 2010:8)

### 3.2 Research Design

The qualitative and quantitative approach has been used in this research. Previous study by Oyedele (2003:50) describes a ‘qualitative design’ as a loosely defined category of research design which elicits verbal or visual data in the form of descriptive such as field notes, recording or other transcriptions from audio and video tapes and other written records and pictures or films/ cassettes (footage). In complement to this description some schools of thoughts have justified that qualitative research embraces ‘ethnographic methods’ which simply contextualise elements of participant observation, in-depth interviewing, and the qualitative analysis of secondary source data (Paulus Shipale New Era, July 02, 2010:8). As stated earlier in the definition by Oyedele (2003), the findings of this study were recorded and field notes were taken throughout the data collection process. Since, this research is aiming at finding out the causes of an increase of gun crimes and determining the impact experienced by victims among the respondents.

In that sense the researcher was directly observing the body language of the respondent and interprets the data collected (Oyedele, 2003:51). The research inter-alia was also projected at obtaining data that exist in the minds of the respondents, thus requiring them to express themselves verbally, by answering to the interview questions and through non-verbal communications such as facial expressions during the interview process. In this ways subjective data was sought from the selected respondents.

This exposed more about the little or poorly understood situation in Katutura with regard to the causes of an increase in gun crime. The researcher, therefore, collected extensive data on the events of gun crimes and individuals on which the investigation was based, in this case that made up the sample of the study (Leady and Ormond, 2005).

### 3.3 Population

The authors, Best and Kahn (2006:13) define a population as a group of individuals who have one or more characteristics in common that are of interest to the researcher. In this study, the population consisted of two groups which were selected to constitute the population targeted for interview. The first group of population sample comprises of the residents of Katutura including convicts of gun crimes, identified potential victims and convicts of gun crimes and their families with various degrees of gun crimes (experienced cases of robbery, homicide, hijack and others). The second group of population sample consists of professionals responsible for maintaining law and order such as the NAMPOL, City Police, and the judicial system, Members of Parliament, and NGOs such as Legal Assistance Centre in Windhoek. The inclusion criterion of the professionals was based on participants' intimate knowledge of the gun crimes. In other words, those who qualified as participants were individual's who by virtue of

their responsibilities or status they had direct or indirect contact with victims of gun crimes or receives reports of such crimes.

This relationship placed them in a position where they could provide rich information sought by the researcher. This method involves selecting units that are believed to be typically of the study population (Bless and Higson 1995:95). The total study population was 30 participants.

### **3.4 Sample and Sampling Techniques**

Berg (2001:31) defines a sample as a group of people selected from the total population to represent the group. In this study, the sample will include of all gun victims in Katutura, and professionals from various institutions dealing with gun crimes. Victims of gun crime constituted the biggest number. To ensure the representation of all the segments of gun victim identified, it was imperative to do so. The sampling techniques for both groups of participants involved the use or administration of questionnaires and focus group discussions.

Purposeful sampling is used as a sampling selection in the undertaken research (Best and Kahn, 2006:247 - 251). The sample selection in this study is elaborated further as illustrated in Table 4 in Chapter 4.

According to Struwig and Stead (2003:12), they argue that purposeful sampling is not concerned so much with random sampling as it is with providing a sample of information-rich participants. In other words, the participants manifest certain characteristics that the researcher is interested in. In this

research, the researcher was interested in a variety of gun crimes committed by offenders through as random shooting, threats, suicide, homicide, robberies, hijacking as well as the likelihood of participants to provide quality and reliable data sought by the researcher.

### 3.5. Research Instruments

#### 3.5.1 Questionnaires

During the process of collecting data, the researcher used a set of questionnaires reflected as:

##### Appendix A: questionnaires

Law Enforcement Officers: namely, Gun Crime Investigation Police Officers in Windhoek, Police Station Commanders in Katutura, Windhoek City Police, Members of Parliament and NGOs such as Legal Assistance Centre.

Questions contained in questionnaires were directly informed by the research questions and objectives outlined in Chapter one. The questionnaires consist of items organised into the following:

Section A: Demographical and biological information.

Section B: How would you describe the gun crimes in Katutura? In which form gun crimes exist in Katutura? How often do these incidences occur in a year?

Section C: In your own opinion, what is the main cause of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura?

Section D: What impact does the increase of gun crimes have on the Katutura Community?

Section E: Perceived gun laws and regulation in Namibia.

Section F: Popular suggestions to deal with the increase of gun crimes in Namibia.

Section G: From your own experience have you ever heard or witnessed someone shooting around with a gun? Have you been threatened with a gun in Katutura? Have you seen someone killed, hijacked, robbed with a gun in Katutura? Have you seen or heard someone commit suicide with gun in Katutura? If so, how did this affect your life? What would you suggest to be done?

### 3.5.2 Interview and Observation

Structured and unstructured interview were used to collect the data. Participants who needed assistance with the completion of structured interview questionnaires due to language problems, structured interview sessions were held with participants, whereby the researcher personally filled in the answers as he received them from them (participants).

### 3.5.3 Focus Group Discussion

The study also used focus group interaction to generate data. Berg (2001:111) defines a focus group as “an interview style designed for small groups. It is an attempt to learn about the biographies and life structures of group participants. Its application in the study was to obtain information from participants as a group discussion over the increase of gun crimes in Katutura. The participants had the opportunity to discuss, share, and exchange views on a number of issue that affected them. The discussion comprised of one member from the following respondents: NAMPOL police officer, City Police Officer, a representative from Legal Assistance Centre, Civil Society, a representative from the Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum (NANGOF), Woman and Child Protection, and one gun victim.

### 3.5.4 Pilot Study to test the validity and reliability of the questionnaires

Pilot study was undertaken to determine whether the questionnaires possessed the desired qualities of measurement and credibility. Among other issues, Robson (1993) argues that the importance of carrying out a pilot study is to determine the trustworthiness of the instruments of data collection and also to establish any ambiguities in the research items. Struwing and Stead (2003:130) define reliability as “the extent to which test scores are accurate, consistent or stable. According to them, a score’s reliability should first be determined before its validity is examined, since a test score’s validity depends on the reliability of the test score.



Unreliable test scores will affect their validity. The outcomes of the pilot study confirm the reliability of the questionnaires. However, some questions were rephrased.

### 3.6 Procedure for Data Collection

Proven instruments of data collection were used in this research. Both primary and secondary data was used to gather more information. Both qualitative and quantitative research studies were combined, adapted and applied in this research to achieve the intended outcome of the research. These instruments included questionnaires, interviews and focus groups discussions Varkevisser, Pathmanathan & Brownlee, (n. d.:50). The multiple technique of collecting data was used, and this included transcriptions from the tape-recorder and other written records. In the context of research instruments theory, Best and Khan (2006) further argue that the use of multiple techniques generally referred to as paramount in the process of data validation.

For the purpose of this research, the interview technique appropriate to this study is supported by observations of body language. The interview guide type was used to enable the interviewer to probe in order to increase comprehensiveness as the interview progressed. This to a large extent assisted the researcher in obtaining an in-depth understanding of the problem ensuring that no useful information is lost or is left out (McMillan and Schumacher, 1997).

This study argues that the employment of this kind of interview allows the interviewer to listen and notice body language signs of the respondent and access the validity of the respondent's answers

through non-verbal behaviour. The interview method provides an opportunity for the interviewer to keep guiding the respondents to provide correct responses.

It further argues that the use of the interview technique in the study is its prowess to spontaneity and the fact that responses can be tape recorded Oyedele, (2003). The use of the tape recorder was felt necessary to enable an in-depth analysis of the findings by listening to the conversation over and over again during the process of gathering data.

Visual cues of the respondents were read and the direction to move to the next question was determined where the interviewee did not understand the question, the question was revisited.

### 3.7 Data Analysis Procedures

The researcher in analysing findings of this study, refined the data as per categories and their interconnections. An inductive process was employed to organise data into categories, as they emerged through the analysis process from within the data, in order to discover patterns, among the categories, to compare and contrast constantly and then construct an abstract synthesis (Newman, 2003). The researcher used the various responses from the respondents and sought common trend and occurring patterns and thus followed the inductive principles of data analysis as outlined in the theory of McMillan and Schumacher (1990:505).

### 3.8 Research Ethical Considerations

When the Post Graduate Committee of the University of Namibia approved the proposal, the researcher prepared a research interview guide for the data collection after the Supervisor had been satisfied with the interview questions. The researcher obtained a permission letter from the University of Namibia.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Safety and Security was requested to provide a permission letter that assisted the researcher pave the way for a pre-study. Thereafter, the researcher was permitted to go in the field. Social and cultural ethical behaviour, which included norms and values of the people in Katutura were adhered to. Respondents were kept at ease and that confidentiality or anonymity was assured.

### 3.9 Conclusion

This Chapter described research design methodology and activities that led to the collection of the data. The concept of the research design, research participants, as well as population sampling and sampling techniques, research instruments, questionnaires such as, observation, focus group discussion, pilot study procedures for data collection, data analysis and research ethical considerations were explained. The sample population consisted of two broader categories of participants namely: victims of gun crimes, convicts of gun crimes and professionals in various fields of their specializations namely NAMPOL, City Police, Members of Parliament NGOs and Legal Assistance Centre. The next Chapter will discuss the findings of the study.

## CHAPTER FOUR

## DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS

### 4.1. Introduction

This chapter presents the result and findings of the study in a narrative form. Questions and answers obtained as data from potential respondents are properly analysed, interpreted and supported where appropriate by tabular or graphic documentation. Chapter three conceptualised the research design regarding the methodologies that the study has used as related to the data needed to address the research problem, while in this chapter the researcher presents the report of the data obtained from the respondents. The aim is to bring out the respondents' views and to discuss the interested issues and comments emanated from the interviews based on the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura.

The chapter discusses and interprets the outcome of the study in relation with the research questions and objective outlined in Chapter one. Besides determining the possible causes of the increases of gun crimes in Katutura, the chapter summarised the result of the whole research. The data analysed in this chapter is the outcome of the interviews posed to the selected respondents on the causes of the increase in gun crimes in Katutura. In the census of 2001, Katutura was recorded to have the population of 1461140, (Population and Housing Census) Census Office National Planning Commission (2002).

Many people may become skeptical of the official statistic from the police recorded country data on gun related crimes if compared to the figures of other gun crimes in different regions or to other suburbs in Windhoek.

To accomplish the task of enumeration and to maintain a focused approach in the search of possible participants, the researcher relied on the police statistics of the 2006 to 2010 and 2011 which were provided before the end of the year 2011.

Findings show that crime statistics are only indications of those cases known to the police. Not all crimes are reported to the police, and courts provide information on those who appear in courts only. Steven and Cloete 1996:9 argue that crime statistics are not only of great value to the police, the courts and the prisons, but to students of criminology and to those doing research on crime. Further, they argue that high official crime figure is an indication that there is a crime problem and that research should be done in an attempt to understand this problem. The public wants to know whether the taxes they pay for law enforcement are being used wisely Steven and Cloete (1996: 9).

Respondents argue that there is a perception that violent gun crimes are rife in Khomas Region, so people acquire guns to protect themselves. According to respondents people who work in Windhoek but living elsewhere may have registered their guns in Windhoek with the belief that the process to do so may be quicker in the capital city and that not all crime committed within Windhoek is done by people living in Windhoek. The study reveals that the current trends in gun demand suggest that self protection and protection of livestock and property may be a strong motivation for acquiring a gun.

Table 1 on page 50 shows the motives and purposes cited as reasons for possessing of privately owned guns recorded by the Namibian Law Enforcement Agencies dealing with licensing and control of firearms (Southern Africa Institution for Public Policy Research, 2003:122 – 125).

This study revealed that the attempt to determine the magnitude of the increase in gun crimes from the Police Crime Investigation Offers; tables and graphics give the number of gun crime statistics from 2006 to 2010 in their categories, for example the victims of gun crimes, convicts of gun crimes, theft of guns, shooting within the prohibited area, reasons for acquiring guns, the overall number of guns issued and all gun crimes in all thirteen regions during the period under review.

The study revealed that in order to get more specific information on the increase of gun crimes during the past five years, it is necessary to separate concealed gun crimes from all the crimes that are of serious nature. When the words gun crime is heard, it creates the impression to refer only to serious crime such as murder, suicide, robbery or hijacking and so forth. While crimes of a less serious gun crime in nature is not even thought of. For example, a victim may have shot herself in the hand with her husband's pistol and the incident of negligent of the husband who fails to safeguard the gun was not reported to the police.

The data illustrated in Table 1 below indicate that the majority, accounting for 70.8 percent of small firearms in possessed by the public in Urban Areas are intended for "self-defense" compared to about 63.0 percent in Rural Areas for similar purpose NAMPOL report. It has been further disclosed by the figures in Table 1 below that possessions of small firearms by private owners intended for "security of

business entities” is higher by 15.9 percent in Rural Areas compared to 7.3 percent in Urban Areas because of the farming properties both agricultural activities, animal farming and game conservations that require maximum security protection against criminals. A similar trend was observed as shown by 7.2 percent of Small Firearms in the hands of the public intended for “none-professional hunting” in Rural Areas compared to 5.9 percent recorded in Urban Areas for the same purpose NAMPOL report (2006).

Table 1: Motives/ Purposes of Owning Private guns in Rural and Urban Areas

MOTIVES/ PURPOSES	RURAL AREAS		URBAN AREAS		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Self-defense	675	63.0%	1600	70.8%	2283	68.3%
Hunting/ Professional	76	7.1%	77	3.4%	152	4.6%
Collector	22	2.1%	55	2.4%	77	2.3%
Heirloom	70	6.5%	162	7.2%	232	6.9%
Sports	32	30%	78	3.5%	110	3.3%
Replacement	5	0.5%	5	0,2%	10	0.3%
Security Business	170	15.9%	165	7.3%	336	10.1%
Security Firm	3	0.3%	3	0.1%	0	0.2%
Hunting None - Professional	211	6.3%	77	7.2%	133	5.9%
Others	161	4.8%	50	4.7%	109	4.8%

SUBTOTAL	1180		2387		3579	
----------	------	--	------	--	------	--

Sources: NAMPOL (Records, 2006).

