

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO YOUTH-BULGE RELATED CRIME IN UGANDA

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ND601/0020/2022

**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS IN NATIONAL
SECURITY AND STRATEGY OF THE NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY –
KENYA**

OCT 2023

DECLARATION

I, **Niwamanya Johnson**, hereby declare that this Thesis is entirely original to me and has not previously been submitted for credit at any other university.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this research especially to my dear wife Wasya Mary and. my three daughters Ndyowegyi Heille Niwamanya, Kenyangi Moira and Niwamanya Molena for their unwavering concern, support, and encouragement throughout my academic career.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am very grateful to God, the Father Almighty for his steadfast love and blessings throughout my life journey. His Love endures forever.

My loving wife Wasya Mary and our daughters Ndyowegy Heille Niwamanya, Kenyangi Moira, and Niwamanya Molena deserve special recognition for the inspiration they have given me. Special recognition goes to my lovely Mum, Tindiwegyi Harriet Mugaara, who despite having not had the luxury of any form of formal education, and amidst all odds, ensured that I got the best education. Her dedication and vision have allowed me to reach this significant milestone.

I wish to recognize the National Defence College – Kenya fraternity; the Commandant, Senior Directing Staff, University Lecturers, College Faculty, and Participants of Course Intake 25/2022-23 for their exceptional assistance in enabling me to successfully carry out and finish the study.

I remain indebted to the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces leadership for finding me worthy of nomination to attend this noble course. Without their confidence, I would not have been able to register this success.

How about Dr. Chepkirui Gladys Rotich, my very able Supervisor. I sincerely thank her for the encouragement she gave me, right from the first time we met up to the end. She made hard things look very easy, I highly value the time and effort she dedicated to ensure that I come out successful.

ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the complex problem of youth bulge-related crime in Uganda, emphasizing the role played by migration from rural to urban areas, urbanization, and unemployment. At an average yearly growth rate of approximately 3.29%, Uganda boasts one of the highest population growth rates globally. With a mean age of barely 19, the nation also has one of the youngest populations in the world. Of the overall population of the nation, 31.2 million are under 30 years old, making up 78% of the population. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study combined surveys and quantitative data analysis with qualitative interviews. With a focus on Kampala City and utilizing information from primary and secondary sources, the study's conclusions highlight the intricate interactions between these factors and how they affect youth engagement in criminal activity. The study findings indicate that high levels of unemployment among the youth; youth rural-urban migration and conditions of urbanization that the youth are exposed to are the driving factors forcing the youth to engage in youth bulge related criminal activities manifested through political riots, robbery and theft, among others. Based on the data, it was determined that the Ugandan government's inability to take advantage of the youth bulge and turn it into a productive labor force for socioeconomic transformation instead has the unfavorable effect of encouraging youth-related criminal activity. The study proffers a raft of recommendations that the government and policy makers may consider so as to reap dividends from the existing youth bulge. These include reforming the education curriculum so as to produce education graduates with technical and professional skills required in the job market; providing startup capital for the youth; establishment of business incubation centers to support business start ups by the youth; and institutionalizing the National Youth Service from where the youth are given lifelong skills training to shape them into productive citizens for national development is critical.

Key words: National Youth Service, youth development and youth-bulge

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACODE	“Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment”
AU	“African Union”
CBEC	“Competence Based Education Curriculum”
CIA	“Central Intelligence Agency”
EU	“European Union”
ILO	“International Labour Organisation”
HIV/AIDS	“Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome”
KCCA	“Kampala Capital City Authority”
MFPE	“Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development”
MGLSD	“Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development”
MOES	“Ministry of Education and Sports”
NCDC	“National Curriculum Development Center”
NDPIII	“National Development Plan III”
NYS	“National Youth Service”
OWC	“Operation Wealth Creation”
PDM	“Parish Development Model”
UBOS	“Uganda Bureau of Statistics”
UNESCO	“United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization”
UNHS	“Uganda National Household Survey”
WHO	“World Health Organization”

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Unemployment. The International Labour Organization (1982) defined unemployment as a condition where a group of people of working age are not engaged in paid employment or are not self-employed, despite the fact that they are available and prepared for employment within the referenced time frame.

Youth, as defined by the World Bank is "a transition period during which children and adolescents come to be recognized as adults" in the World Development Report, 2007. The transition between childhood and adulthood is a period when the young strive to achieve independency while still depending on their parents and family for support”.

Youth bulge. According to Lesley Pruitt (2020), the term "youth bulge" refers to a country's population's relatively high proportion of young people.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Chapter One covers the background of the study at the global, regional and local levels, statement of the problem, objectives, significance of the study, scope of the study, and the study's limitations.

1.2 Background of the Study



Figure 1.1: Uganda's International Boundaries

Uganda is a land locked country in East Africa, located 800 kilometers inland from the port of Mombasa at the Indian Ocean. It lies astride the Equator, located between Latitudes 1°29'South and 4°12'North of the Equator and between Longitudes 29°34'East and 35°0'East of Greenwich. It shares borders with Tanzania in the south, Kenya in the east, South Sudan in the north, the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the west, and Rwanda in the south-west. According to UBOS (2017), Uganda's total area is 241,551 square kilometers, of which 200,523 square kilometers are made up of land. The basic local administrative unit in Uganda is a district. Each district is divided into counties, sub counties, parishes and villages. A village is the lowest administrative unit. As of July 2020, Uganda was divided into 136 districts including the Kampala Capital City Authority as shown in the map below.

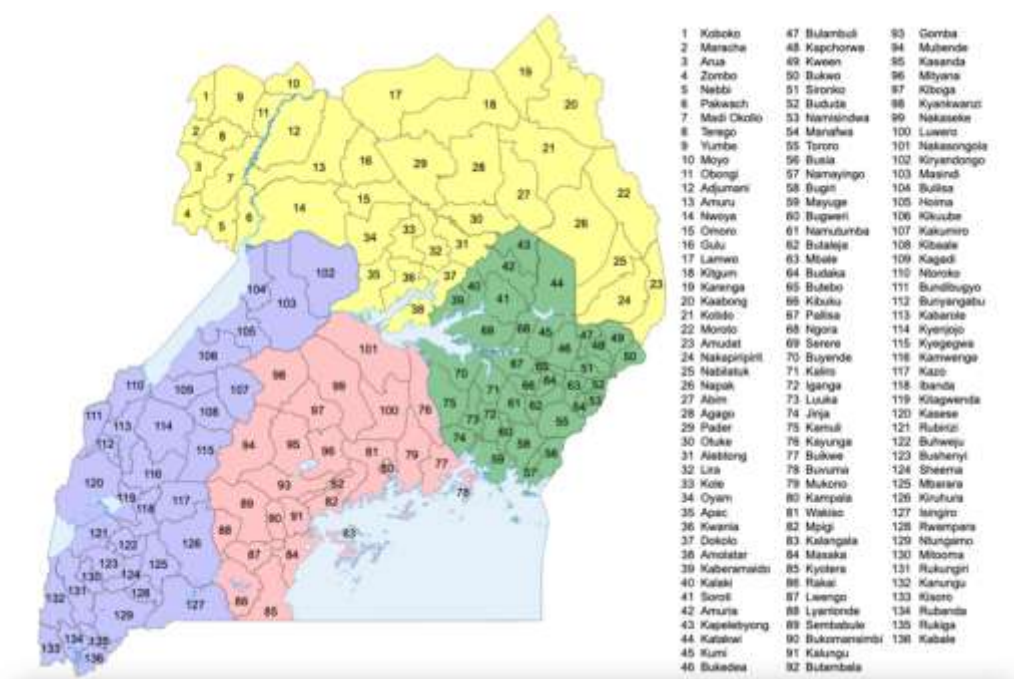


Figure 1.2: Map of Uganda showing districts as of 2020

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS, 2017) projects that there will be 55,410,400 people living in Uganda by the year 2030. This is an increase of over 11 million people, or an average of 1.4 million people per year. There were 34,634,650 million people living in Uganda based on findings of the most recent national population census, which was conducted in 2014. Data from UBOS (2019) puts the country's current population estimate at 44,212,800. The next national census of the population is scheduled to take place in 2024. Uganda is one the countries with a

very youthful population in the world with 31.8 million residents, or 78% of the total population, under the age of 30 (NPA, 2020).

The large youth population presents an opportunity for low-cost labor in a number of economic sectors. However, this calls for proper skilling of these youth in various technical and professional fields so as to match the labour market demands. The subsistence economy employs 68.9% of all family households in Uganda. These are largely small-scale farmers living on small size fragmented pieces of land, who chiefly produce food for home consumption, with hardly any surplus for the market. There are various positive dividends that a country reaps from a high population growth rate. This is so since a large youthful population can engage in various economic activities for national development. The security sector, however, should not be blinded by the dividends of a high population growth rate and forget to make estimates for the negative dividends of a high youth bulge and the likely effects on crime rate in Uganda.