As indicated in Chapter three regarding the methodology to be used in this study, the researcher conducted structured and unstructured interview on 12 December 2011. The following were interviewed: a representative of the Division of Woman and Child Protection at Katutura Hospital, Legal Assistance Centre, Namibian Non-governmental Organisations Forum (NANGOF) Civil Society (Breaking the Wall of Silence). The first interview took place at the Woman and Child Protection at Katutura Hospital where cases related to domestic violent behavior are mostly reported. The second interview was with Pauline Dempers, an activist. Other interviews took place at Legal Assistance Centre, Windhoek Prisons and Correctional Services, Katutura Police Stations, Windhoek Police Head Quarters and Regional Head Quarters, as well as at the City Police Office. The interviews with all victims of gun crimes took places at their respective houses or residences in various areas in Katutura.



Table 2 below shows the Characteristics of the Study Population.

STUDY POPULATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Victims of gun crimes all categories	5	22.7%	6	75%	11	36.6%
Convicts of gun crimes	4	18.1%	-	-	4	13.3%
NAMPOL Officers professional by virtue of responsibility	6	27.2%	-	-	6	20%
City Police Officers professional by virtue of responsibility	4	18.1%	1	12.5%	5	16.6%
MPs law makers	2	9.0%	-	-	2	6.6%
NGOs/Legal Assistance Centre/Civil Society professional by virtue responsibility	1	4.5%	1	12.5%	2	6.6%
SUBTOTAL	22		8		30	

## 4.2 Demographical and Biographical Information

4.2.1 An analysis according to questions: do gun crimes exist in Katutura? If they exist, what are the causes of the increase?

Participants or respondents in the study were asked whether gun crime exist in Katutura or not, and if they exist what are the causes of their increase? In response to these general questions ninety-nine 99 percent of participants have indicated that abuses of guns exist. Eighty percent of the victims interviewed have been threatened, assaulted or robbed with guns in various ways at different places in Katutura. Twenty percent of the interviewees have witnessed murder incidences and several random shootings in Katutura. Three of four convicts interviewed affirmed that gun crimes exist in Namibia, only one respondent or participant did not know.

Further in response to the same question; NAMPOL and City police, as well as members of NGOs, such as Legal Assistance Center, civil society, including Members of Parliament and victims interviewed all agreed that abuses of guns exist in Katutura.

Furthermore, all participants were asked to tell if they know what could be the causes of the increase in gun crime in Katutura. In response to the questions the police, the Members of Parliament and the victims interviewed were equally concerned with three things; firstly; they blamed too many guns circulating in the wrong hands. Secondly, the inadequacies in the Gun Law Act No.7 of 1996. Thirdly, that domestic gun violence is mostly caused by alcohol and drug abuse.

Furthermore, NGOs were concerned with poverty, unemployment and economic inequality that cause rural-urban migration as contributing factors. The convicts believed that the contributing factors were poverty, unemployment, jealousy and fantasy, "get rich quick."

Finally, all participants were asked to indicate whether they believe that there is an increase in gun crimes in Namibia and Katutura in particular. In response to this question eighty-five percent of the victims who participated indicated that there is an increase in gun crime. Eighty percent of both the police and City Police were not convinced whether there is an increase or a decrease, while fifteen percent of the police have contemplated for a decrease; because of the current measures of community policing that was introduced in 2010. Five percent of other respondents including some police, victims and NGOs indicated that there was an increase of so many unreported incidents such as threats and shootings at night. The difference between two groups, that is, those who confirmed the increase of gun crimes and those who did not confirm is five percent. The participants who were not sure whether there is an increase or a decrease in gun crimes constituted one percent representing thirty 30 percent of the study population.

The words participants and the respondents are used interchangeably to refer to individual interviewees who participated in the study.

#### 4.2. 2. Analysis according to gun crimes category and causes

The researcher wanted to determine whether respondents believe that there is an increase in a specific category of gun crimes in Katutura, for example, in robbery and so forth. Whether definitive evidence on domestic violence exists on issues related to gun crimes in Katutura. In response to these two specific questions, respondents from the police and those from the Division of Woman and Child Protections,

both indicated that the misuse of guns has become more prevalent in Katutura, committed mostly by acquaintances such as males against females, especially single couples living with partners.

Furthermore, they indicated that about ninety-three percent of the gun crimes that are committed in Katutura, involved threats or intimidation. One percent involved robberies, hijacking, homicide and suicides. While two percent involved shootings and theft with guns. A respondent from the Woman and Child Protection Unit further indicated that seventy percent of gun crimes within acquaintance mostly is attributed by both financial or alcohol related behaviour. Fifteen percent are jealousy related. Ten percent are economically motivated, a boyfriend unable to support his girlfriends' need or family as a result they get involved into quarrel or illegal deals that will culminate in gun misuse. They further indicated that four percent of gun crimes in random shooting is related to drugs or alcohol abuse. And only one percent of gun crimes was reported in normal marriage such as suicide and homicide. On gun crime that is committed per year, the researcher posed a question to both the police and the Division of Woman and Child Protection how often they attend to those crimes per month.

In response to the question both the police and division of woman and child protection affirmed that they attended to many related cases of gun crime.

However, according to them, once or twice in a week they attended to cases of people requesting for protection order. Cruze, (2001) stated that at most lethality of gun resulting in death or serious injury is quickly reported rather than minor injuries, while incidents such as gun threats are under-reported and cannot be remembered easily. This could be best interpreted that the percentage of threats could be more dominant if all incidents were reported. Therefore, based on the analysis of Cruz (2001), the

researcher concludes that this dominant complex may negatively affect the statistics of cases that were reported to both the Division of Woman and Child Protection and to the police.

#### 4.2. 3 An analysis of vulnerable areas to gun crimes

The researcher in attempt to analyse and determine areas in which gun crimes are more prevalent in Katutura, both respondents from the police and the Division of Woman and Child Protection were quick to indicate that gun crimes in Katutura area are common because of the high numbers of illegal gun ownership. Therefore, respondents explained that, in that context it means the availability of more guns severely affected the level of the safety of individuals in Katutura, particularly at night.

#### 4.2.4 An analysis of who are vulnerable to gun crimes

The analysis and the interpretation of the data focused on the identification of the vulnerable or people exposed to gun crimes. Respondents gave account of their personal experience and indicated that seventy percent of vulnerable people to gun crimes are females, and about thirty percent are business entities. Furthermore, the researcher wanted to know why women were particularly at risk of gun crimes? In response to the question, one respondent indicated that “home is no longer a safe place as it was commonly regarded.” According to the respondents, “nowadays the presence of a gun in the house greatly threatened women’s physical integrity at the hands of their male partners”.

Roberts et al (1979) revealed that ninety-nine percent of the armed robbery against business is economically motivated because when the criminals see their ways for success blocked, they innovate, turning to crime which promises greater rewards at any available opportunity, therefore, they strive for success by any available means.

#### 4.2.5 A analysis according to age group of offenders, gender, crime category and the time the crime occurs

The researcher took into an account to analyse age, gender, category of crime, causes for the most offenders, as well as the time it occurs. Respondents from the police and the Division of Woman and Child Protection indicated that on the incidents related to jealousy, the implicated offenders are mostly males between the age of 24 and 38, and sixty-five percent of these crimes take place between the hours of 7 p.m. and midnight, while robbery and others could take place at any opportune time mostly committed by males between 20 and 45 years of age.

#### 4.2.6 An analysis of how guns are obtained

The availability of guns were also analysed during this interview, and the responses from the Police Division of Gun Crime Investigators` Office indicated that ninety percent of the guns involved in crimes were obtained in dubious ways, either through theft because of negligence, robbery or bought on the black market registered in someone`s name, or unregistered. Finally, the researcher analysed all the

responses from all police participants, namely; the Gun Crime Police Investigation Officer at the Police Charge Office, the Gun Registration Police Officer, the Serious Crime Division Police Officers in the Regional Police Head Quarters, the five Katutura Station Commanders` as well as the responses from Windhoek City Police Officers including the responses from the police at the Division of Woman and Child Protection. All respondents agree on how guns are being obtained by criminals. The police estimated that approximately one-fifth of the illegal guns in civilian possession were originally registered guns that were lost or stolen. They believe that the remaining four-fifths of the illegal guns (that is, unlicensed guns) originated from neighbouring countries, particularly Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

#### 4.2.7 An analysis of the opinions on how to manage the increase of gun crimes in Katutura

Opinions from all the respondents on the most effective way to manage the threat of gun crimes were also analysed. On the question what could be done to minimise incidents of gun violence in Namibia? One of the parliamentarian respondents, as well as the two respondents from Woman and Child Protection Division and Mrs. Dempers from NANGOF`s Civil Society division suggested the following: Firstly, the introduction of anti-gun campaign education at schools and at community level. Secondly, stiffer sentences to the offenders and the amendment of gun control law Act 7 of 1996, to curb proliferation, reduce gun demand, and thirdly, promote responsibility management of guns before issuing them. Dempers reveal that despite all those scenarios the gun free zone campaigners were compelled to propose the following amendment to current gun law Act 7 of 1996.

- Firstly, a person to qualify to own a gun, he/she should be 21 years old.
- Secondly, the number of guns be limited depending on the nature of applicant.
- Thirdly, psychosomatic test be done to the applicant before application is considered.

- Fourthly, competent test training should be conducted before issuing a gun to applicants.
- Fifthly, police can verify with family members at home and acquaintance.
- Sixth, renewable of license.
- Seventh, stopping the inheritance of guns.

In response to the same question, two third from both offices of the police have expressed different opinions on the most effective way to manage the increase of gun crimes.

The police want to engage necessary technical expertise such as the use of covert operations, surveillance, to have more informants to determine the number of unlicensed guns, keep high visibility of police presence on the streets, stiffer sentence to offenders and a ban on sale of gun to younger people. On the question how to manage gun crimes; the researcher found that opinions were significantly divided within the police [on the adequacy of the legislation for dealing with gun crime related offenders], with a quarter of respondents commending that legislation was adequate.

Some of the strong distinctions expressed by various respondents on the issue of managing the increase on gun crimes were established by the researcher. The researcher found flexibility and difference as well as important areas of agreement and disagreement concerning the problems of gun related criminality and how they should be managed. A similar proportion felt that the sentencing powers available to the courts were inadequate. A third group believed that the existing gun legislation to be inadequate for a variety of reasons referred to loopholes within the gun legislation law and justice processes and procedures. Eighty-five percent of the victims interviewed demand mandatory prison sentences for carrying illegal guns. In reference to (Magnet Gun Crime Modeling Project, 2007) we can develop this point about the respective merits of different intervention methods and strategies for tackling gun



crimes and in particular the limitation of deterrent enforcement, and only imprisonment policy for those considered men are likely to increase gun crimes.

The evidence from all respondents shows that deterrent effects are likely to be achieved if the importance of educating and certainty of punishment and amendment to the gun control law introduced that can allow the police to engage necessary technical expertise.

Fig. 1: Indicates the comparative analysis of the opinions on how to manage gun crimes. Responses

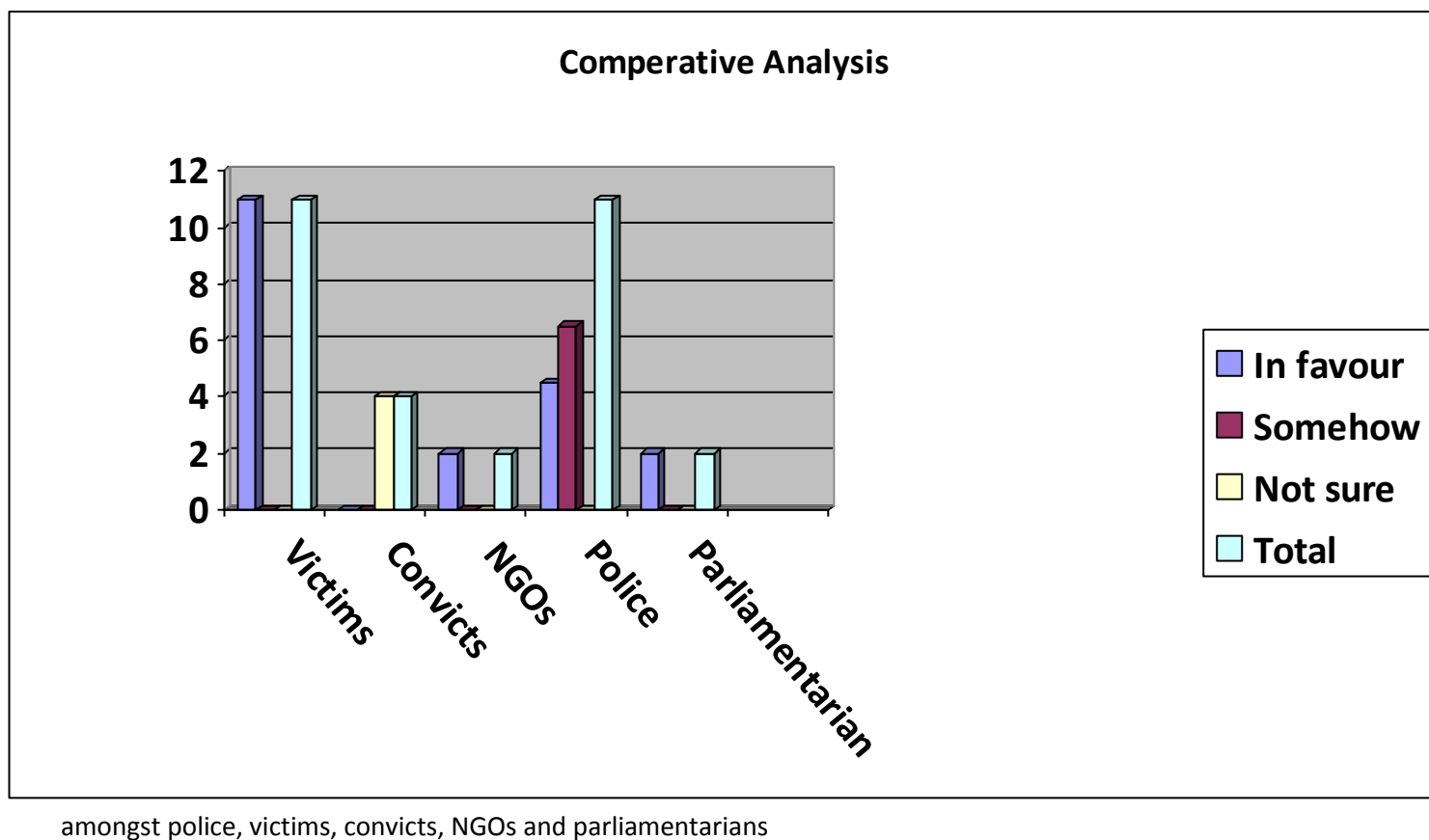


Figure 1above shows prevalence level of the participant`s opinions on how to manage gun crimes

Table 3: Indicates Characteristics of the study Populations interviewed in Categories

Categories	In favour	%	Somehow	%	Not sure	%	Total	%
Victims	11	52.3%	0		0		11	36%
Convicts	0		0		4	100%	4	13%
NGOs	2	9.5%	0		0		2	7%
Police	6	28.5%	5	100%	0		11	37%
Parliamentarian	2	9.5%	0		0		2	7%
Total	21		5		4		30	

Fig.2: Indicates the characteristics of the study population in totality interviewed on the increase of the gun crime.

Fig. 2: Characteristics of the study population in gender and total as interviewed

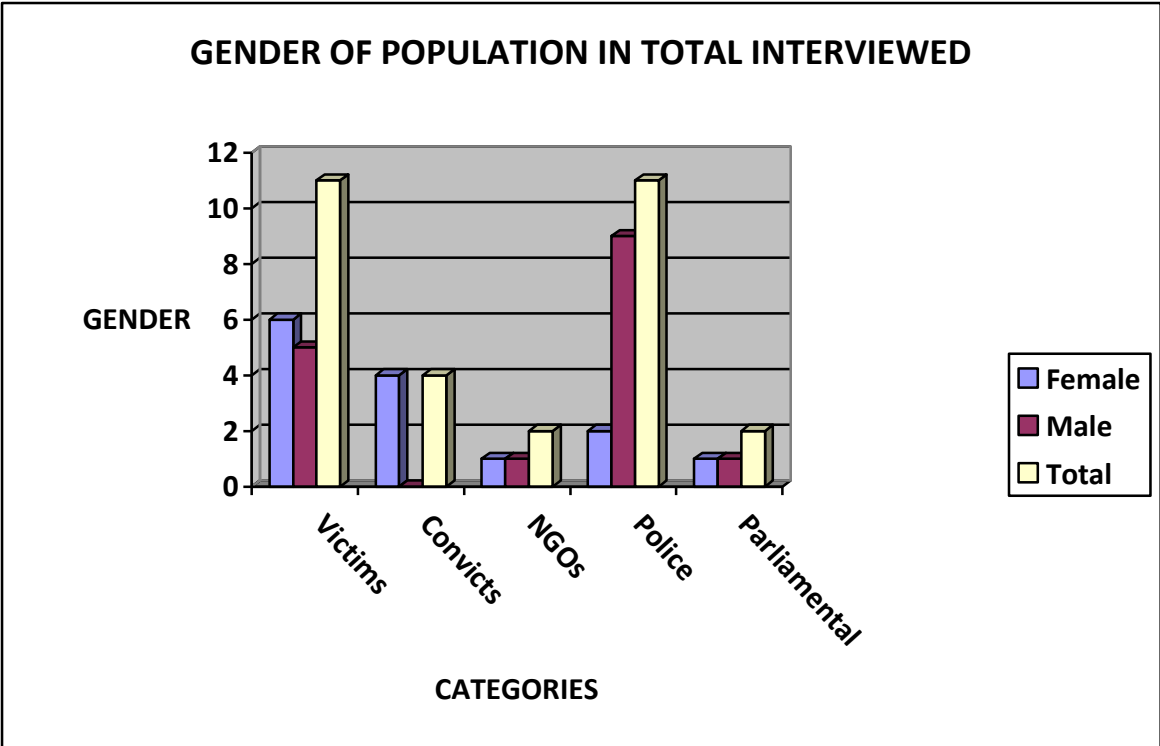


Table 4 below shows the characteristics of the total study population as interviewed in categories

STUDY POPULATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Victims of gun crimes all categories	5	25%	6	60%	11	36.7%
Convicts of gun crimes	4	20%	-	-	4	13.3%
NAMPOL Officers professional by virtue of responsibility	6	30%	1	10%	7	23.3%
City Police Officers professional by virtue of responsibility	3	15%	1	10%	4	13.3%
MPs law makers	1	5%	1	10%	2	6.7%
NGOs/ Legal Assistance Centre/Civil Society professional by virtue of responsibility	1	5%	1	10%	2	6.7%
SUBTOTAL	20		10		30	

#### 4.2.8 An analysis of the victim's experiences in gun crimes

The participants, namely the victims, were asked to describe their experiences in gun crimes or abuse. Many participants gave accounts of their personal experiences and some of them indicated that gun abuse became part of their daily social life in their areas or in the hands of their partners even in the family circle. Three victims who preferred to be anonymous described how they witnessed incidents of gun abuses. The first respondent described how he witnessed a terrified incident in the Hakahana Constituency in 2010, when an innocent man was gunned down by an unknown man and died in front of him. He described that, the man came out of a shebeen drunk and started shooting randomly into the dark and one bullet struck Mr. Godfried Katjaemo and died instantly. The researcher further wanted to know from other respondents as to how often these kinds of shooting are happening in Katutura. About ninety-eight percent of responses indicated that shooting aimlessly at night in Katutura is a common phenomenon.

Only two percent of the interviewees could not confirm or did not know. The other two victims interviewed all preferred to be anonymous as well and related stories of how they witness murder incidences. The second respondent related how she saw a man killing his wife and commit suicide in the presence of their five year-old child.

This incident happened after an argument broke out between him and his wife in Katutura. A third respondent narrated how he witnessed a gun murder in which his friend and two others were innocently murdered with a gun at Katutura Single Quarter in 2007. The witness related how Jekonia Dimbulukeni Hamukoto, a nurse in the Katutura Hospital, murdered three people with a gun. According to the witness, they were drinking together when Hamukoto misplaced his cell phone and started blaming others for having stolen it. Hamukoto started shooting randomly. All three respondents interviewed in connection with the aforesaid incidents, revealed that from that day on, they do not want to hear a sound of a gun or see someone carrying a gun. The researcher found that the gun victims might be highly traumatized.

#### 4.2.9 An analysis of the impact of the gun crimes on individuals and the state

The researcher also analysed the extent to which the gun crimes have affected both individuals and the state. In response to the questions the respondents have indicated that gun crimes have a significant negative impact on individual social life, for example business people are forced to employ security guards at their premises. Respondents also indicated that by shooting wildly people are forced to be indoors, victims remain traumatised and taxi drivers get scared to ferry commuters at night and vice versa. Furthermore, respondents commended that, the involvement of police and the ambulances in these operations have huge financial implications to the government.

#### 4.2.10 An analysis of the opinions of the gun convicts, gun used and gun control law

The research also included the interviews of four convicted felons of gun crimes who were incarcerated in Windhoek prison. Firstly; the goal was the “use a thief to catch a thief” to determine what gun laws may deter or disarm gun criminals and how they would respond to different gun crime categories or situations and also to find out whether they were deterred by existing laws of gun control, or the threat of an armed populous, their choice of gun, and how they obtained them. All the respondents or participants in the interview session indicated that they never used their own guns to commit crimes for which they were convicted. They also revealed that the guns were unlicensed because they never applied for a permit to purchase or carry a gun. This fact indicates that the weapons were acquired through illegitimate channels. Ninety-five percent used their gang’s guns, two percent used borrowed guns for the purpose, one percent used service guns. The other two percent used company guns. Secondly, the interviews sought to establish the convicts’ history of gun violent behaviour. Among the predators, ten percent had served or convicted for other crimes before. An overwhelming eighty-five percent of the felons’ gun crime convicts interviewed believe that “gun laws only affect the law-abiding citizens in Namibia and elsewhere. The failure of “gun control” became evident from several responses, given by convicted criminals. Five percent believe that people should be allowed to have legal guns for self defense only.

However, all regretted for crimes they committed. Thirdly, the researcher wanted their opinion on how to limit gun crimes. In response, fifteen percent want government to introduce gun crime awareness subject in schools for children to be taught how to control anger and be more conscience about the danger of guns, suggesting that this may change the people’s mind from childhood. Ninety percent of them had already served sentence for other crimes. Ten percent are convicted for gun murder. Eighty percent are convicted for armed robbery with aggravated circumstances such as bank robbery or heist, armed robbery and murder. Two percent of the convicts were accused of being mastermind for robbery. One percent is convicted for murder and attempted suicide with a gun.

Two percent is convicted for attempted arm-robberies and hijacking. In an attempt to understand if there is an increase in gun crimes or not, table 3 below shows responses from all respondents in “yes “or “do not know” answdrs. Table 4 below indicates the responses from the convicts on perception on increase of gun crimes.

Table 5 below indicates the responses from the convicts on perception on increase of gun crimes.

CONVICTS	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
YES	3	75%	-	-	3	75%
NO	1	25%	-	-	1	25%
SUBTOTAL	4		-		4	

#### 4.2.11 An analysis of the Namibian Gun Law Act:

In an attempt to find different factors for gun laws and social variables before finding combinations or correlations that appears to fit the fact of the increases in gun crimes in Katutura, currently the control



of guns in Namibia is contained within the Arms and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996. The researcher in the general analysis views the question of how effective is the current Gun Control Law Act. The researcher in the interviews included Pauline Dempers, a famous campaigner for gun free zone in Namibia, as a respondent. Dempers is working for the Civil Society Organisation in Namibia. Dempers' general view with regard to the Gun Law Act feels that the current Act does not have enough protection of the population. According to her, legislation needs to be reviewed as it does not adequately cover the range and extent of neither the contemporary gun problem nor the exiting regional and international guns control laws to which Namibia is party.

Currently the Act allows everyone from the age of 18 to own a gun, there is no limit, depending on how many guns you can afford or wish to own. In 2005 Namibia National Action Plan (NNAP) was established to provide guidance as the National Focal Point which coordinated and interacted with the civil society in Namibia. In her analysis, certainly from her experiences, she explained the most variance in the rate of the increase of gun crimes.

In response to the question as to whether there is an increase in gun crimes in Katutura, she related a sad story of a man who is now in a wheel chair paralised after he was shot in the groin by the owner of a car he accidentally scratched when he was reversing to park his car at a bar in Katutura.

According to her, although he was pleading to repair the car, instead he was shot. Both Dempers, City Police and the Namibian Police (NAMPOL) established that seventy percent of the people we talked to on the problem of gun crimes in the country felt that there was greater insecurity in Katutura especially

at night. NAMPOL (2008) indicated that there is a marked increase in the acquisition of guns by wealthy individuals which end-up in possession of criminals. According to Dempers and the police, they have been actively participating in various Regional and International initiatives conferences and workshops aimed at reducing the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons.

4.2.12 An analysis of common gun abusers, gender, age, ownership and general opinions how to punish gun criminals.

An analysis was made as to who mostly abuses guns in terms of ownership, gender and age. In response to the question asked, both the police and Dempers indicated that the available data at the police show that mostly males with legal and illegal guns abuse them. In response to the age group both Dempers and the police indicated that close to 60 percent of all gun aggressors were between 18- 40 years of age. Seventy-five percent of victims are females.

Dempers cited some significant numbers of shocking incidents that involved some teachers and some students carrying guns at schools.

“Teaching with a gun and a student with a gun in a class is a threat on its own.” Of those interviewed why carrying guns at school, preferred to be anonymous in response they claim that it is their right and in Namibia there is no law prohibiting carrying a gun at some places. According to Dempers the different magnitude of gun threats indicated that differed environments can present a different threat given the example in domestic environment where a wife can be threaten if she sees the husband cleaning a gun immediately after they have quarreled or taking a gun out of the safe. It means that this partially explains why many people feel less secured even in their own home. Seventy percent out of the victims

interviewed who had experienced violence of gun threats, attack or robbery were open to support owning guns. Twenty percent admitted to owning a gun. Ten percent of respondents interviewed were only in favour of the law enforcement agencies to possessing guns for the protections of citizens. Defence of the family and property were two top reasons interviewees gave for justifying the use of guns against another person. 10%percent of the various categories of gun victims interviewed were opposed to guns in civilian hands. They preferred that only the law enforcement agencies should have hands on guns for the protection of citizens. Two percent of the victims interviewed as described above support the use of death penalty, stiffer sentences for using a gun to commit crime. The analysis and comparison of the number of the responses or percentages of the responses in the specific category gave an idea of the category in which gun crime or abuse was more prevalent or severe. Furthermore, apart from determining the category in which abuse of guns was more severe or common, the analysis and interpretation of the data also focused on the identifications of the gender and age category of abusers and those who were more vulnerable to the abuses of guns. The result of these findings form part of the study as will be illustrated in the tables provided.