A youth bulge, according to Lesley Pruitt (2020), is a country's population's relatively high proportion of young people. Connected to the youth bulge is the youth bulge theory which posits that societies with high population growth rate end up with high unemployment. This normally applies to the developing countries that have limited employment opportunities in the services and industrial sectors to absorb the additional youth population. In support of the "Bulge theory," Idrees, M., et al. (2015), posits that young men are more likely than older men to commit violent acts and are inherently violent. This discontented large unemployed group, who are specifically young male, have the physical and other prerequisite characteristics for being targets for recruitment into rebellion.

Taking the conservatism's point of view, Kleinfeld, J. (2015), define crime, as any activity that offends morality and social order, and is a threat to human life and property. This definition of crime stretches further to any threats to tradition, respect to authority and any action that endangers societal moral fibre. From the strain theorists' point of view, Vito, G. F., & Maahs, J. R. (2015), defines crime as a dysfunctional action against society or against an individual. The strainists go beyond the traditional known forms of crime such as homicide, theft, robbery among others to include other forms such as suicide, vandalism, drug addiction and truancy. The

study therefore, explored the factors contributing to youth bulge related crime in Uganda with specific reference to unemployment, urbanization and rural urban migration.

1.2.1 Global Perspective of the Youth-Related Bulge Crime

The United Nations (UNDECSAPD, 2021) projects that by 2050, there will be 9.7 billion people in the world, up from the current estimate of 7.9 billion. The current high population growth rates projections are best explained by the structure of the current age distribution across the region. Population growth is a function of the number of females of reproducing age and the fertility rate. The recent gains in lowering infant mortality rate and an increase in life expectancy have contributed greatly to the ongoing world population increase trajectory.

According to the United Nations (UNDECSAPD, 2021), most developing countries, especially those in Sub-Saharan Africa, are seeing a completely different trend from the affluent world, where the population growth rate curve is more level and even declining in certain cases. For example, the number of females under the age of 15 years in 2020 was as twice as high in Sub-Saharan Africa in comparison to New Zealand, Austria, Europe, Northern America, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia. The population share of girls under the age of 15 years is very important in projecting population growth. This is because this age bracket forms a cohort of girls that are already of child-producing age and a large share of this category will substantially contribute to population growth. The UN predicts that the world population will grow over the next 20 to 30 years due to a high number of young people, with developing nations accounting for the majority of this growth.

Youth definition is often contextualized by different communities, countries and regions of the world depending on formal nomenclatures such as culture, tradition and social-economic factors. According to Bundy, D. A., et al (2017), in general terms, the World Bank defines youth as a transition period during which children and adolescents come to be recognized as adults. The transition between childhood and adulthood is a period when the young strive to achieve independency while still depending on their parents and family for support. Extracts from the Global Youth Development Index Report (2016), given in the table below, summarizes the

various youth age brackets used by various nations and international organizations when defining youth.

Table 1.1: The age range that various international organizations define as "youth"

S/No	Organization	Age Group considered to be youth
1	The Common Wealth	15 to 29 years
2	The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	15 to 24 years
3	International Labour Office (ILO)	15 to 24 years
4	United Nations Habitat (Youth Fund)	15 to 32 years
5	The United Nations Population Fund (UNPF)	10 to 24 years
6	The World Health Organization (WHO)	10 to 29 years
7	The World Bank	15 to 34 years
8	The African Union (AU)	15 to 35 years
9	The European Union (EU)	15 to 29 years

Source: The Global Youth Development Index and Report 2016

It appears that there is no universally recognized definition of youth based on the age ranges for youth used by the different organizations, as seen in table 1.1 above.

Extracts from Youth in India (2017) indicate that the Government of India values the youth highly. It recognizes the fact that the passion and energy of the youth if well tapped are vital for economic growth of the nation. In India, for instance, the Department of Sports which was established in 1982 was swiftly renamed the Department of Youth and Sports after 1985 was proclaimed by the United Nations as the year for the youth. When once again the United Nations dedicated 2010 as the year of the youth, the Republic of India elevated the Department of Youth and Sports to a fully-fledged Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Indian government is aware of the importance of youth population size and quality to the country's economic development.

According to estimates from the United Nations in 2016, young people accounted for 40% of the 1.5 billion people living in insecure situations globally (Prosekov, A. Y., & Ivanova, S. A., 2016). High unemployment rates, poor economies, and issues with governance are indicators of fragile situations. Therefore, policy makers should be extremely concerned about the high number of young people living in these vulnerable circumstances. There is a need to ensure that they produce demographic dividends other than resorting to violence, crime and rebellion.

1.2.2 Regional Perspective of the Youth-Related Bulge Crime

According to the United Nations (UNDECSAPD, 2021), Sub-Saharan Africa is home to thirty-two of the world's forty-seven least developed nations. Sub-Saharan Africa's population is expected to increase from 1.18 billion to 2.2 billion people by the year 2050, or almost twice as many as there were in 2021. The region's annual population growth rate is 2.6%, which is twice as high as that of any other region. This is a 40% projected population increase for Sub-Saharan Africa compared to Northern America's increase of 4% and the global average of 17% over the 30 years' period. It is projected that Sub-Saharan Africa annual population increases between 2020 and 2100 will average 23 million to 38 million.

Due to its large concentration of young people, Sub-Saharan Africa is expected to have faster population increase than other regions of the world. Rapid population growth rates tend to slow down economic growth in cases where economic growth rate is unable to grow at the same pace with population growth rate. This ultimately plunges the region into cyclic poverty due to high levels of income inequality, inadequate infrastructure and low levels of investment in human capital.

1.2.3 Local Perspective of the Youth-Related Bulge Crime

Based on data from UBOS (2019), Uganda has one of the highest rates of population increase in the world, with an average annual growth rate of approximately 3.29%. This pace is significantly higher than the 2.6% annual population growth rate in the Sub-Saharan region. With a mean age of only 19, the nation boasts one of the youngest populations worldwide. The nation's population growth rates are not expected to slow down anytime soon due to its low median age. Although Uganda is a member of the African Union, which defines youth as being between the ages of 18 and 35, the Ugandan government defines youth as anyone between the ages of 18 and 30. The youth make up 19.1% of the country's total population, or about 6.7 million according to estimates from 2015 (Labour Market Transition of Young People in

Uganda, 2015). Seventy one percent of the youth stay in rural areas, with the bulk of the youth, 73% employed in the rural areas.

In Uganda, 31.2 million individuals (or 78% of the total population) are under 30 years old, according to the National Development Plan III (NPA, 2020). The Plan recognizes that this bulge provides both an opportunity and a challenge to national economic growth. The opportunity provided by the large youth population arises from the dividends of an increased market for goods produced in the country. Similar to this, the large population offers a large labor pool from which the economy's various sectors can draw workers. The Plan, on the other hand, notes that in order to transform the large force into a productive labor force, it is urgently necessary for youth to be equipped with practical technical and vocational skills that are required by the relevant sectors of the economy. At the moment, there is a very big mismatch in skills required in the labour market compared to those possessed by the prospective employees which accounts for the prevailing unemployment rates. Unless, the issue of mismatch in skills is addressed, the youth bulge is bound to further exacerbate the unemployment rates.

Another challenge posed by the youth bulge may arise from the inability by the government to create investment opportunities that are capable of absorbing the increased workforce. The government ought to place emphasis on skilling of the youth in various disciplines, so as to improve on their employable skills. Other than being employed, youth with technical skills can create their own jobs through self employment. Baxter, W. (2017) observes that high population growth rates offer a lot of opportunities for the respective countries that include a pool of a youthful labour force that is critical for employment in productive sectors to spur national development. A big population also offers a big market for the goods produced in a country thereby increasing the level of aggregate demand. These highlighted opportunities notwithstanding, there are other issues arising from the high population growth rates which are of concern to the security sector.

Mbonye, A. K., et al (2012) observes that Uganda has over the years heavily invested in health care system. This has as a result led to substantial reduction in infant mortality rates, as well as a general reduction in morbidity rates. Due to the substantial population growth brought on by the high population growth rates, the population density has been steadily rising over time.

Martiniello, G. (2015) claims that because most people in the population make their living from peasant agriculture, the high population density will unavoidably place a great deal of strain on the limited resources, particularly land. More and more families will be forced to sell their land due to economic pressure to sustain their growing family members. Others will be forced to subdivide their farm land to their off springs, and each other passing period, such sub-divisions will become smaller and smaller pieces of land and finally, some end up being landless.

Kobusingye, D. N., et al. (2017) posits that once the land resource becomes scarce in the country side, food and land conflicts are bound to increase. The country is bound to grapple with land encroachments on forest and game reserves. In support to this proposition, Mbabali, M. (2019) observes that the harsh economic realities in the countryside will, despite the availability of free primary and secondary education, see more and more school drop outs, opting to engage in various income generating ventures. More and more young people are bound to escape the harsh economic conditions seeking refuge in urban areas for better economic opportunities. The urban areas are as a result bound to become economically stressed, just as the countryside. The economic hardships, both in the countryside and urban areas will of necessity generate security issues which might create insecurity in the country if not addressed early enough.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

The high annual population growth rates in Uganda has led to an increase of young people in the country and currently the national mean age is at 19 years. Since youth are defined as individuals between the ages of 18 and 30, young people in Uganda constitute the majority of the country's population. A considerable proportion of the youth are either still in schools, or have dropped out of schools while some have just completed school and are either employed or still looking for jobs. The rate at which jobs are being created, however, is much lower due to the country's rapid population growth, and as a result, the majority youth are largely unemployed.