#### 4.2.13 An analysis according to Statistics of gun crimes recorded by the police for each category in which guns were misused in all the regions and Katutura from 2006 to 2010

The tables below will show the statistics of gun crimes in categories as committed during the period under study. However, guns used in random shooting are rarely reported, therefore, such concealment could not be calculated in percentage. According to the Police, crime can be cleared in any of the following means: by the court, withdrawn, unsolved or false. These totals do not represent dockets, but the individual case recorded with police. Table 6 below shows the statistics for the different categories in which guns were employed in Katutura between 2009 and 2010.

Table 6 below shows the statistics of eight Categories of Gun Crime incidents in Katutura

Eight Categories of Gun Crime incidents in Katutura								
Year	Threats Assault by threat with a gun	Murder with a gun	Suicide with a gun	Armed Robbery	Hijack with a gun	Theft of a gun	Random shooting with a gun is under recorded	Injured with a gun attempted murder
2009	49	2	4	66	10	10	10	21
2010	52	1	2	43	5	9	5	9
2011	49	3	4	53	7	11	7	20
Total	150	6	10	162	22	30	22	50

Sources: NAMPOL, Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2010).

In 2008 Khomas region was topping the list with Katutura accounting for 20 %. From 2006 to 2009 there has been a general increase in all crime including armed robbery, pointing guns, murder with guns and theft of guns. There was a high crime rate related to guns in 2008, and it indicated an overall decrease in 2010 in some regions. According to Sibeene (2009), armed robberies in Windhoek were on the increase in the country with Khomas Region reported been the highest with 470 recorded cases in 2008 and 463 recorded in 2007, this represent an increase of 101 cases. In the years 2008 and 2009, Khomas Region topped the list in all categories compared to other regions.

According to the police the overall decrease in 2010 could be a result of the community policing project launched in September 2010. Available data indicates that Khomas Region ranked number one with approximately 45 percent followed by Erongo and Oshana which dropped drastically in 2010. Table 7 illustrates that there is a slight change in armed robberies from 51 cases in 2008 to 37 cases in 2010.

The relative low rates of gun crimes in other regions provide a clear example of the high rate of gun crimes in Khomas Region. Eighty-five percent of the interviewed victims of armed robbery in their responses indicated that crime drives people to arm themselves or employ private security at their businesses. Table 7 illustrates the statistics of armed robbery in all 13 regions from 2006 to 2010.

Table 7 below shows the statistics of armed robbery in Katutura from 2006-2010

Gender	Robbery victims Recorded in Katutura	Total
		162
Male	121	
Female	41	
Sub total	162	

Sources: NAMPOL (Records, 2006-2010).

Table 8 below shows statistics of robbery with firearm (code 128) in all 13 regions from 2006-2010

PER MONTH						PER REGION					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	39	42	32	32	40	Caprivi	6	5	4	7	1
2	23	28	46	50	16	Erongo	38	27	11	11	15
3	23	36	48	50	34	Hardap	8	2	4	3	-
4	24	33	34	51	32	Karas	2	5	0	5	3
5	26	53	59	40	34	Kavango	5	13	4	4	9
6	33	44	49	46	37	Khomas	273	323	470	459	289
7	48	43	36	67	33	Kunene	7	-	2	3	1
8	44	38	53	66	25	Ohangwena	6	18	6	6	12
9	29	29	60	46	30	Omaheke	6	1	2	1	6

10	35	33	42	31	25	Omusati	2	9	11	8	8
11	29	49	62	26	35	Oshana	21	45	26	17	17
12	30	35	43	40	31	Oshikoto	4	4	11	5	2
						Otjozondjup	5	11	13	16	9
						a					
Total	383	463	564	545	372						
Growt h	11.9%	20%	21.8 %	-3.4%	- 31.7 %	Country	383	463	564	545	372

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010).

Table 9 shows total gun pointing in Katutura from : 2006-2010.

Gender	Gun pointing in Katutura	Total	150
Male	55		
Female	95		



Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010).

Table below shows the pointing of guns Code 102,302,402qnd 802) at a person in all 13 regions from 2006-2010.

	PER MONTH						PER REGION				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	37	39	28	33	27	Caprivi	10	16	18	20	22
2	28	41	30	28	47	Erongo	41	34	36	34	22
3	62	34	44	47	46	Hardap	13	19	20	14	7
4	35	49	42	53	28	Karas	16	15	22	16	8
5	41	39	37	32	33	Kavango	7	11	8	11	9
6	30	40	53	34	44	Khomas	230	243	261	243	226
7	50	49	51	59	29	Kunene	7	7	11	6	5
8	26	42	57	44	32	Ohangwen	27	16	20	25	18
9	34	61	49	38	43	a	14	20	12	18	12
10	50	48	49	40	39	Omaheke	16	22	19	22	26
11	38	44	47	43	36	Omusati	62	96	79	72	69
12	46	49	47	58	51	Oshana	16	25	13	15	18
						Oshikoto					

Total	4777	535	534	509	455	Otjozondju pa	18	11	15	13	13
Growth	-3.2%	- 2.2%	0.18%	-4.7%	-10.6%	Country	4777	535	534	509	455

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010).

Table 11below shows total statistics of attempted murder with guns in Katutura from 2006-2010

Gender	Attempted murder with guns Katutura	Total
Male	40	40
Female	10	10



1	21	10	16	17	22	Caprivi	11	4	3	7	6
2	12	22	20	24	16	Erongo	25	18	19	15	15
3	20	17	26	27	17	Hardap	5	7	3	1	2
4	18	15	27	27	18	Karas	6	9	16	4	7
5	19	21	17	21	25	Kavango	1	6	3	8	7
6	22	30	25	29	21	Khomas	118	108	157	145	99
7	26	25	20	20	13	Kunene	-	8	2	3	1
8	12	26	26	22	12	Ohangwena	9	16	11	11	13
9	28	13	22	18	15	Omaheke	9	9	0	15	10
10	21	17	28	19	20	Omusati	14	11	13	2	8
11	27	32	26	17	14	Oshana	44	34	32	27	30
12	31	18	23	21	17	Oshikoto	4	7	6	11	5
						Otjozondjupa	11	9	11	13	7
Total	257	246	276	262	210						
Growth	- 2.3 %	-4.3%	12.2%	-5%	-19.8%	Country	257	246	276	262	210

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010)

Table 13 below shows the total statistics of murder with guns in Katutura from 2006-2010

Gender	Murder with guns in Katutura	Total	6
Male	4		
Female	2		

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010)

#### 4.2.14 Analysis according to guns used in murder/homicides

Table 14 below shows the statistics from the police in gun homicides per region. Khomas Region is topping the list in guns used in the homicides in all the regions. Katutura represents 20 percent of all homicides in the regions. Interregional comparisons have been used to show associations between the prevalence of murder with a gun in the different regions during period under review.

Table 14 below shows the total statistics of murder with guns (Code 106,306,406 and 806) in all 13 regions

PER MONTH						PER REGION					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	10	6	5	8	2	Caprivi	7	5	1	6	-
2	8	6	5	5	1	Erongo	5	3	1	5	4
3	4	3	8	6	3	Hardap	-	1	2	6	2
4	5	7	2	7	6	Karas	4	2	6	1	1
5	6	7	8	7	5	Kavango	1	4	2	9	2
6	4	5	4	8	5	Khomas	35	29	32	34	20
7	6	5	6	4	7	Kunene	2	-	0	2	-
8	5	6	5	12	4	Ohangwena	3	3	6	3	4

9	6	4	11	6	4	Omaheke	4	6	2	-	3
10	8	5	-	4	3	Omusati	2	4	2	3	1
11	6	5	7	8	2	Oshana	8	7	6	6	3
12	9	7	4	7	2	Oshikoto	4	-	1	2	-
						Otjozondjupa	2	2	4	5	4
Total	77	66	65	82	44						
Growth	18.4%	-14.3	-1.5%	26.2%	-46.3%	Country	77	66	65	82	44

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010)

The data above match up only to gun related murder from 2006 to 2010. Of these incidents, 2 percent where committed domestically. According to the data from the police record only 10 percent of the homicide are attributed to assaults or economically-motivated crimes. Seventy percent are categorised as a result of social violence. Gun homicides begin to declined from 2009 to 2010, reduced by more than 40 percent, except Oshana and Khomas regions. Guns were used in approximately 20 per cent of all suicides in all regions except other regions such as Ohangwena which has seen the highest gun homicides in 2009 per month. The drop in gun related murder from 2006 to 2008 and 2010 is not easily explained. The trend in gun theft in all the regions is not showing any reductions per month:

Table 15 below shows statistics of gun theft in Katutura from 2006-2010





	4	9	4	11	23		5	7	7	12	8
1	3	20	15	15	13	Caprivi	15	14	12	10	9
2	18	13	14	15	12	Erongo	4	1	5	1	7
3	15	14	14	15	12	Hardap	4	1	5	1	7
4	14	12	13	20	12	Karas	2	1	2	5	6
5	8	6	11	8	10	Kavango	69	70	50	64	56
6	13	14	12	20	13	Khomas	3	2	3	2	1
7	22	14	16	14	11	Kunene	5	5	7	5	2
8	11	15	7	13	12	Ohangwena	2	1	3	7	2
9	22	8	15	10	12	Omaheke	4	2	4	4	7
10	12	12	13	13	10	Omusati	30	33	30	37	31
11	17	7	12	17	7	Oshana	8	2	8	7	7
12						Oshikoto	7	4	3	7	15
						Otjozondjupa					
Total	159	144	143	162	154						
Growt h	-9.1%	-9.4%	0.69%	13.3%	-4.9%	Country	15 9	144	143	162	154

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Record, 2006-2010)

#### 4.2.15 Summary analysis according to gun ownership per region, gun crimes in categories, crimes reported monthly, and crime reported per stations, and comparison of all gun crimes prevalence in Khomas Region

The figures shown in Table 16 below have illustrated the numbers and percentages of guns possessed by private owners in all thirteen regions of Namibia as recorded by the Police in 2003. The data as shown in Table 16 indicate that Khomas Region and the capital city Windhoek, ranked number one with 43.3% of small firearms in the hands of the public, followed by Erongo Region with about 15.7%. The rest of the regions have recorded between 1.2% and 8.8% of privately possessed guns. Against this background, it makes logical sense to believe that violent crime is rife in Khomas Region. Numerous comparisons have been used to show positive associations between the prevalence of gun murder crimes with other weapons used in murder crimes. Thoughts are the most popular way of demonstrating a relationship between these variables in order to illustrate more specifically the approximate deaths involved guns and deaths involved other weapons. In Table 20 below the researcher used interregional comparisons to show associations between the prevalence of robbery with guns, robbery with other weapons, murder with guns, and murder with other weapons, theft of guns elsewhere and theft of a gun from a vehicle and as well as pointing a gun to a person.

Statistically, by implication robbery with other weapons and murders with other weapons is higher. The researcher thought it is the most popular way of demonstrating a relationship between these variables, in order to illustrate more specifically the approximate trend of gun related crimes and crimes committed with other weapons in Katutura.

Table 17 A and B: illustrate the robbery with guns and robbery with other weapons and deaths as a result of guns and death caused by other weapons as well theft on guns

Table 17 A

CRIMES REGISTERED	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Robbery with a guns (128)	383	463	564	545	372
Robbery with other weapons (129)	927	1315	1450	1466	1058
Total robberies combined	1310	2078	2014	1901	1420

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Record, 2006-2010)

Table 17 B

Murder with a guns (128)	77	66	65	82	44
Murder with other weapons (107,307,407 & 807)	174	171	187	204	211
Total murders combined	251	237	242	286	255
Theft of guns	592	485	410	393	328
Theft from motor vehicle	364	386	384	401	386

Total guns theft combined	956		869	794	614
Pointing of guns	477	535	534	509	435

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Record, 2006-2010)

Table 18: below shows statistics in number and percentage of private guns recorded by the Police in all 13 regions in 2003

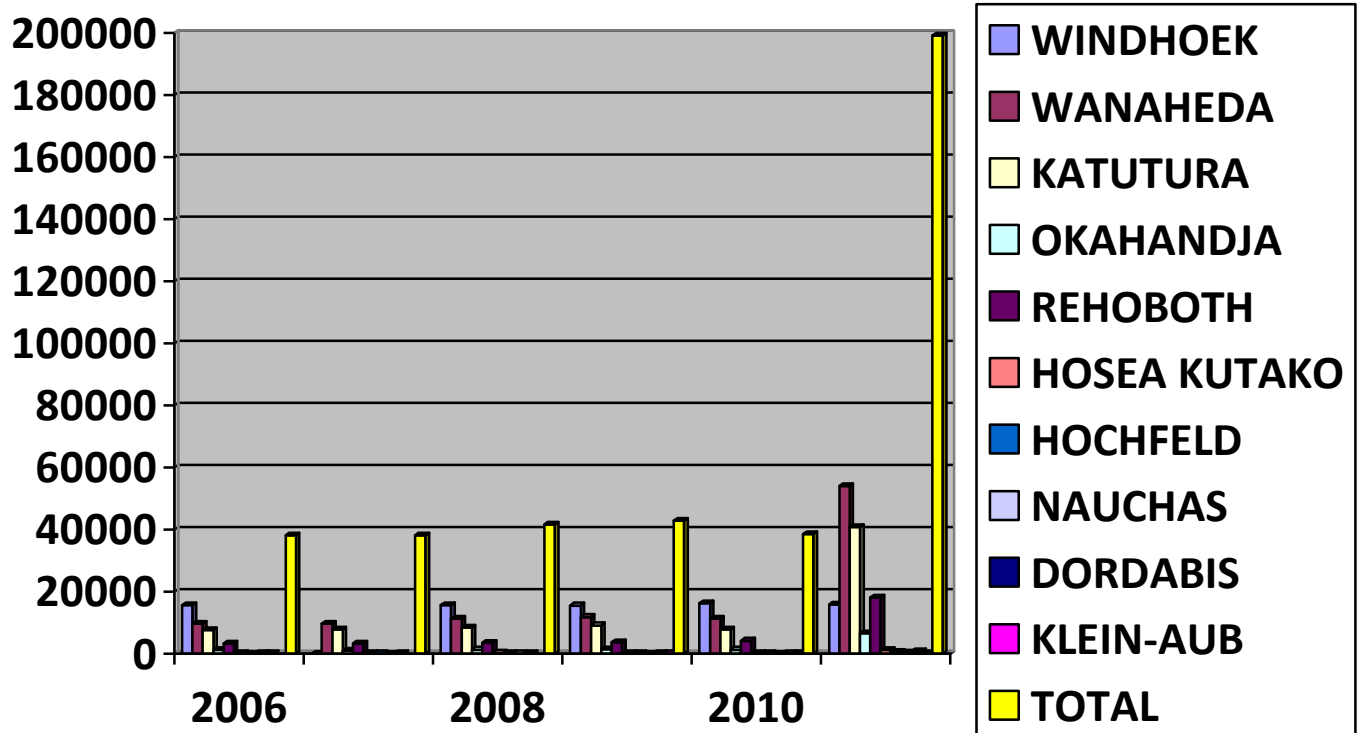
REGIONS	NUMBER OF FIREARMS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Khomas	1447	43.3%
Erongo	523	15.7%
Otjozondjupa	295	8.8%
Oshana	250	7.5%
Karas	166	5.0%
Hardap	199	3.6%
Caprivi	115	3.4%
Omaheke	87	2.6%

Omusati	85	2.5%
Kunene	83	2.5%
Ohangwena	70	2.1%
Kavango	59	1.8%
Oshikoto	41	1.2%
TOTAL	3341	100%

Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Record, 2006-2010)

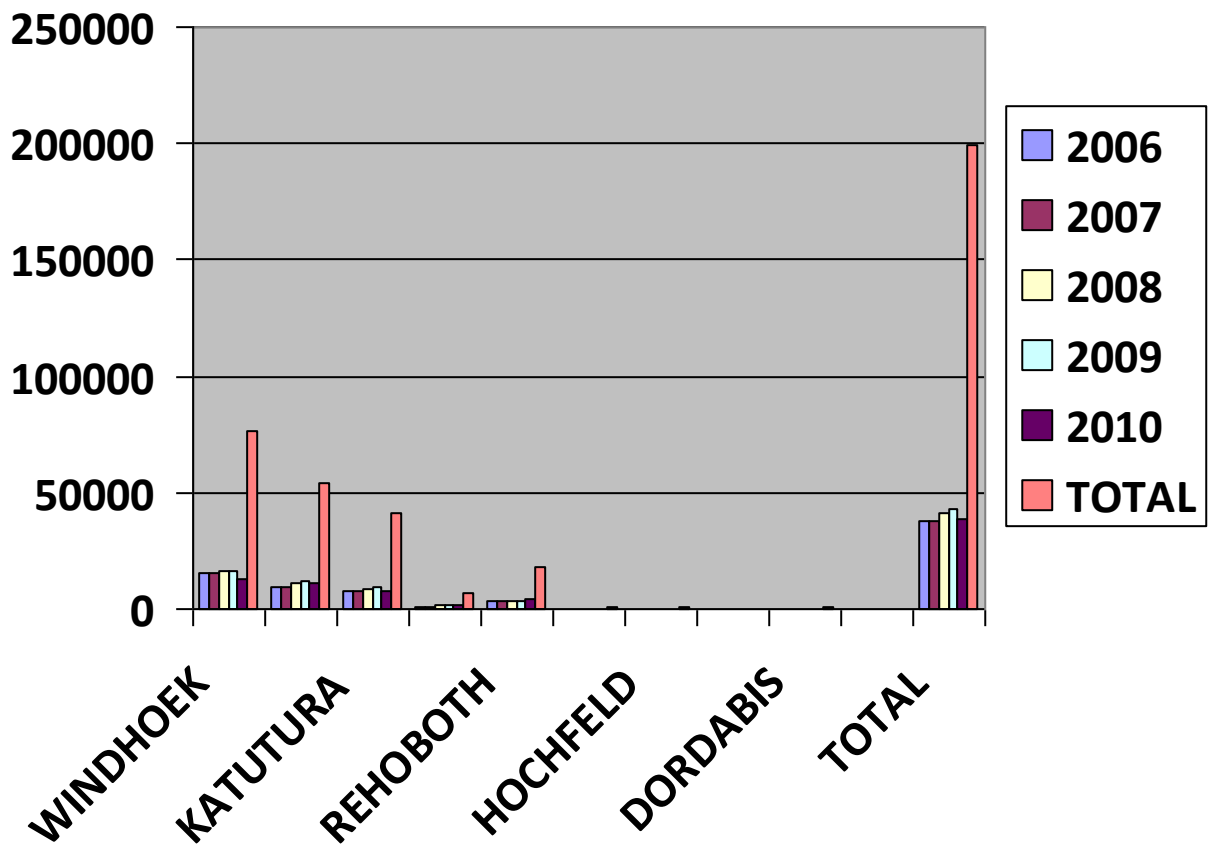
The two graphs 3 and 4 below summarised and interpret correlations of gun crimes trends as reported to the Windhoek Police Stations and it is neighbourhood Police Stations from 2006 to 2010. Based on data in graph 3 and 4 the study conclude that 40 % of the gun related crime has been committed from 2008to 2009 in Khomas Region with Katutura representing 23.1%

Graphs. 4.1 below Summarised and interpret correlations of gun crimes trends as reported to Police Stations in Khomas Region during the period 2006-2010



Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010)

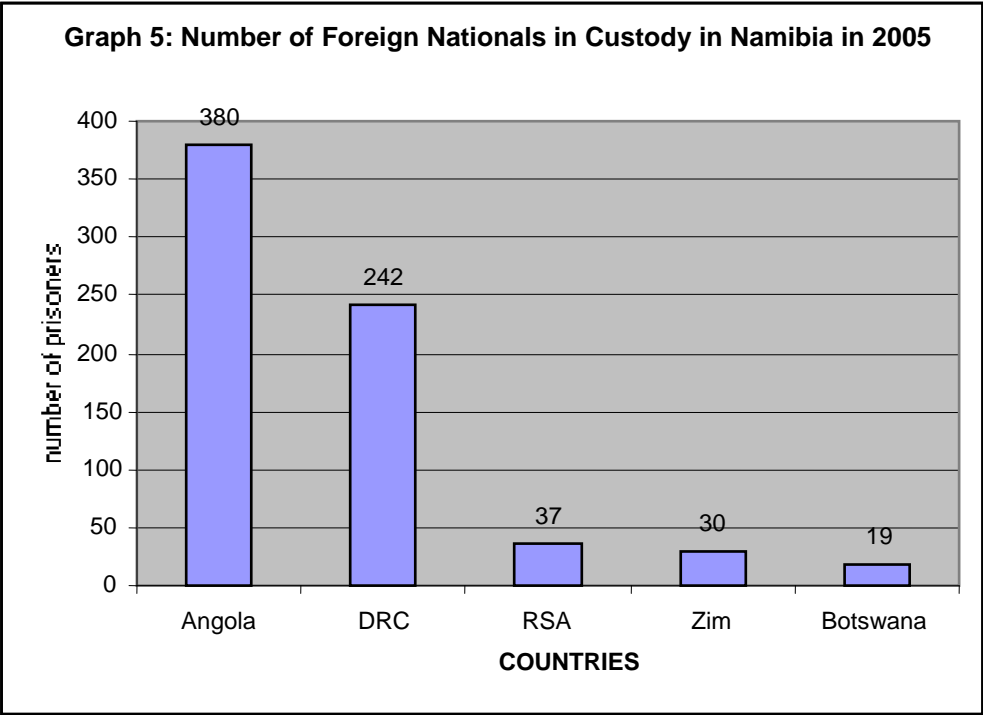
GRAPH 4.2 below interpret correlations of gun crimes trends as reported to the following Police Stations; Windhoek, Katutura, Rehoboth, Hochfield and Dorabis in Khomas Region.



Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division Crime Statistics Sub-division (Records, 2006-2010)

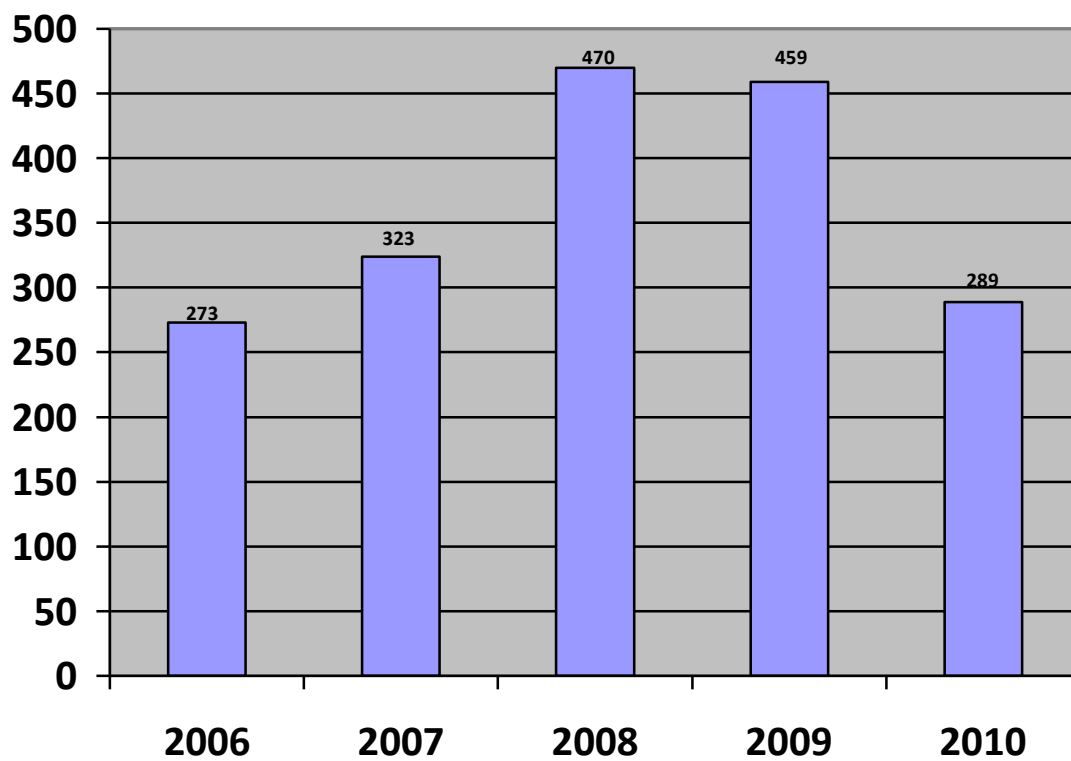
The data below in graph 5 show the numbers and percentages of foreign nationals who were in custody in Namibia for committing various crimes from 2005 to 2006





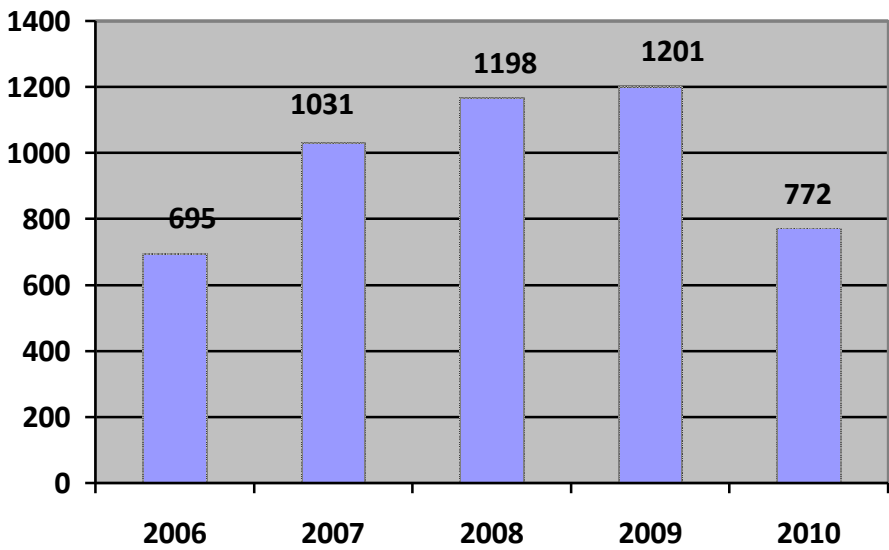
Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division Record, 2005-

Graph 6 below depicts the cases reported of serious crime: robbery with guns as recorded in all 13 regions from 2006-2010



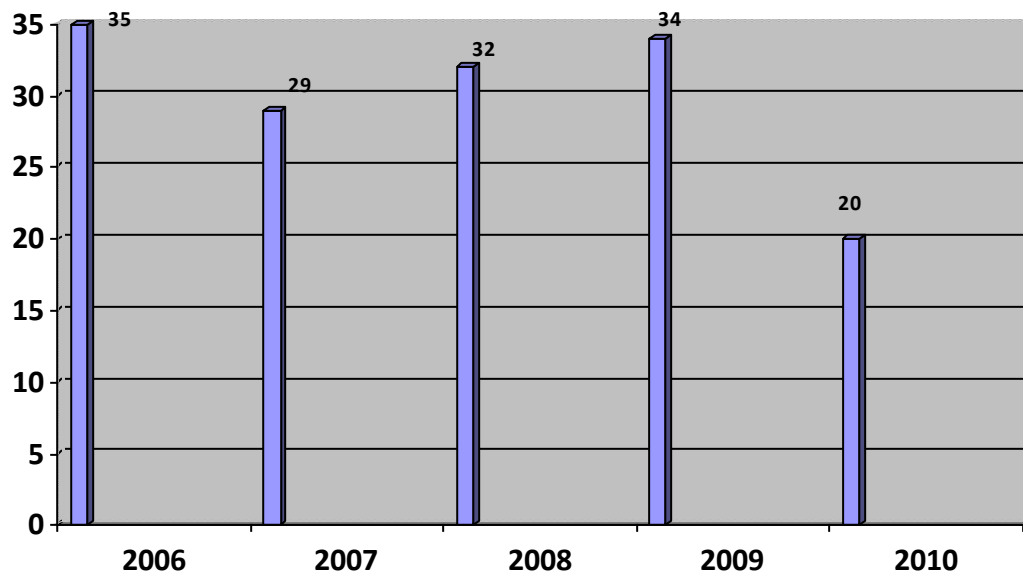
Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division Record, 2006-2010

Graph 7 below illustrate the comparison analysis of robbery with guns and other weapons than guns



Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division Record, 2006-2010

Graph 8 below depict the serious cases of murder with guns reported from 2006-2010



Sources: NAMPOL Crime Statistics Sub-division Record, 2006-2010

## Summary

Chapter four provides detailed result obtained from the individual interviews and documentary review. It also contains supplementary data from the literature review, the researcher's observation and discussions with key informants or respondents. The chapter reviews the findings of the research, and discusses the conclusions that were drawn. The results were of analytical evaluation of data regarding

the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura. It presented the results that emerged and the interpretation of the statistical data achieved. It also indicates interregional comparisons to show associations between the prevalence of gun crimes and crimes committed with other weapons in other regions and Katutura. A thought is the most popular way of demonstrating a relationship between these variables. Firstly, the findings established that there is a marked increase in the acquisition of guns by wealthy individuals believed to be encountering guns in the possession of criminals. This resulted in too many guns in circulation, and secondly, poverty, alcohol and drug abuse.