The existing high youth-bulge population, in face of the high unemployment rates makes the majority of the youth finding it hard to cope with the harsh economic realities of the world. The economic hardships are bound to influence the youth to engage in crime related activities in

search of means for survival. The situation is further exacerbated by the high rural-urban migration rates where the majority youth are flocking to urban areas from the rural areas looking for employment and other economic ventures. This has as a result given rise to the high urban population where the majority youth have no meaningful livelihood. The above problems presented a challenge, but whose character and magnitude were yet to be adequately mapped out.

The Ugandan Government and its partners have taken serious steps to address the employment challenge. Various intervention programmes have been initiated targeting youth such as the nation-wide Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP), implemented by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD). However, the problem has persisted and the number of crimes committed by the youth is increasing. It was therefore, in this respect that there was a need for a deeper study to establish factors contributing to youth bulge related crime in Uganda with a view to coming up with mitigation measures to address such challenges. It was, accordingly the thesis of this study that unemployment, rural-urban migration and urbanization result into youth bulge related crimes.

1.4 Objectives

1.4.1 General Objective

The main objective of the study was to analyze the factors contributing to youth-bulge related crime activities in Uganda.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

1. To identify the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda.
2. To examine the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda.
3. To analyse the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda.

1.5 The Research Questions

The study set out to address the following research questions in the specific context of Kampala city and in light of the aforementioned trajectory of the high youth population:

1. What is the extent of youth unemployment in Uganda, and how does it correlate with the incidence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda?
2. What are the key push and pull factors driving rural urban migration among Ugandan youth, and how do these migrations relate to youth bulge related crime in Uganda?
3. How has urbanization influenced the prevalence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda?

1.6 Significance of the Study

Uganda is currently enjoying a population boom and more emphasis has been placed on reaping the demographic dividends that comes along. However, if not well planned for, the youth might get involved in crime related activities and end up eroding away the would-be demographic dividends. The study therefore, explored the factors contributing to youth bulge related crime and hopefully will contribute to the creation of a data base for researchers on factors contributing to youth bulge related crime in Uganda. It is further hoped that the recommendations that have been made will be found worthwhile by government and therefore, be helpful in designing strategies and programs for addressing the challenge of youth unemployment. Lastly, it is also

hoped that this study will open up further debate for academicians and researchers on how to address youth unemployment and associated crimes in Uganda.

1.7 The Study Scope

The study concentrated on the elements that influence youth-bulge-related crime in Uganda. Additionally, the research explored in detail all the three stated specific objectives so as to ensure that the findings thereof lead to the realization of the main objective of the study. The researcher reviewed a wide range of literature on the subject with a view to establishing gaps which should be addressed by the study. The respondents for the study were from all the five divisions of Kampala as well as from four universities, namely Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) - Kampala Campus, Makerere University, Victoria University (VU), and Uganda Christian University (UCU). The study focused on contribution of unemployment to youth bulge related crime in Uganda, contribution of rural urban migration to youth bulge related crime in Uganda and how has urbanization contributed to youth bulge related crime in Uganda.

1.8 The Limitations of the Study

While conducting the study, the researcher was constrained in a number of ways. One of the study's limitations was the difficulty in accessing the respondents but also building rapport with them. The study area was Uganda from where all the respondents are domiciled yet, the researcher was in Kenya where he did not have a lot of freedom to travel and interface with the respondents. However, this was minimized by contacting the Youth Councils, which in turn introduced the researcher to the youth and by employing research assistants who helped in the collection of raw data from the respondents. To ensure they gathered correct and pertinent data for the study, the research assistants received extensive training on how to administer the various data gathering tools. Additionally, some of the targeted respondents were skeptical about participating in such a study fearing reprisals due to the positions they hold either in public or social life. This was overcome by clarifying that the research was being conducted purely for academic purposes, and emphasizing that the respondents do not need to disclose their identity.

Some research is conducted for business purposes and this has made some sections of the population to have it in mind that research is conducted for personal enrichment. Several respondents were reluctant to participate in the study since they would not be compensated. Similar to the previous situation, this was also resolved by emphasizing that the respondents do not need to reveal their identities and clarifying that the research was being undertaken strictly for academic interests.

Another critical limitation was that of time. The study was conducted in Uganda while the researcher was on course in Kenya, yet the research and lectures were taking place at the same time. As such, there was simply not enough time to complete everything the researcher might have wished to do. But, this notwithstanding, the little time available was utilized maximally. Finance was yet another formidable problem. This, however, is something of which one, let alone a researcher rarely has enough. The researcher nevertheless, felt that the little that was at his disposal was effectively utilized to yield satisfactory outcomes.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter covers secondary sources of data literature related to the problem of study by various academic scholars, governments, regional and international bodies published in books, journals, reports, periodicals, newspapers, and internet sources the key sections include conceptual framework, empirical literature review, literature critique, and research gap.

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The review presents various justifications advanced by academics, policymakers, and government ministries and agencies like the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS). It is divided into main themes that were impacted by the study's goals and research questions. It addresses both national and international settings. Literature review can be defined as the systematic locating, analysis, and review of documentation that contains data relevant to the research problem. Certainly, some scholars could have previously undertaken a study that has some similarities with the stated research problem and a lot of information published on the subject in form of books, articles, abstracts, reviews, dissertations, journals, other research reports and in electronic media. Chilisa, B. (2019) posits that these publications contain a body of knowledge, which according to the assumption advanced by Neuman, provides a good foundation study on what others can build on.

According to Atkinson, L. Z., & Cipriani, A. (2018), literature review provides a foundation on which one can, basing on the ideas contained in the existing publications, use to justify and propagate a line of thought. It is also helpful in determining the research methodologies to be used and substantiating the study's potential to yield new information. The aim of reviewing the existing literature was to determine the information that was already available about the subject under research. This assisted the researcher in finding fresh information or investigate gaps rather than in duplicating previously existing data.

2.2 Theoretical Literature Review

Shepherd, D. A., & Suddaby, R. (2017) define theory as “a formal logical explanation of some events that includes predictions of how things relate to one another.” Relatedly, Grant, C., & Osanloo, A. (2014) define theory as a framework that describes the interrelationships between constructs and laws. Theory therefore, grounds the study on already predetermined and scientifically tested phenomena. The youth-bulge theory and the differentiation association theory were both taken into consideration in this study to help explain the phenomenon being investigated.

2.2.1 The Youth-Bulge Theory

The Youth-Bulge Theory postulates a causal relationship between a surplus of young men and violent instability. This kind of behavior is buttressed in the notion that generally younger men by nature are bound to be more violent as compared to older men and women. Pruitt, L. (2020) quoted Robert Kaplan, the advocate of the construct of the Youth Bulge theory, who while referring to the youth in some regions of urban West Africa likened them to ‘loose molecules in an unstable social fluid that threaten to ignite.’ Eck, K. (2014), another youth-bulge scholar advocated the notion that young males are attractive targets for guerilla warfare recruitment because they possess the physical stature and other characteristics required for such recruitment, offer equal support for this notion. This line of proposition is further supported by Lefkowitz, M. M., et al. (2013) who advanced the notion that some young men have a strong taste for violence and therefore, where there is a strong proportion of young men, there is bound to be civil unrest and conflict.

Huber, Daniela (2017), one of the proponents of the youth bulge theory contend that where there are too many young people, especially male, they are more likely to cause conflict and unrest. The notion of bulge theory was used by the Americans to account for the increased youth protests in the 1960s and 1970s. The theory gained prominence with the advent of Islamic militants’ movement in the 1990s and 2000s when the U.S State Department and Central

Intelligence Agency (CIA) voiced concern over the growing youth in specific countries that would endanger US national interests. The youth bulge theory has recently had a significant impact on how European (EU) and American (US) foreign policy is framed with regard to youth in the Arab World, including North Africa.

Ganie, M. T. (2020) observes that in countries with declining population fertility rates where labour is in deficit, the population dividends associated with youth bulge are praised for contributing to rapid economic growth. Since most young people in these nations have productive employment and can afford their living expenses, there are not many youth bulge-related crimes. Gries, T., & Redlin, M. (2019) however observes that, in countries with high unemployment rates, the youth bulge exacerbates the unemployment problem further, which may expose the youth to engage in criminal related activities for a living.

2.2.3 The Differential Association Theory

The study adopted Differential Association Theory to explain in detail why individuals engage in crime and deviant activities which was advanced by Edwin Sutherland in 1947. According to Maluku, A. (2020), the theory posits that individuals learn criminal activities from the individuals around them in their community. The author advanced nine factors in an attempt to explain why an individual may be involved in crime. The first factor was that of closely associating with people who engage in criminal activities. Athens, L. H. (2017) observes that the factor dispels the thinking that criminal behavior could be invented or inherited but that rather it is through association that one also takes up the vice. The second factor was that criminal behavior can be learned through communication and interactions with close associates. Hirschinger-Blank, N., et al. (2013) posits that the children through communication and interaction with family members as well as people in the community get accustomed to certain behavior and in a way will end up adopting such behavior.