Thirdly, the Guns and Ammunitions Act of 1996 does not have enough protection for the population. Currently the Act allows everyone from the age of 18 to own a gun, without a limit, it all depends on how many guns you wish to own. Some of the strong distinctions expressed by various respondents on the issue of managing the increase on gun crimes were established. There are perceptions that violent crime is rife in the Khomas Region, hence some of the public have acquired licensed firearms intended for self-defense. Numerous inter-regional comparisons have consistently revealed a significant association between the rates of various categories of gun crimes. The biggest contributors of the increases in gun crimes in the country as recorded between 2008 and 2009 are guns used to threaten people, robbery, murder and theft. The results revealed sharp rise in gun crimes in Khomas Region and police records indicated Katutura accounting for 20%.

The researcher found both flexibility and difference as well as important areas of agreement and disagreement concerning the problems of gun related criminality and how they might most appropriately be managed. The statistics demonstrated that there are slight or marked changes in virtually all of the violent crime figures collected nationally including gun crimes. Homicide rates marginally increased

during the period 2006- 2009, and the percentage of homicide committed with guns increased from 49 percent in 2009 to 53 percent in 2010 in Katutura. The drop in gun crimes in 2010 are not easily explained but they could be a result of a number of factors including improved prevention measures such as police patrol at susceptible targets and services of private security.

## CHAPTER FIVE:

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

The problem identified in Chapter one of this thesis is that the results of the study have revealed a high prevalence level of the increase in gun crimes in Katutura judging from the responses of participants in the study. Nevertheless, with this prevalence rate, the literature on the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura is very narrow, not much has been written about the gun crimes in the area of study, namely Katutura. Therefore, there are many anecdotal stories illustrating both good and bad uses of guns. This research question can only be answered by looking at the data to find out what the net effect is. Chapter Five provides a brief review of the cause of increases of the gun crimes in Katutura, in the years from 2006 to 2010.

The whole Chapter four of the thesis is devoted to answering objectives that people have raised to the research analysis. There is of course strong feelings on both sides about the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura. Gun crime is more than just a question of statistics and recorded crime, but is the question of understanding perception of the problems and the responses to it.

This researcher has sought to identify key lessons from the evidence related to the causes of the increase of gun crime in Katutura.

The definition of guns referred to in here is all (small arms and light weapons) as set out by the UN (1997), and covers a wide range of weaponry including commercial guns and military weapons that can be used by individuals, soldiers or crew.

For the purpose of this study, the term gun related crime must be understood as any crime committed involving a gun, theft of a gun, armed robbery, armed threats, hijacking and other related gun violence.



Although a range of factors contributed to the causes of the increase in gun crimes, it is important to consider other violent crimes committed with other weapons as interrelated. One of the most notable factors causing crime is unemployment. In the literature available no one indicated the causes of the increase in gun crime. There has been a glaring light or empirical research on the impact of gun crime by other scholars. For obvious reasons, much of the writing has been focused on the gun crimes and gun control, with relative neglect on this issues of the causes of gun crimes.

The general message from the evidence base is that the nature and causal explanation of the causes of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura is highly complex and that there are substantial gaps in our existing knowledge in understanding about the phenomenon of the causes of the increase in gun crimes in Katutura. It has to be said that neither of these flaws in which is currently audited, should have come as an influencing factor to these findings. It might reasonably be stated, however, that we should not assess causes of the increase of gun crimes on the basis of the febrile of distressing events.

Despite the shortcomings of reliable data and other related factors on the increase of gun crimes in Katutura, it was not so much difficult to find it useful, although not accurate information with as much comparative data produced presently.

The findings from this study suggest that the incidences of the increase of gun crimes in Katutura were moderate in 2009 and 2010 if we compare these figures with those in the past. Despite the fact of that improvement, their accuracy is still at alarmingly high levels, there are some indicators for one to feel insecure.

Distinct from the rest of twelve regions, Khomas Region has the higher rate in gun related crimes of which Katutura accounts for 20%.The data set for this study over the past five year's period, remains a sample which has been treated as such statistically.

The finding indicators are that; high and rising rate of guns availability was the primary cause of gun related crimes from the mid 2006 and this study finds that there were too many guns in circulation. Secondly, available data indicate a lack of institutional capacity to control the guns owned by private security companies. Thirdly, unemployment, poverty and drug abuse influence misuses of guns thus leading to crime. Despite the apparent downwards trend in some categories of gun crimes Khomas Region is still at the above-average levels as compared to other regions. The trend in Katutura indicates relatively "static "from 2007-2009 as compared to the statistic drop in 2010 of the available indicators.

Violent guns related crimes were looked at as additional variable to demonstrate relevance, such as pointing guns, firing a gun in the air in a prohibited zone and the theft of guns of which many people never take cognition as a crime. The other regions' data presented in this study was to provide a good foundation for serious comparative research in the future. The model put forth of Khomas Region mark the relationship framework of the study for Katutura. Such collaborative framework would help to improve the capacity of each region to compile good comparative data on the increase of gun crimes each year. Therefore, at the same time it should be acknowledged that many incidents are never reported to the police or are not officially recorded by their nature, such as gun threats, or intimidation, and shooting in a prohibited area. Police data we used in this study were created over a long period of time, more than five years and eight months ago before this study. Hence, the current statistic data

compiled for Katutura by the police did not fully address some of the required indicators in related categories for this study, for example, shooting in a prohibited area.

With regard to the way the study was conducted, it can be safely stated that proven scientific research methods were applied during the course of the data collection.

Therefore, it is believed that these methods can be used in other studies to arrive at similar results, of course taking cognisance of the certain principles or determinant which state that other things being equal Mohr & Fourie, (2000:170). The finding of this study is that much of what could probably produce variation or perhaps different result would not be the consequence of the methods applied but could be attributed to the experience, competency and thoroughness of other researchers based on the research designs, the purpose and the focus of the study.

## 5.2 Conclusion

The key findings of this study indicate the following: Public sources of data on the causes of the increase of gun crimes are generally better than earlier believed in Namibia and Katutura in particular, but the persistent under-reporting of gun crimes, particularly with respect to the context of criminal incidents, remains a central challenge. The absence of high-quality data hinders the development and monitoring of preventing violence and gun reduction initiative.

Available data suggested that social violence and armed criminals are on the rise in the aftermath of the year 2000 that have plagued more regions in the country. In the 1990, politicized factions that have

fought during the wars of the liberation struggle have contributed much to the gun proliferation and illicit in the country. Former fighters and civilian alike easily have been taking advantage of the left over guns. The study found that 70% of offenders of gun crimes committed were unemployed, drug abusers or marginalised male youths with less education.

The study discovered that most of the guns used in committing crimes are obtained in a dubious way. It is assumed that 20% of the guns have penetrated into the country from the previous wars in countries such as Angola and DRC. Therefore, no one to date has attempted to systematically calculate how many illegal guns are in the country.

A review of available indicators of the causes of the increase of gun criminality indicates that insecurity is pervasive. Though absolute rates have not risen in the whole country. But other violent crimes with other weapons have led to the further deterioration in the general security environment, as a result, individuals have responded to these perceived threats, and therefore, more people acquired guns to redress their own security or hiring private companies.

From the perspective of the gun violence affecting nations, the increase of gun crimes debate can be seen as merely one aspect of an overall difference in disputes about variety of other social crime problems. However, there are for those who regard crime as a product of social condition, such as the proper distribution of wealth, opportunity and liberty in society Lea, et al (1995).

Other indicators given more anecdotal consideration that include of gun crimes in other regions, and the comparison of other crimes committed with other weapons as well as how Katutura Community are affected socially and economically.

From the mid -2006 this study finds out that accessibility of guns, poverty, unemployed that cause rural-urban immigration, economic inequality, and drug abuse have made the guns to be the leading cause in crime.

By way of conclusion, researcher does not, by any means, have all the answers produced from respondents based on the result of the study outcome as a fact. Therefore, the best approaches discover the main issues and understand the facts.

It can be safely said that the lesson learned from this study, the time is certain ripe to start evaluating the impact of gun crimes in the country, and what they do to the nation. Although some useful information does exist, one of the problems is that there is a limited capacity, communication, co-ordination, and data sharing amongst the institutions that deal with gun related violence, namely the judiciaries, police, city police hospital and civil society included at the community level. Again, this is the process that should be carried out primarily by the researchers.

There have been conferences in Namibia from 2007 to 2008 and 2010 devoted to tackling the issue on gun related crimes, but these have been a SADC related programme almost entirely devoted to share lessons and suggestions to counter armed gangs. Yet without the active participation of all stake holders namely from the police, judicial, civil society NGOs, Legal Assistance Centre, Members of Parliament or

law makers it will be difficult to interpret data for action, and to prevent violence of gun crimes. To conclude, the accumulated evidence indicates that most of the offenders are unemployed or with less education.

### 5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

This study has highlighted some of the important areas where the law makers can draw a lesson. As we noted earlier in Chapter 4 there have been commitment and initiative on the part of the government to address issues related to gun crime through the Programme of the National Focal Point on the Illicit Proliferation of guns. This initiative was also joined by the Civil Society Organisation advocates of the gun free zone in Namibia. These comprised in part the reassurance of community engagement and partnership development in the fight against gun crimes. Overall, it was hoped that the work would inform theory and policy on guns and help to shape contemporary discourse on guns as a social problem in Namibia. This required action searching for and compiling relevant information that was fragmented across many sources. Of course much more work needs to be done to assess the lesson learned in Katutura where this study took place. The data set for this study does approximate the complete population of the causes of increase in gun crimes in Katutura over the past five year's period; it remains a sample which has been treated as such statistically. A high and rising rate of threats was the primary gun related crimes revealed in this study.

Fundamentally, government needs to recognise that in many of the poorest countries gun violence dramatically inhibits social and economic development. On the other hand, there is a strong compelling evidence to suggest that legislation needs to be reviewed as it does not adequately cover the range and extend of neither the contemporary gun problem nor the exiting regional and international protocol to which Namibia is a party, proved giving easy access to every individual. Therefore, this status quo could adversely impact on economic and social living conditions of residents in urban cities and township such as Windhoek and Katutura. By implications, these guns are used to commit acts of crime such as armed robbery, rape and murder; to mention but a few examples.

Gun violence can be reduced and can be prevented. Government can introduce gun crime awareness subject in schools for children to be taught how to control anger and be more conscience about the danger of guns, suggesting that this may change people's mind from childhood. One imported way to limit gun violence is to control the availability and use of guns.

- Firstly, a person to qualify to own a gun he/she should be 21 years old.
- Secondly, number of guns be limited depending on the nature of the applicant.
- Thirdly, psychosomatic test be done to the applicant before application is considered.
- Fourthly, competent test training should be conducted before issuing a gun to applicants.
- Fifthly, police should verify with the relatives at home and acquaintances.

The findings from all respondents shows that deterrent effects are likely to be achieved if the importance of educating and certainty of punishment and amendment to the gun control law are introduced. These channels allow the police to engage necessary technical expertise.

The study is a modest contribution to efforts been done by those who are interested to see Namibia as a free gun crime nation. Above all the result of this study will assist policy makers to intervene and introduce measures to minimise gun crimes. In more general terms the study will assist to enforce the law that reduces easy gun accessibility. At the government level, there is a need to enforce bilateral agreement and work closely with the NGOs and NANGOF in order to stem the flow of guns and reduce the risk of citizens becoming either victims or assailants.

There is also a need to amend the current Gun Law Act of 1996, and the introduction of a law that prohibit people not to carry guns at some places. However, one strong message that emerges from the evidence of the study is that most of the problems associated with the causes of gun crimes require social and economical rather than criminal justice solutions. In conclusion, respect for oneself and towards others, including their property could greatly reduce the crime rate and workload of the investigators.



## REFERENCES

Barak, G. (2000). *Crime and Crime Control: a global view* /edited by Gregg Barak, Eastern Michigan University, Greenwood Publishing Group.