The third factor is in respect to the influence that individuals get from people that are very intimate to them such as family members and close friends. Most people, especially young ones,

adore the practices and behavior of those closest to them. They pay keen interest to their way of life and aspire to emulate them. Hopkins, P. E. (2013) observes that in the event that those closest to them are engaged in criminal activities, these youth may, unknowingly, find themselves already accustomed to the vice and engaging in criminal activities. The fourth factor is that to engage in criminal activities, an individual has to learn specific skills and techniques associated with such criminal activities. Hoefnagels, G. P. (Ed.). (2013) notes that the factor disqualifies the fact that once one relates with a criminal, then that individual adopts the same, observing that very many people associate with criminals yet for them they are not party to criminal activities.

The fifth factor is in respect to the diversity in culture especially in respect to how different cultures perceive criminality. The United Kingdom and the United States of America are used as an example, where the two cultures have different viewpoints on what is advantageous or disadvantageous to them. Another consideration may be on definition of some concepts, for instance Sawyer, S. M., et al. (2018) notes that in some countries, adult age starts at 16 years while in some countries, including Uganda, adult starts at the age of 18 years. In this case, the ages of consent are different which, for the sake of consent for marriage, in one country it is considered a defilement case while in another country it is not. The sixth factor that influences involvement in criminality is through associating with a criminal and take the action as acceptable. Moynihan, D. P. (2014) posits that this normally has to do with associating with a criminal who now and then engages in activities, which at first seem unacceptable, but with time, they become normal, especially when risks associated with such behavior are not readily evident.

The seventh component suggests that impacts on criminal action may vary in terms of frequency, duration, priority, and severity. According to Brantingham, P. J., & Brantingham, P. L. (2016), some circumstances may require a person to be recruited into criminal activity quickly, while other circumstances may require a longer length of time. The eighth component is that, like any other learning process, criminal activity learning takes the same form. Engaging in criminality involves a lot of risks, especially when caught, that include being imprisoned and in some cases being lynched and killed through mob justice. Persons engaged in criminality therefore take time to learn survival skills in regard to how to execute the respective criminal activity without being caught. Brookman, F. (2015) observes that some criminal activities, such as robbery and

murder require special skills on how to effectively execute them, such as use of guns and other weapon systems, which skills have to be deliberately learnt and mastered. The ninth and last factor states that whereas needs and values are one of the influences for one to engage in criminality; the same needs and values account for non-involvement in criminal activities. Weerman, F. M., et al (2018) notes that for instance, whereas some may decide to steal in order to get money for their living expenses, there are a number of other people who will not steal, but devise other means on how to get money for their living expenses.

From the foregoing, the Differential Association Theory is appropriate to the study of factors contributing to the youth bulge related crime for a number of reasons. Gaus, G. F. (2019) from the liberalism theory perspective, posits that human beings are inherently good with good nurtures and capable of good neighborliness with one another. These good virtues may however have an influence if they are to change and start hurting other people.

2.3 Conceptual Framework

A conceptual framework according to Ravitch S. and Riggan M. (2017) refers to an iterative process that informs the reader why the topic matters and how the author intends to explore the topic. It is a pictorial of what is known already and how that is known, and lays a foundation of the methodology as to how what is not yet known will be known. A conceptual framework, according to Miles B, et al. (2014), is a graphical summary representation of the topic under study that brings out the most important variables and assumed relationships between them. Given that the area of study is very wide, it is at the conceptual framework formulation stage that a selection of key variables is made. Besides, it helps in guiding the data collection process for the study.

As regards to this particular study, it is assumed that unemployment, rural-urban migration and urbanization will result into youth bulge related crimes. Unemployment among the youth has a strong correlation between high youth unemployment rates and increased youth crime. Some of the causes among the youth include chasing for the few jobs available (over surplus of labour),

lack of employable skills required by the employers, and poor attitude towards the available jobs in preference of white collar jobs.

In terms of rural-urban migration, young people are compelled to relocate to cities in quest of better employment and business prospects, as well as because there is a shortage of land on which they may establish profitable agricultural businesses. However, on arrival in urban areas, if their fortunes do not turn out as expected, these youth find survival in urban areas very difficult which may force some of them to engage in criminal related activities to make ends meet.

Urbanization, particularly in overcrowded areas, is associated with higher crime rates among young people. The youth due to high cost of living in urban areas, social dislocation where they find themselves in a society where they are not known, as well as social security where they lack family support end up engrossed in criminal activities.

High levels of unemployment among the youth, youth rural-urban migration and conditions of urbanization that the youth are exposed to can be the driving factors forcing the youth to engage in youth bulge related criminal activities manifested through political riots, robbery and theft, among others. These linkages are summarized in the Conceptual Framework below.

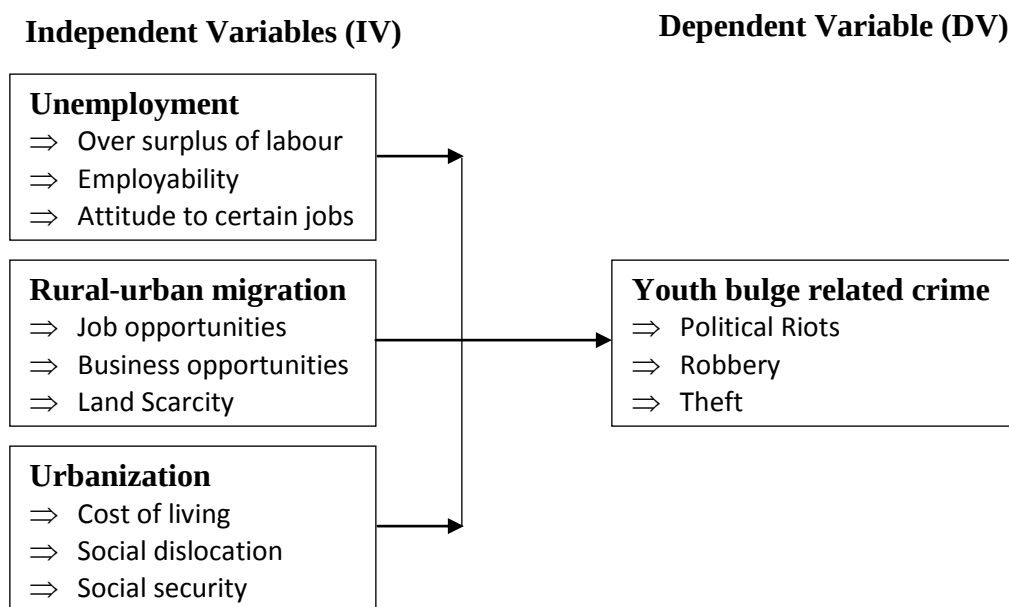


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

2.3.1 Unemployment

Mockshell, J., & Birner, R. (2015) posits that it is worth to note that most policy makers are aware that the youth have a very big influence on the future economic development of their respective countries. However, in spite of this realization, hundreds of university graduates spend months and years without jobs, and even some never get jobs after their graduation. Even though they might possess the necessary credentials, young people who are unemployed are far more than what the labor market has to offer. Lindsay, S., et al. (2015) observes that it is difficult for young people to enter the workforce in all societies because most employers prefer to hire people with work experience, which most young people lack. This constraint is the reason why it comes as no surprise that asymmetrically, youth unemployment is significantly higher than adult unemployment. In some middle-income countries with rigid labor market institutions, the unemployment gap between adults and youth is particularly pronounced. The youth lose out on a great deal of opportunities for skill development as a result of this. The demoralized youth in the meantime resort to undesirable vices such as smoking marijuana, drug abuse and engaging in various forms of criminal activities.

Ndyali, L. (2016) notes that in other instances, unemployment among the youth is caused by failure to have the requisite employment skills required in the labour market. Consequently, employers are faced with a shortage of skilled employees to take up jobs in their establishments. This is so because although the would-be available employees hold university and other tertiary institutions' qualifications, they do not have the requisite skills required by the employers. A good proportion of the youth are inclined to white collar jobs and despise menial jobs which incidentally are some of the most available jobs.

Pletscher, Michael (2015) observes that the preference for white collar jobs has to a large extent dictated the course curriculum for most training institutions to be theoretical. It has been largely promoted by the dominance of private sponsored education programs in both public and private tertiary institutions and universities in Uganda. These institutions, motivated by the profit motive arising from the large number of students preferring white collar jobs have come up with various white-collar jobs tailored training programs. Unfortunately, they are not marketable in the job market. The end result is the churning out of many graduates without the

requisite skills commensurate with the job market. This has exacerbated the unemployment problem. There is therefore, apparently something wrong with the education curriculum in Uganda. The educational system continues to produce graduates from universities and other postsecondary institutions with credentials that are no longer in demand in the labor market.

In a related vein, Hausmann, R., et al. (2014) note that the majority of Ugandan youth struggle to secure profitable jobs in the public or private sectors since the nation's population is growing faster than the rate at which new jobs are being generated. Thus, unemployment is one of the drivers to youth bulge related crime in Uganda since the economic hardships arising from lack of income for the majority youth entices them to commit crime in order to earn a living.

2.3.2 Rural-Urban Migration

Tumwesigye, S., et al (2021) observes that in the recent past two decades or so, most towns in Uganda have experienced an unprecedented increase in their urban population. Rural urban migration is however more pronounced in the capital city Kampala. This is because it continues to register immigrants arriving from all over Uganda. These massive immigrations are caused by several factors, both economic and non-economic. The economic urban pull factors include employment opportunities and the expected high-income differentials while the rural-urban migration non-economic urban pull factors include social cultural factors. Some youth may be compelled to move to urban areas to stay with their relatives, while others may be fleeing from family conflicts, and seeking for some level of independence. Others may be attracted by better social infrastructures such as efficient transportation networks, entertainment facilities and better education opportunities.

Uganda's countryside has limited economic activities for the youth apart from farm-based agriculture activities. Tindiwensi, C. K., et al. (2023) however observes that the farm based agricultural enterprises are not well developed and most farming is for subsistence agriculture. In some other cases, even some households lack adequate land to support meaningful agricultural enterprises. The harsh economic realities in the countryside are forcing most of the youth to move to the urban areas with a hope to get good employment opportunities and possibly engage

in small scale businesses. Unfortunately, these youth on arriving in towns most often fail to meet their job and business expectations. They are thus faced with harsher economic hardships than what they left in the countryside. Survival in urban areas becomes more expensive yet, they have no meaningful income, and as a result, they are forced to make ends meet by engaging in crime.

2.3.3 Urbanization

The high youth bulge puts financial strain on the respective nations' ability to provide social amenities like education and health care. From one of the studies conducted by Bennell, P. (2021), it was established that the cost of secondary education in Sub-Saharan Africa, due to the youth bulge, was three times as much as higher for primary education. When this is added to the budget for addressing HIV/AIDS, non-communicable diseases, and other government financial obligations, this enormous expenditure slows down economic growth in most of the developing countries.

Goodfellow, T. (2013) observes that in Uganda, just like in most developing countries, there is rapid urbanization. Youth now make up a sizable portion of the population living in urban areas, and more new cities, municipalities, and town councils have been established. The cost of living in urban areas is typically higher than in the countryside because everything must be purchased, including housing, water, transportation, and food. Also, the youth, who were used to living in their villages, as one community where all of them were known to one another, are exposed to people from other cultures in urban areas.

This creates low levels of social security among the youth, and some tend to engage in criminal activities since they develop a feeling that there was no one out there to watch over them. In addition, some youth experience cultural shock when they move from their rural environments to urban ones. They thus end up adopting bad behaviors from their new environment such as engaging in criminal activities.

2.4 Empirical Literature Review

Johnston, M. P. (2014) posits that empirical literature review is concerned with the analysis of previously conducted qualitative and quantitative studies so as to gain more knowledge on the research topic. Consequently, a more in-depth examination of the relevant literature was carried out in order to fully identify the knowledge gaps that the study aimed to close. Testing the study's dependent and independent variables was also done.

2.4.1 The relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among the youth

Adesina, O. S. (2013) defines unemployment as "a group of people of working age who are not engaged in paid employment or self-employment despite being available and prepared for employment during the reference period," citing the definition provided by the International Labour Organization (ILO). For a group of people to be considered as unemployed, they should therefore be of a working age group, are not in paid or self-employed activity, they are willing and looking for work. This is a general definition, but for the purposes of this study, the age category of unemployed people being considered is the youth, who are between the ages of 18 and 30.

Alfonsi, L., et al. (2020) observes that one of the factors leading to youth unemployment in Uganda, is over surplus in the labour market. The rate at which new jobs are being created is lower than the population growth rate due to the youth bulge. As a result, more youth are available and willing to work but the jobs are not available.

Another element identified for the youth failing to get work is their employability. Most frequently, young people lack the necessary skills to fill the jobs that are available on the labor market. This is largely attributable to the educational system, which places a higher priority on theoretical formal education that produces graduates looking for "white collar jobs" than on vocational and skills-based training curricula that create graduates with practical technical skills

needed in the workforce. Although, there may be jobs that require certain skills, the majority of young people lack these skills and end up without a job.

Alfonsi, L., et al. (2020) notes that the other factor limiting the youth in Uganda from getting jobs is their negative attitude towards the jobs available in the labour market. Some of the youth have in mind specific predetermined types of jobs, and when they fail to find such jobs they do not bother to look for other possible fields where they can be gainfully employed. It is possible for someone with a given profession or skill, on failure to get a job in their line of profession or skill to get employed in a different field. This may at times require some re-tooling/reskilling so as to get appropriate qualifications required in a different job.

Relatedly, Rietveld, A. M., et al (2020) observes that the youth in Uganda despise some types of jobs due to the perceived status symbol. They look down on some jobs, especially menial jobs and small-scale micro-business opportunities. This is mainly an attitudinal problem, a get-rich-quick mentality that leads to most of the youth remaining unemployed. This is further exacerbated by the family support system where the youth continue to stay with their parents as dependents. Since, the youth get whatever they need from their family little attention is put on devising means of being innovative to get any form of employment. Even though many young people lack jobs, they still have numerous financial needs that must be met. A considerable number of youths stay on their own in urban areas with the attendant pressures on rent, food, water, health, just to mention a few. The cost of living, in some situations, may therefore push the youth to commit crime in order to get funds to meet their expenses.

Conversely, the majority of the youth do not bother to look beyond their initial lines of profession or skill and end up being unemployed for quite a long time.

2.4.2 The influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime

Data on rural urban migration from developing countries is very scanty. Data available for the 29 developing countries indicates that the bulk of the migrants are the youth. This accounts for

40% of those willing to move from rural areas to urban areas and to the cities. For instance 'Punch, S., & Sugden, F. (2013) observes that in China, young adults under 35 migrate equally from rural to urban areas, with two thirds of the men being single. Female migrants are younger than their male counterparts, and they are also more likely to be single and unmarried. The majority of Chinese rural-urban migrants have higher levels of education than those who stay put, with only 66% having completed secondary school. The rural-urban migrants, however, are on average less educated than the urban residents. Consequently, they earn less, almost half of the urban educated and skilled urban residents. This increases income inequality among the two groups. To make matters worse, China's restrictions on issuing rural-urban migrants with urban residency permits disadvantages them since they are unable to sue their employers for payments. Besides, few are able to access pension, insurance and other social services.

Colas, M., & Ge, S. (2019) observes that although rural urban migrants in China are able to access jobs due to China being a highly industrialized nation, still the migrants face problems of disaggregation in pay as well as social status. The fact that half of the migrant male workers are not married while the female migrants are more likely not to marry, the youth bulge in China's urban centres is kept in check. Thus, managing to strike a balance between the rates of youth bulge with employment opportunities is critical.

Nguyen, L. D., et al. (2017) notes that over 4 million people from rural Vietnam crossed provincial borders to live in urban areas between 1994 and 1999; 53% of them went to the two major cities of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh. This massive movement of people from the rural areas put enormous pressure on the social services in these urban centres, as well as the provision of jobs. For instance, in Ho Chi Minh City, 15% of children whose parents could prove they had a permanent job after living there for at least six months were out of school, compared to 40% of children whose parents were new immigrants and were between the ages of 11 and 14. Nguyen, L. D., et al. (2015). Further notes that although Vietnam is a high-middle-income nation, and there are certainly many job opportunities in urban centers as a result of high levels of industrialization, rural urban migrants still experience significant economic hardships and it may take them up to six months to find employment and settle. Even those that had settled in the city for more than six months, 14% of their children were not in school. This could be attributed,

probably, to their parents not being employed as yet, or if at all they are employed, their salaries are inadequate to afford school fees for their children.

According to Kristensen, S. B. P., & Birch-Thomsen, T. (2013), the majority of Uganda's youth reside in rural areas where agriculture-related activities constitute the primary economic activity. As the population grows, rural households' land holdings become smaller and smaller, which makes some of the previous farming methods unfeasible. For instance, communities formerly engaged in cattle rearing due to the reduced land holding size have found it impossible to continue with the practice, thereby releasing the youth who were engaged in these activities for employment in other sectors. Also, those involved in farming, due to small land holdings, are no longer able to produce surplus for the market. However, even though a sizeable portion of the youth population in rural areas has a formal education, there are not many other opportunities for youth to find gainful employment in the rural areas aside from jobs related to agriculture.

According to Ambrose Bugaari and Joshua Zake (2015), youth shun agribusiness due to a number of reasons including: agriculture has a bad reputation, young people have negative attitudes towards it, there are not enough role models and farming also takes a long time to produce results. Young people are being forced to relocate to urban areas in search of white-collar jobs due to the aforementioned factors.

In quest of better economic chances, more and more young people in Uganda's rural areas are moving to the cities. Kristensen, S. B. P., & Birch-Thomsen, T. (2013) notes that one of the main causes of this migration is a lack of economic opportunities in the rural areas. All types of young people move to cities in search of work, regardless of their educational background but also in search of small-scale self-employment.