Barak. G. (2002). *Crime and Crime Control a Global View*, ISBN: 0-313-30681-8 Eastern Michigan University, Greenwood Press.

Berg, L. B. (2001). *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Science* 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Long Beach, California State University.

Best, J. Kahn, J.(2006). *Research in education (10<sup>th</sup> ed.)* Boston: Pearson Education.

Bless and Smith. (1995)*Fundamental of Social Research Methods African Perspective* Durban: Juta.

Brown. G. (2007) *Priminister promise action on gang culture*, 10 Downing Street statement, [htyp://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page 12906.asp](http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page 12906.asp).

Chandre, G. and Guy, L. (2003) *Hide and Seek Taking Account of Small Arms in Southern Africa*, Pretoria South Africa: Institute for Security.

Chris, B. (2005). *Loch Review, Number one and two 2005* by Loch Raven review ISSN 1554-6494 publisher online four time a year and in print once a year is an international online, and print magazine of poetry.

Cohen, A. (1995). *Delinquent Boys*. New York: Free Press.

Cohn, L.E. & M., K. Felson,(2004). *Juvenile Delinquency: Integrated Approach Criminological theories, introduction, and application* 4<sup>th</sup> revised, Roxbury Pub.

Cruz, J. (2001). *Los efecto de la proliferacioé y el abuso de armas livianas: mortalidade morbilidad* en El Salvador. Background paper. SanSalvador and Geneva: Small Arm survey.

Cruz, J. A. A. and Francisco, C. (1999). *The Social and Economic Factors Associated with Violent Crime* in El Salvador. San Salvador: World Bank and Instituto Universitario de Opinion, Universidade Centroamericana.

Franklin,E. Z. & Hawkin, G. (1985 *as a Gun Culture,*" American Heritage 21(1970) 4-7, 26-34.

Franklin,E. Z. & Hawkin, G. (1985). *The Citizen`s Guide to Gun Control*, New York:

Macmillan publishing company.

Gould, C. & Lamb, G. (2004). *Hide and Seek: Taking Account for Small Arms in Southern Africa*. Institute for Security Studies (ISS) Pretoria.

Government of the Republic of Namibia (2005). *Namibia Action Plan on Small Arms and Light Weapons*. Windhoek: Government Publication.

Government of the Republic of Namibia, *Arms and Ammunition Act, (1996)* Windhoek Government Gazette Publisher.

Government of the Republic of Namibia (2005). *Namibia Action Plan on Small Arms and Light Weapons*. Windhoek: Government Publication.

Government of the Republic of Namibia, (2001) *Population and Housing Census* Preliminary Report Census Office National Planning Commission, Windhoek Government Gazette Publisher.

Hales, G., Lewis, C. and Silverstone, D. (2006). *Gun Crime: The Market in and Use of Illegal Firearms*, Home Office Research Study N0.189

Haralambos, M. & Holborn, M. (1995). *Sociology, Themes and Perspectives*: Harper Collins Publishers, London W6 8JB.

Hassen, D. (1998). *Guns and Control in South Africa: A Case Study on Fatal Gun Use in Metropolitan Cape Town, South Africa 1984-1991, with a critical Examination of Broader Issues*. SJRP Institute of Criminology University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Hornick, R. (1993). "Limit of Progress" Time (May 10).

Humphries, D. and Greenberg, (1981), "*The Dialectic of Crime Control*."; In Davi Greenberg (ed.), *Crime and Capitalism*. Palo Alto, CA: Mayfield, 209-54.

Kahn, T. 1997. *Sistema penitnciario. Mudacas de perfil dos anos 50 aos 90*. Revisita ILANUD, no.6. Sao Paulo, United Nations.

Leedy, D. P. & Ormrod, E., J. (2005). *Research Planning and design*. 8<sup>th</sup> Ed, Pearson Merrill Prentice Hall, New Jersey 07455.

Leedy, P. D. & Ormrod, J. E. (2005). *Practical Research Planning and Design* (8<sup>th</sup> d). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc:

MagnetGunCrimeModeling Project (2007), <https://www.york.ac.uk/management/magnet/> access 11 June 2009.

McMillan, J. H. & Schumacher, S. (1997). *Research in Education: A Conceptual Introduction* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Longman. Pearson Education, inc .USA New York..

Mohr, P. & Fourie, L.(2000).*Economics for South African students* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Van Schaik Publishers Pretoria.

Muuloongo,R.,&Kariri,J,K,(2005).*AfricaRecovery*,2001,Online:<http://www.innews.org/inDepthain.aspect?inDepth=88ReportId=589971.06/09/2008>)

Namibian Police Force (2010).*Crime Statistics 2006-2010*.Police document Unpublished.

Namibian Police Gun Registration Record (2008). *Negative Impact of Misuse of Firearms*. Department of Criminal Investigation: Unpublished NAMPOL File.

Newman, W. R (2003). *Social research method: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). USA. Pearson Education, Inc

Nujoma, S. (2001). *Where Others Wavered: The Autobiography of Sam Nujoma*, Panaf Books 75, Weston Street London SE1 3RS.

Paulus,S. *Research methods are techniques of gathering evidence*. New Era, July 02, 2010:8)

Peter S; Roger, G., Enver S., (2008). *Gun crime: A review of evidence and policy*, King`s College, London

Report of the United Nations Conference on the *Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Its Aspects*, New York, 9-20 July 2001.

Pitt, J. (2007), *Reluctant Gangsters: Youth Gangs in Waltham Forest*, University of Luton.

Roberts, K. (1978). *Contemporary Society and the Growth of leisure* Longman, New York, Leisure `in M. Haralambos (ed.).

Robson, C. (1993). *Real world research: A resource for social scientists and practitioner researchers*, Blackwell, Oxford.

Sandema, R. (2005). *Social Factors Influencing Crime-Armed Robbery-in Windhoek from 1997-2000* A Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Masters of Art at the University of Namibia.

Sibeene, P. Armed Robberies on Rise, New Era, p.1 vol.14 No.187. (2009, May 15) New Era.

Struwing, F.W. & Stead, G. B. (2003). *Planning, designing and reporting research*, Cape Town: Hanlin Venter.

Namibian Sun Shooting *claims young man`s life in Katutura* (2010, July 15, p.4.).Namibian Sun.

Namibian Police National Conference on Small Arms: (2008 Mar 13). *Plan to Change Gun Laws, The Namibian* p., 5.

Namibian Police Force (2009). *Gun Crime Statistics* Unpublished

Namibian Police Force (2006-2010). *Crime Statistic*: Police Published

Oyedele, V. (2003). *Educational Research & Statistical Method*. Centre for External Study.

Saldomando, Angel. (1999). *Nicaragua: rostros de la violencia` Violencia social en Centroame`rica: ensayos sobre gobernabilidad y seguridad ciudadana* Managua: Coordinadora regional de Investigaciones Economicas y Sociales. pp.121-66,

Steffensmeier, D. (2000), *Gender, Structural Disadvantage and Crime*. New York:

Oxford University Press.

Stephen, E. Brown Finn-Aage Esbensen & Gilbert Geis (no year of publication) *Fifth Edition Study Guide Criminology* Explaining crime and it's Context a textbook with student study guide, Lexis Nexis ap Anderson publisher.

Squires, P. (2008), *Policing a mixed economy of firearms: layers in the gun culture`*, paper presented at `Guns, Crime and Social Order: An International Workshop`, York university, Toronto, May 2008.

Stevens, R. and Cloete, M. (1996), *Introduction to Criminology*. International Thomson Publishing Durban.

The Namibian, *Shebeen shooting rampage case sent to High Court* (2008. July 7. p.3).The Namibia.

The National NGO Conference on the Tanzanian *National Action Plan to Combat Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons 2002*, United Kingdom: SaferAfrica.

Varkevisser, C.M. Pathmanathan,I,& Brownlee, A.(n.d.).*Designing and conducting Health system research projects, Vol 2*.

Villaveces, Andres, et al (2001). *Small Arms and Global Health. World* , Geneva:

Health Organisation.

Walto, M. (1992).Case study research, rev. ed., Beverly Hill, CA: Sage.

Waltz, K. (2007). Understand International Relations Third Edition Revised and Update, Chris Brown with Kirsten Ainley.

Young, J. et al (1986). Losing the Fight Against Crime, Oxford: Blackwell.

Anarchy&violence,KennthWaltz:Realism-how-non-state.php.onlineretrieved

<http://www.gwias.co/glob/2007/09terrolism>

and Journal of Criminal Justice, Vol. 27, No 1 website, (1999, Feb 17) .under the title "*An Economic Model of Gun, Crime, and Gun Control*" Online <http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/index.html>

## THE CAUSES OF THE INCREASE OF THE GUN CRIME IN NAMIBIA: A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA

### INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR GUN CRIME VICTIMS

#### Introduction:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for showing interest to be part of this interview. The nature of this study is to investigate the causes of Increase of Gun Crime in Katutura. I wish to assure you that participation in this exercise is voluntary and that the survey report will be anonymous. No record of this interview will be kept for any purpose other than research.



NB: There are neither right nor wrong answers to the questions; they are just about your personal experience, and opinion. Please, feel free to answer honestly as you can to the questions. To ensure confidentiality, you are not required to provide your name.

It will be very much appreciated if you can answer all the questions in this paper.

Do you understand the purpose of this Study? ..... Yes    or    No .....

#### SECTION A : BIODATA and Demographic Profile of Participants

1. To which of the following age group do you belong?

(a). 18 – 25      (b). 25 – 35      (c). 35 – 45      (d). 45 – 55      (e). 55 – 65

a) Region .....

b) Home language for example, Damara/Nama, Oshiwambo, Otjiherero, Afrikaans, Rukavango,

Silozi, Setswana, others

c) Constituency .....

d) SEX

Male

Female

e) Title / Rank : Mr , Mrs, Miss, Dr. Professor, Others.....

## Section B

1. Which of the following crime below were you a victim of in Katutura or elsewhere?

a) Threats with gun, assault by threat    e) Hijacked with gun

b) Witnessed homicidewith a gun    f) Witnessed suicide with a gun

c) Witnessed random shooting etc.    g) Injured by a gun

d) Robbed with a gun (armed robberies)    h) None of those / or all

2. Could you please tell me your experiences about crimes committed with a gun against you, your family, friends, acquaintance or stranger?

3. In your opinion, can you remember what caused that incident?

4. When did that happen?

5. Was it the first time to experience such incident?

7. Who else do you know or heard with a similar problem?

8. In your opinion what is the cause of gun crime in Katutura?

9. How did this affected you? eg. financial, emotional and social etc.?

10. How often did you hear of gun crime committed in Katutura?

11. In your view do you agree or disagree that all Namibian citizens should have guns?

- In favour
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Oppose
- Don't know

Support you answer .....

.....  
.....

12. Who in your view, is supposed to have or own firearms amongst the list below? You can mark any number as you wish

12.1 Government agencies, such as Defence Force, Police Force

12.2 Non-government institutions, such as security companies

12.3 Private companies, businesss

12.4 Individuals

12.5 Non

12.6 All

Support your answer; why this is your choice?

.....  
.....

13. Do you agree that stricter Firearms control laws and licensing are necessary to prevent gun related crimes

13.1 Strongly agree

13.2 Strongly disagree

13.3 Somewhat agree Neither

Support your answer.....

## Section C

1. Perceived Firearms Laws and Regulations in Namibia;

2. Are you conversant with the Namibia Firearm and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996, which is about firearms laws / regulation and control?

2.1 Strongly conversant

2.2 Conversant

2.3 Not conversant

2.4 Somehow

2.5 Not at all

3. In your opinion is firearms control important?

Strongly important

Important

Not important

Don't know

Why ? .....

.....

4. What do you suggest to people to have access to firearms?

.....

.....

.....

5. How much, if any did you hear, read, about gun abuse in Katutura?

5.1 A lot

- 5.2 A little
- 5.3 Nothing at all
- 5.4 or don't know

6. What can you suggest should be done to rectify firearms abuse problem in Namibia.....

.....

.....

.....

## THE CAUSE OF THE INCREASE OF GUN CRIME IN NAMIBIA: A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA

### INTERVIEW QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE & CITY POLICE.

#### Introduction:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for showing interest to be part of this interview. The nature of this study is to investigate the cause of the Increase of Gun Crime in Katutura. I wish to assure you that participation in this exercise is voluntary and that the survey report will be anonymous. No record of this interview will be kept for any purpose other than research.

N/B: There are neither right nor wrong answers to the questions; they are just about your personal experience, and opinion. Please, feel free to answer honestly as you can to the questions. To ensure confidentiality, you are not required to provide your name.

Please Note: The data to be provided will be used for research purposes only; and will be treated as confidential, Please complete all relevant sections. Try to answer all questions either by writing or verbally and ticking where appropriate

---

Do you understand the purpose of this Study? .....yes..... or No.....

SECTION A: BIODATA and Demographic Profile of Participants

1. To which of the following age groups do you belong?

(a). 18 – 25 (b). 25 – 35 (c). 35 – 45 (d). 45 – 55 (e). 55 – 65

b) Region Khomas .....

c) Constituency .....

d) SEX :

Male

Female

f) Title / Rank : .....

h) Duration in the Police Force:.....

g) Profession in the Force, if any,.....

Section 1. Are you conversant with the Namibia Firearm and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996, which is about firearms laws / regulation and control?

1.1 Strongly conversant

1.2 Conversant



1.3 Not Conversant

1.4 Somehow

1.5 Not at all

Section C.