However, their future in the cities might not be as bright as young people moving there believe. For example, the youth may not be aware of the high cost of living and high unemployment rates in urban areas. As a result, some of the youth who migrate to the towns end up failing to get the anticipated jobs. Also, some of those who migrate to engage in micro-small-scale businesses may end up not succeeding, and their capital base completely lost. Accordingly, the youth from the rural areas, faced with no jobs and no business find survival in urban areas rather hard given

the high cost of living. With such hard-economic frustrations, some youth may involve in crime related activities so as to make ends meet.

The economic opportunities in urban areas may, however, also be outmatched by the high urban population growth rates thereby creating a lot of economic pressure on the urban population. Hove, M., et al. (2013) opines that scarcity of jobs, high cost of living coupled with high cost of social amenities such as schools, hospitals and housing adversely affect the youth, who when faced with no option may resort to engaging in criminal activities for a living.

2.4.3 The impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime

A nation's rate of urbanization is one indicator of its economic progress, and the two are positively correlated. Porter, M. (2015) notes that the economic growth of a country comes with an increase in industrial capabilities, with most industries established in urban areas which increase job opportunities. The availability of jobs in urban areas, in the public, private, service and industry sector attracts many people to the urban areas which increases the rate of urbanization. Urbanization within these urban areas may also rise as a result of natural population growth. Within a few years, the population of urban areas will increase exponentially due to the high proportion of young people who are currently residing there and are of childbearing age.

Some young people become depressed when they do not receive a fair share of the nation's economic opportunities and believe that their opportunities have been limited or that their career path was probably the wrong one. This state of desperation has made some youth engage in activities that have had far reaching consequences on their lives and society. For instance, Remien, R. H., et al. (2019) observes that 25% of all HIV/AIDS infections are reported in youth under the age of 25 years as a result of engaging in prostitution and drug abuse. Additionally, Ward, E., et al. (2017) notes that young males in Jamaica between the ages of 18 and 25 commit 50% of murders and violent crimes. Zimring, F. E. (2013) observes that in the United States,

youth (15–19 years old), who make up 7% of the total population, account for 20% of violent offense arrests, with property crimes accounting for a third of those arrests.

Therefore, it is clear that young people have a higher propensity than any other group to engage in criminal activity. Prostitution and drug abuse leading to rising high HIV/AIDS new infections are part of the pastime activities that youth get involved in due to lack of gainful economic opportunities. Although, there is lack of adequate information on the subject from more developing countries, the situation in Jamaica, with over 50% of murder and violent crime attributed to the youth may be indicative of what is happening in other developing countries. However, as the situation in the United States of America demonstrates, even the most developed countries are not immune to the crimes brought on by the youth bulge.

The economic opportunities in urban areas may, however, be outmatched by the high urban population growth rates thereby creating a lot of economic pressure on the urban population. Hove, M., et al. (2013) observes that scarcity of jobs, high cost of living coupled with high cost of social amenities such as schools, hospitals and housing adversely affect the youth, who when faced with no option may resort to engaging in criminal activities for a living.

2.5 Critique of the Literature

The majority of proponents of the youth bulge idea, however, disregard women and believe that only men are impacted by the theory. The real context of the various ways that both young men and young women are affected by conflict, whether as perpetrators or victims, is obscured by such marginalization of women (Weber, H., 2019). Lewis Turner (2017) observed that gender-stereotyped constructs that posit male youth as inherently combative and violent have had a negative impact, especially on young men fleeing the conflict in Syria. For instance, since 2013, military age Syrian single young men seeking asylum have been prohibited from entering Jordan. This has forced some of them to enter using illegal means which exposes them to exploitation since they remain unregistered and cannot access employment and other social services with ease.

Relatedly, the likening of students protests in the 1960s and 1970s to the youth bulge by the U.S without due regard to the political contestations of the time is rather myopic. The 1960s and 1970s were periods when most colonies were agitating for independence and self-rule. Given that the students at the time could not take up arms to fight the colonialists, the only available option was through demonstrations. Huber, Daniela (2017), one of the critics of the theory observes that Western actors and their authoritarian regimes are using the youth bulge theory to conveniently explain the high unemployment rates or social conflict. They blame it on demographics without due regard to the failure of long-decade policies they have been implementing. Indeed, in countries that have been at the helm of industrialization where a lot of jobs have been created, such as in China and Vietnam, the youth bulge dividends are enormous. This is so because they have produced the much required labour force that has led to increased production and economic growth. There was therefore, a need to critically interrogate every proposed policy in respect to youth bulge, as to whether it is discriminatory and may exacerbate the inequalities.

Lesley Pruitt (2020) contends that the youth bulge thesis is predicated on erroneous theoretical premises. Supporters of the youth bulge theory, in particular, adopt a biological essentialist stance by ignoring the work that feminist scholars have already done. This has caused misconceptions about youth's involvement in war, peace, and security, both theoretically and practically. He goes on to say that less successful policymaking has been a consequence of these incomplete and skewed understandings. Thus, gender analysis is essential to comprehending how young people in general and young males in particular engage in conflict. By doing this, more accurate analysis will be advanced in research and policy-making.

Sommers, Marc (2005) argues that a youth bulge is not always so dire. According to him, this is evidenced by the fact that there is not more violence in developing countries in the face of truly wretched conditions and a strong sense of hopelessness. Societies clearly also harbor special resiliencies embedded in both formal and informal institutions, including traditional justice mechanisms or religious practices. Nor do bulges always negatively impact the system. Jimenez, Emmanuel Y. and Mamta Murthi (2006) gives an example of young people provided a demographic gift to the economic growth of the Asian Tigers in the 1990s.

USAID (2010) report argues that youth bulges do not lead inexorably to conflict. Rather, large numbers of young people create special challenges and opportunities for societies. The role they play depends on a host of factors related to society's structure and context and the state's legitimacy and effectiveness. The report further observes that grievances alone do not produce conflict; key actors, trends, triggers and context all play interrelated roles.

According to David Lam (2014), there isn't a significant correlation between youth bulges and the present rates of youth unemployment. It is not a given that a decrease in the proportion of the youth population will result in a decrease in youth unemployment in the absence of further governmental initiatives to strengthen the youth labor market.

Henrik Urdal (2012) taking the opportunity perspective, observes that rebellion is feasible only when the potential gain from joining a rebel or terrorist organization is so high and the expected costs so low that certain individuals will favour joining over alternative income earning opportunities.

The study findings by Eunice Mwai (2020) concluded that large male youth bulges aged 15-24 years are generally not associated with increased risks of either violent or non-violent social disturbance.

Young males and violence are associated because of the unsubstantiated biological essentialist narrative that suggests youth aggression is ingrained in them. According to a biological study by Powell, C., and Rebecca T. (2019), young men are not naturally violent. It is unhelpful, according to Eunice Mwai (2020), to characterize young people as sources of instability. It presents victims as the heroes and encourages the mutual construction of gender norms. Additionally, it diverts attention from the structural underpinnings of violent extremism. Huber (2017) argues that the youth bulge thesis provides Western players and their authoritarian partner regimes with an easy method to explain social unrest and high unemployment by blaming demography rather than decades of failing economic policy.

2.6 Research Gap

The researcher was unable to find a piece of literature that discusses comprehensively the factors contributing to youth bulge related crime in the context of unemployment, urbanization and rural-urban migration. There was however, a lot of disjointed literature on the subject that was relied upon to come up with more knowledge on the subject.

The grave effects of youth bulge are in the developing countries where there are still a lot of economic hardships. However, little has been written about its effects especially on how it contributes to crime related activities in the developing countries. Most of the available literature concentrated on the nexus between youth bulge and political instability. To note however, is that a good number of countries with a high population bulge are economically and militarily strong to allow conditions for insurgency operations to prevail.

A good deal of available literature related to the youth bulge effects deals with adolescent delinquency at family level. This literature, although useful, cannot adequately explain the phenomena under study. In some of the countries reviewed, such as Vietnam and China, the effects of their rural urban migration are not as dire as would have been with examples from the developing countries. In China and Vietnam, there are higher chances of rural immigrants getting employment in the urban areas unlike in the area under study.

Further research remains to be done to explore in more depth the role of education, the dynamics of gender and culture, and the interplay of youth bulges and other trends. For example, more disaggregated, sub-national studies can provide better tests of some of the relationships concerning youth opportunities and violence.

Structural models are limited in the sense that they purportedly explain individual-level behavior while in reality there is very limited micro-level evidence explaining what motivates youth who engage in political violence. Hence, a promising next step in the study of youth and violence would be to undertake surveys of youth in both conflict and non-conflict settings aimed at explaining variations in perceptions and perpetration of violence.

Most research on the connection between youth bulge and criminality has focused primarily on males. They contend that young men are largely responsible for the majority of violent political action and political radicalism that endangers democracy. In this biased view, women and girls have been disregarded as both agents and threats.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter covers the research methods used in the study. It covers demographics, sample frames, data collection methods, data validity and reliability, data analysis and presentation, and ethical considerations.