1. Could you please tell me whether abuse of guns exist in Namibia and Katutura in particular? If it exists, in which of the following forms does it take place:

- a) Threats with gun, assault by threat? e) Hijackings with gun
- b) Homicide with gun f) Injured by a gun
- c) Suicide with a gun g) shootings wildly in prohibited zone etc.
- d) Armed Robbery h) None of those / or all
- i) Theft of guns

2. How many cases related to gun crime were recorded 2006- 2011?

3. How often do these incidents in B 1 occur?

- |     |            |                   |                   |                   |
|-----|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 3.1 | A lot      | (a) Per week      | (b) Per month     | (c) Per year      |
| 3.2 | Somewhat   | (i) a lot         | (i) a lot         | (i) a lot         |
| 3.3 | A little   | (ii) somewhat     | (ii) somewhat     | (ii) somewhat     |
| 3.4 | Don't know | (iii) a little    | (iii) a little    | (iii) a little    |
|     |            | (iv) i don't know | (iv) i don't know | (iv) i don't know |

4. Can you recall how many gun crime incidents you attended to from 2006 - 2011?

5. Which year you think more incidents of gun crime occurred in Katutura ?
6. How many foreigners were involved in these crimes?
7. How many of these guns used in crimes belong to legal owners?
8. Which type of gun abuses in No. 1 above is more common in Katutura, e.g. A, B, C, D, E, F, G, or All?
9. Who are mostly offenders? Eg. Male or Female?
- a. Single
  - b. Single but living with partner
  - c. Married
  - d. Strangers
10. What is the age group of the offenders?
11. As per your experience, how are these guns obtained? e.g legal acquired guns or from the streets (unlicensed guns)?
12. As per your experiences, what time are these crimes mostly committed? E.g during the day or at night?
13. Which constituency in Katutura are gun crimes more common, and why? E.g
- Wanahenda,
  - Tobias Hainyeko,
  - Katutura Central,
  - Greenwell Matongo
  - Others

.....

14. Which gun crimes in No1 above are commonly committed by strangers' eg.by an unknown?

E.g A, B, C, D, E, F, G,

15. Which gun crimes in No1 above is commonly committed domestically, by family member?

E.g A, B, C, D, E, F, G,

16. Which category of the above gun crime is more in the increase in Katutura?

### Section C.

1. In your opinion, what social factors are the main contributors to the causes of the increase in gun crime in Katutura? Circle your answers.

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| a) Drug abuse?  | Yes / No |
| b) Alcohol abuse (Drunkenness)?                             | Yes / No |
| c) Poverty?   | Yes / No |
| d) Too many guns available to the people                    | Yes / No |
| e) Negligence?  | Yes / No |
| f) Peer pressure  | Yes / No |
| h) Financial problem? or Unemployment?                      | Yes / No |
| g) Lack of gun laws that may deter or disarm criminals?     | Yes / No |
| i) TV violent programme?                                    | Yes / No |
| j) No strict control mechanism for approving gun applicant? | Yes / No |

i) Existing prison sentence related to misuse of gun do not deter criminals? Yes / No

k) Do gun crime offenders have prior history of violence? Yes / No

2. Who do you think are the most abuser of firearms? Males? Females? or both ?

.....

3. Who do you think are the most victims of gun crime?

- Female            - Businesses    - Children

- Male             - Foreigners

- Households      - All

4. In your opinion what social and security implications does gun crime have on the communities of Katutura as well as to State?

.....

5. How does the increase of gun crime impact the community of Katutura ? e.g. economical, social and emotional?.....

6. From your experience with the people in Katutura area, how are they coping up living with some people who are armed? .....

7. How often or likely do they report incidents of gun abuse or possible suspicions of someone who may abuse a gun? Circle your answer.

7.1A lot or more

7.2Somewhat

7.3A little

.....

8. How do you intend educating members of the public about the dangers of mishandling guns?.....

.....

9. What do you suggest be done to prevent gun crime in Katutura?

.....

.....

10. Could you please explain to me whether or not you think there are some variations in gun abuse from 2006- 2011in Katutura If so, Why? If not Why?

.....

(i) If yes, which form or type of gun abuse is common? .....

.....

#### Section D

1. Would you say gun crime related incidences are in the increase, decrease, or stay the same in Namibia over the said period? Underline your answer and state why

Saying that.....

.....

2. Do people feel secure moving at night in Katutura? Yes or No

to what extent? ... very much secure?... somehow secure? Don't know

3. What impact does misuse of guns have on individual and society in general? e.g financial, social? or both Circle your answer!

Support your choice! .....

.....

5. As a policeman, women, have you ever talked or heard people talking about the problem of gun abuse in Katutura, and how it affects them? Yes / No

5.1A lot or more

5.2Somewhat

5.3A little

6. In your opinion what do you think Government should do to protect people from gun abuse?

.....

## GUN CRIME INCREASE IN NAMIBIA: A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA

### INTERVIEW QUESTIONS TO NGOS/(NANGOF)

#### Introduction:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for showing interest to be part of this interview. The nature of this study is to investigate the causes of the Increase of Gun Crime in Katutura. I wish to assure you that participation in this exercise is voluntary and that the survey report will be anonymous. No record of this interview will be kept for any purpose other than research.

N/B: There are neither right nor wrong answers to the questions; they are just about your personal experience, and opinion. Please, feel free to answer honestly as you can to the questions. To ensure confidentiality, you are not required to provide your name.

It will be very much appreciated if you can answer all the questions in this paper.

Do you understand the purpose of this study? ..... Yes    or    No .....

#### SECTION A : BIODATA and Demographic Profile of Participants

1. To which of the following age group do you belong?

(a Region .....

c) Sex

Male

Female

☐

d) Title / Rank: Mr , Mrs, Miss, Dr. Professor, Others.....

## Section B

2. Could you please tell me whether abuse of guns exist in Namibia and Katutura in particular? If it exists, in which of the following forms below does it take place?

a) Threats with gun, assault by threat?

e) Hijackings with gun

b) Homicide with gun

f) Injured by a gun

c) Suicide with a gun

g) Shootings wildly in prohibited zone

d) Armed robbery

h) None of those / or all



3 Which of these gun abuses above is common in Katutura? (a), (b),(c),d), (e),(g), ( h) or all?

4. Who do you think here belows are most vulnerable of gun crime? Circle your answer!

a) Female                      d) Businesses      g) Children

b) Male                      e) Foreigners

c) Equal

5. Who do you think here belows are most abuser of firearms?

5.1      Male

5.2      Female

5.3      All

6. Who of the following are mostly gun abusers?

6.1      Acquaintance

6.2      Domestic

6.3      Strangers

7. In your view what do you think is the cause of this problem today? And what could be the influencing factors?

.....

.....

8. In your view what do you think is the cause of gun crime?

.....

.....

### Section C

Perceived Firearms Laws and Regulations in Namibia;

1. Are you conversant with the Namibia Firearm and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996, which is about firearms laws / regulation and control?

1.1 Strongly conversant

1.2 Conversant

1.3 Not Conversant

1.4 Somehow

1.5 Not at all

2. In your opinion, do people feel secure moving at night in Katutura? Yes / No, don't know

Please, Support your answer? .....

3. In your opinion, what social and security implication or impact does gun abuse have on the community and state?

.....

#### Section D.

1. In your opinion, what social factors as a mainly contributors to the causes of gun crime in Katutura?

Circle your answers.

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| a) Drug abuse?   | Yes / No |
| b) Alcohol abuse (Drunkenness)?                                | Yes / No |
| c) Poverty?  | Yes / No |
| d) Too many guns available in the people?                      | Yes / No |
| e) Negligence?   | Yes / No |
| f) Peer pressures?   | Yes / No |
| h) Financial problem? or) Unemployment?                        | Yes / No |
| g) Lack of gun laws that may deter or disarm criminals?        | Yes / No |
| i) TV violent programme?                                       | Yes / No |
| j) No strict control mechanism during approving gun applicant? | Yes / No |

Please Support your answer.....

4. Would you say gun related incidences are on the increase, decrease, or stay the same in Namibia over the period?.....

5. How do you intend educating members of the public about the dangers of the mishandling guns?

.....

### Section E

Popular Suggestions to deal with firearm in Namibia

1. In your own opinion, what does the community want that government should do to prevent gun abuse in Namibia?

.....

.....

In your own view, as member of civil society, what can you suggest should be done to rectify firearms abuse problem in Namibia?

.....

.....

## GUN CRIME INCREASE IN NAMIBIA: A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA

### INTERVIEWS QUESTIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

#### Introduction:

Honourable, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for showing interest to be part of this interview. The nature of this study is to investigate cause of the Increase of Gun Crime in Katutura. I wish to assure you that participation in this exercise is voluntary and that the survey report will be anonymous. No record of this interview will be kept for any purpose other than research.

N/B: There are neither right nor wrong answers to the questions; they are just about your personal experience, and opinion. Please, feel free to answer honest as you can to the question /questions of your choice. To ensure confidentiality, you are not required to provide your name.

It will be very much appreciated if you can answer all the questions in this paper.

#### Section A

1. Honourable, do you understand the purpose of this study? ..... Yes or No

2. If you know could you please tell me whether abuse of guns exist in Namibia and Katutura in particular? If it exists, in which form of the following below?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) Threats with gun, assault by threat? | e) Hijackings with gun?                     |
| b) Homicide with gun?                   | f) Injured by a gun?                        |
| c) Suicide with a gun?                  | g) Shootings wildly in prohibited zone etc. |
| d) Armed Robbery?                       | h) Theft of gun?                            |
| i) None of those or .all                |   |

3 Which of these gun abuses above is common in Katutura? (a), (b),(c),d),(e),g), ( h) or all?

4. In your opinion what social and security implication do firearms have to the community? And the State? eg economical, social and emotional?

.....

5. Who do you think here below are the most vulnerable of gun crime?

- |           |               |             |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| a) Female | d) Businesses | g) Children |
| b) Male   | e) Foreigners |             |
| c) Equal  |               |             |

.....

6 In your view, what do you think is the cause of this problem today? And what could be the influencing factors?

.....

.....

Section B.

Perceived Firearms Laws and Regulations in Namibia;

1 Are you conversant with the Namibia Firearm and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996, which is about firearms laws, regulation and control?

1.1 Strongly conversant

1.2 Conversant

1.3 Not conversant

1.4 Somehow

1.5 Not at all

2. What can you suggest should be done on the Act to allow fewer dangerous people to have access to firearms in order to minimise gun crime in the country?

.....

.....

3. What can you suggest in general should be done to rectify the abuse of firearms in Namibia?

.....

.....

4. In your view, what social factors are the main contributors to the causes of increase in gun crime in Katutura? Circle your answers.

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| a) Drug abuse?   | Yes / No |
| b) Alcohol abuse (Drunkenness)?  | Yes / No |
| c) Poverty?  | Yes / No |
| d) Too many guns available in the people?                                    | Yes / No |
| e) Negligence?   | Yes / No |
| f) Peer pressures of the young one?  | Yes / No |
| h) Financial problem? or Unemployment?                                       | Yes / No |
| g) Lack of gun laws that may deter or disarm criminals?                      | Yes / No |
| i) TV violent programme?   | Yes / No |
| j) No strict control mechanism approving gun applicant?                      | Yes / No |
| i) Existing prison sentence related to misuse of gun do not deter criminals? | Yes / No |
| k) Do gun crime offenders have prior history of violence?                    | Yes / No |

## Section C

### Popular Suggestions by the Community to deal with firearms in Namibia

1. From what you hear, what does the community want that government should do to prevent gun abuse in Namibia?



.....

.....

## GUN CRIME INCREASE IN NAMIBIA: A CASE STUDY OF KATUTURA

### INTERVIEWS QUESTIONS FOR CONVICTS OF GUN CRIMES

#### Introduction:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for showing interest to be part of this interview. The nature of this study is to investigate the causes of the Increase of Gun Crimes in Katutura. I wish to

assure you that participation in this exercise is voluntary and that the survey report will be anonymous. No record of this interview will be kept for any purpose other than research.

N/B: There are neither right nor wrong answers to the questions; they are just about your personal experience, and opinion. Please, feel free to answer honestly as you can to the question /questions of your choice. To ensure confidentiality, you are not required to provide your name.

It will be very much appreciated if you can answer all the questions in this paper.

Do you understand the purpose of this Study? ..... Yes or No.....

## SECTION A

: BIODATA and Demographic Profile of Participants

1. To which of the following age group do you belong?

(a). 18 – 25      (b). 25 – 35      (c). 35 – 45      (d). 45 – 55      (e). 55 – 65

a) Region.....

b) Home language for example, Damara/Nama, Oshiwambo, Otjiherero, Afrikaans, Rukavango,

Silozi, Setswana, others

c) Constituency

d) Sex

Female

Male

e) Title / Rank : Mr , Mrs, Miss, Dr. Professor, Others.....

2. What crime did you commit to find yourself here?

3. Whose gun did you use? Yes / No

4. Was the gun licensed? Yes / No, if not how did you get it?

5. For how long did you have this gun?

6. What provoked you to use a gun?

7. What was your purpose of buying a gun?

8. Did you buy it for that purpose Yes / No?

9. How many times did you use the gun before? And for what purpose?
10. Who else do you know have used a gun in a similar way?
11. According to them what made him /her/them to do that?
12. When? Mention a year if you can recall?
13. Could you please tell me your opinion on gun usage before and after committing this crime?
14. How do you view your decision today using the gun in this way? Explain why saying that?
15. How do you view the crime you have committed?
16. What message do you have for others who may find themselves in a similar situation of provocation?

## Section B

### Perceived Firearms Laws and Regulations in Namibia

1. Are you conversant with the Namibia Firearm and Ammunition Act 7 of 1996, which is about firearms laws / regulation and control?

1.1 Strongly conversant

1.2 Conversant

1.3 Not conversant

1.4 Somehow

1.5 Not at all

2. What do you think can be done to prevent gun related crime?

3. Do you agree or disagree those Namibian citizens should have firearms?

3.1 In favour

3.2 Strongly agree

3.2 Agree

3.4 Disagree

3.5 Oppose

3.6 Don't know

Support your answer .....

.....

.....