Abutabenjeh, S., & Jaradat, R. (2018) defines research methodology as “the specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information about a topic.” This section addresses research design, study area, population, sample frame, sampling techniques, data collection procedure, pilot study, validity and reliability of data, data analysis and presentation, and ethical considerations.

3.2 The Research Design

The research design, according to Cooper R. Donald and Schindler S. Pamela (2014), is a methodology that specifies how the study should be carried out in order to obtain the desired results. Pandey, P., & Pandey, M. M. (2021) posits that the research design specifies research road map clearly indicating the activities that will be conducted as well as the identification of the data collection techniques that will be employed. Blumberg, B., et al (2014) identifies four different kinds of research studies: reporting, explanatory, descriptive, and predictive. Reporting studies are concerned mainly with forecasting and analyzing data so as to come up with statistics for comparison. In descriptive studies, the researcher attempts to answer the questions of who, what, when, where, and in some instances the how? The researcher in such a study has an option of considering one variable or a number of variables from which inferences can be made. Explanatory studies examine connections between two studies and make an effort to provide

reasons for and explanations for events. On the other hand, predictive studies are rooted in theory.

Among the four research study styles previously discussed, the researcher selected a descriptive research strategy for this investigation. This method was chosen because it offers a comprehensive analysis of the youth bulge and how it relates to crime. Furthermore, it allows the researcher to retain his objectivity as an outsider while still getting the viewpoints of the participants. The data was gathered using both primary and secondary data collection techniques.

3.3 Study Area

Kampala City served as the basis for this case study and was selected because the number of both unemployed and youth in school is big. This section provides background information on certain significant study area components and explains why Kampala city was chosen. Uganda's capital city, Kampala, is situated along these geographic coordinates: 0°18' 49" N and 32° 34' 52" E. The largest lake in Africa, Lake Victoria, borders the East side of the city, while Wakiso District is situated on the West, North, and South sides. Kampala serves as both the capital and seat of the many branches of the national government. According to Blumberg, B., et al. (2014), only 23% of Kampala's territory is completely urbanized, 60% of it is semi-urbanized, and 73% of it is made up of rural communities. Its architecture is a fusion of contemporary, colonial, and Indian designs.

According to KCCA (2014), when Uganda gained its independence in 1962, Kampala, which had been founded in 1947 as a municipality, became the country's capital. Kasubi, Mengo, Kibuli, Namirembe, Lubaga, Nakasero, Nsambya, and Old Kampala hills were the legendary “seven hills” where Kampala was first founded. Over the years, the city boundaries were substantially expanded to include many of the surrounding communities within the city including: Namirembe, Naakulabye, Kasubi, Bwaise, Kawempe, Kikaaya, Mpererwe, Lubaga, Nateete, Busega, Mutundwe, Ndeeba, Katwe, Kibuli, Kabalagala, Ntinda, Kiwaatule, Kisaasi; Najjanankumbi; Nakawa, Kyambogo, Nagulu, Bugolobi, Mbuya, Luzira, Port Bell and Butabika.

Currently, according to KCCA (2014), the city is divided into five urban districts/divisions: Central, Kawempe, Makindye, Lubaga, and Nakawa. Together, these divisions cover a total area of 189 square kilometers, of which 169 square kilometers are land and 19 square kilometers are water. The Uganda Media Centre (2020) reports that Kampala has grown to become the nation's largest metropolis. Before the other seven new cities were founded on July 1, 2020, Kampala was the only city in Uganda for a long time. As per data from UBOS (2019), Kampala serves as both the political and economic centers of the nation, hosting 80% of its commercial and industrial activities and producing 65% of its GDP. Among the cities on the continent experiencing the fastest growth is Kampala, with an annual population growth rate of 4.03 percent. 98.2% of Kampala's working-age population is employed. This figure includes those who are self-employed. In Kampala, 53.9% of young people are employed, while only 15.4% are solely enrolled in school. In contrast, 3.9% of students are working while they are in school.

3.4 The Population

Denscombe, M. (2017) defines the population as the entire group of subjects, events, or objects that meet the requirements for inclusion in a study and have the same characteristics. It is from this identified general population that a representative sample population, or target population is selected for the study.

3.4.1 The Target Population

According to Asiamah, N., et al. (2017), the target population for the study refers to that group whom the researcher would like to interface with and whose responses will be used to arrive at inferences in respect to the research objective. Three groups made up the study's target population: youth in school, youth not in school, and the leaders. The respondents were all residents of Kampala.

3.5 The Sample Frame

Pandey, P., & Pandey, M. M. (2021) defines a sample as a carefully chosen set of individuals or components that serves as a representative sample of the population segments from which data are gathered for a study. The sample was carefully selected so as to ensure that by the end of the study, the results that shall be obtained, and inferences made thereon, shall dully represent the whole population under study. Martínez-Mesa, J., et al. (2016) refers to a sampling frame as the list from which the respondents of the study are to be drawn. Table 3.1 below provides the sample size.

Table 3.1: Sample Size

Category of respondent	Number of respondents
Youth out of School (both employed and unemployed youth)	70
Youth in School	70
Leaders (local government officials, the police officers, parents and community opinion leaders	40
Total Sample size	180

3.5.1 The Sampling Techniques

According to Baskarada, S. (2014), sampling is a methodical procedure that involves choosing participants from the research target population in a way that ensures they are accurately representative of the entire population and that the researcher can derive meaningful conclusions from their responses. Simple random sampling was used to choose the youth who were not in school or who were employed, while leaders were purposively chosen for their expertise and in-depth understanding of the topic. The following below were the demographic characteristics of the respondents:

3.5.1.1 Demographic characteristics of the youth out of school

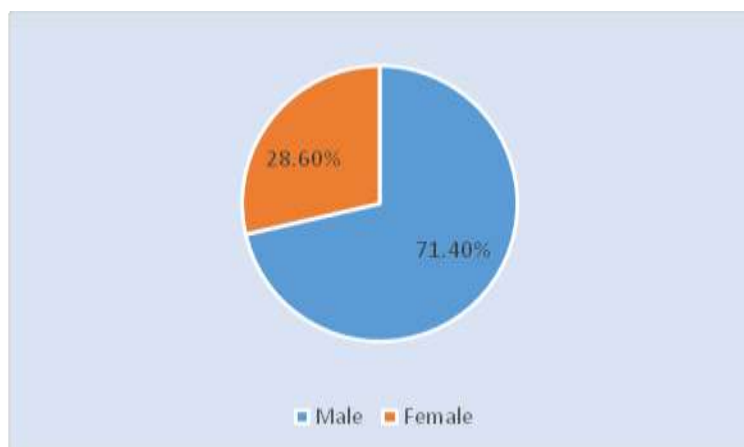


Figure 3.1: Gender of the youth out of school

“Source: Primary Data”

As shown in figure 3.1 above, out of the 70 youth out of school interviewed for this study, 71% were males and 29% females.

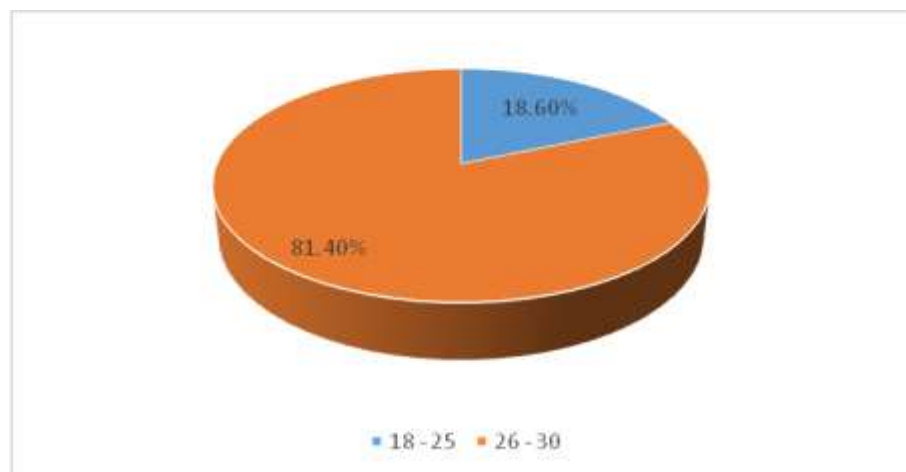


Figure 3.2: Age of the youth out of school

“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.2 shows that only 19% of youth school not in school interviewed for this study were between the ages of 18 and 25, while 81% of those who were not enrolled in school were between the ages of 26 and 30.

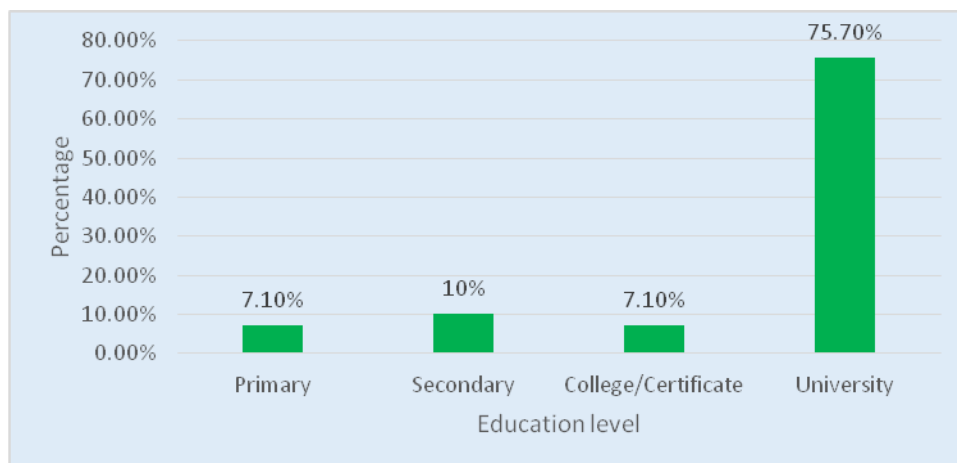


Figure 3.3. Level of education of youth out of school
“Source: Primary Data”

As shown in figure 3.3 above, the majority (76%) of young people who were not in school when they were interviewed for this study had earned a university degree , while 10% had completed secondary school (at least up to the S.6 level of education), 7% had graduated from college with a certificate, and another 7% had finished kindergarten.

3.5.1.2 Demographic characteristics of the of youth in school

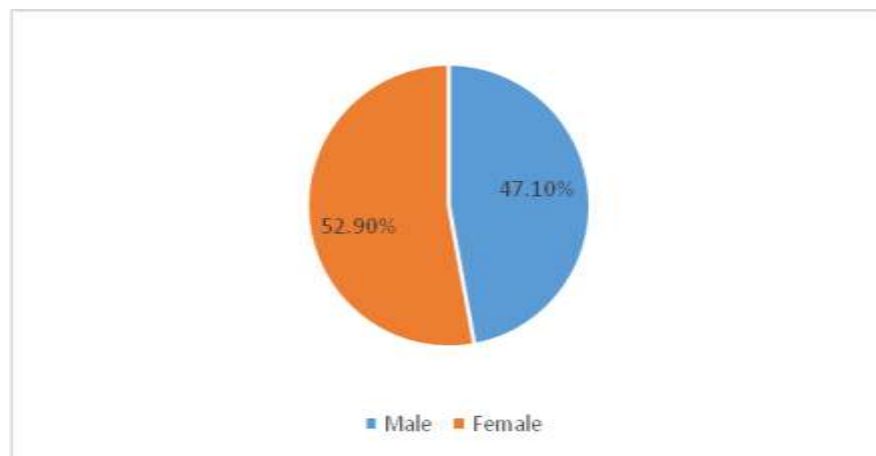


Figure 3.4: Gender of youth in school
“Source: Primary Data”

As may be seen in figure 1.7 above, 53% of the youth in school interviewed for this study were male and 47% were female.

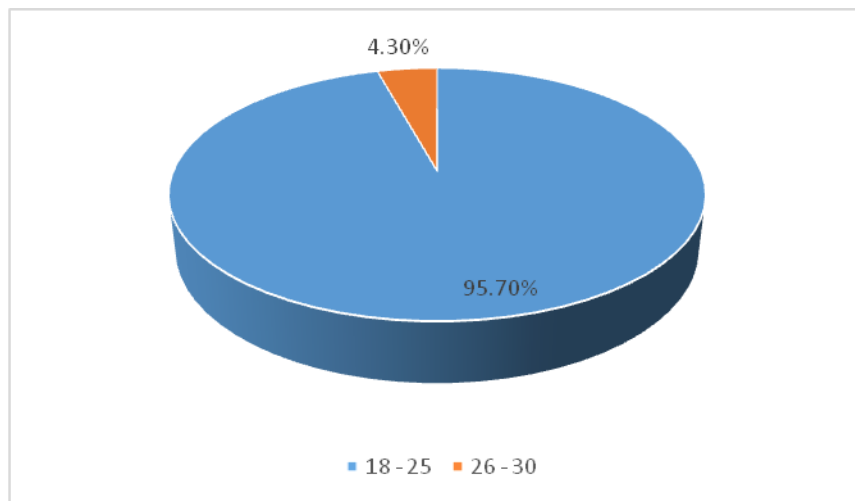


Figure 3.5: Age bracket for the youth in school
“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.5 above demonstrates that the majority (96%) of respondents were in the 18–25 age range, while 4% were in the 26–30 age range.

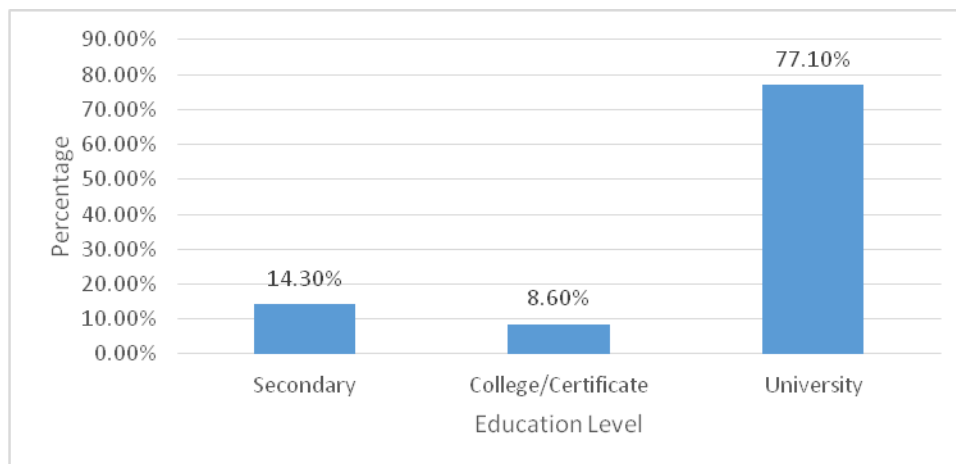


Figure 3.6: Level of education of youth in school
“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.6 above shows that the majority (77%) of young people interviewed for this study who were enrolled in school had earned a degree from a university, 14% had finished secondary

school (at least to the S.6 level of education), and 9% had graduated from college with a certificate.

3.5.1.3 Demographic characteristics of the leaders

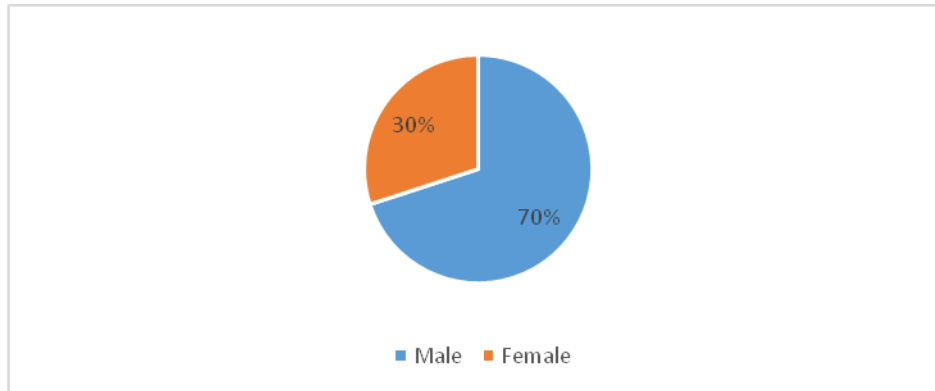


Figure 3.7: Gender for the leaders
“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.7 above demonstrates that 70% of the leaders who were interviewed for this study were men and 30% were women.

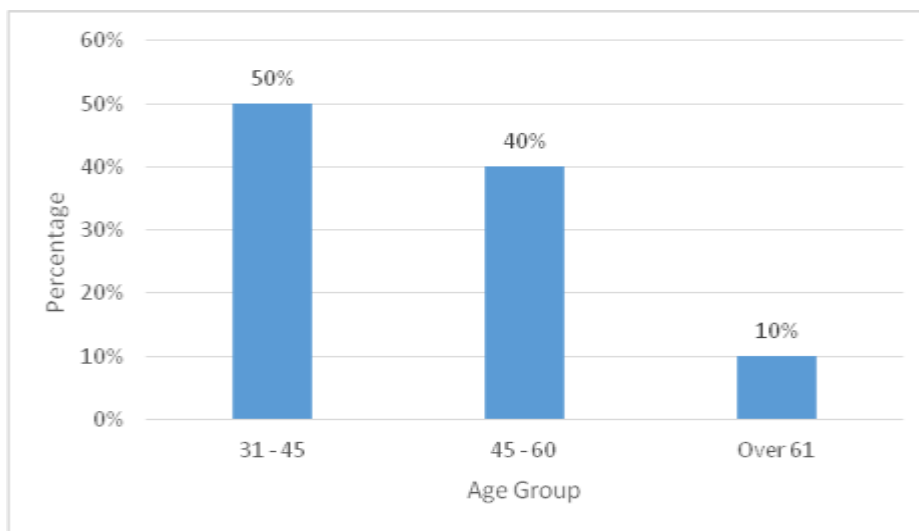


Figure 3.8: Age bracket for the leaders
“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.8 shows that the majority of the leaders who were interviewed for this study (50%) were between the ages of 31 and 45, 40% were between the ages of 45 and 60, and 10% were over 60.

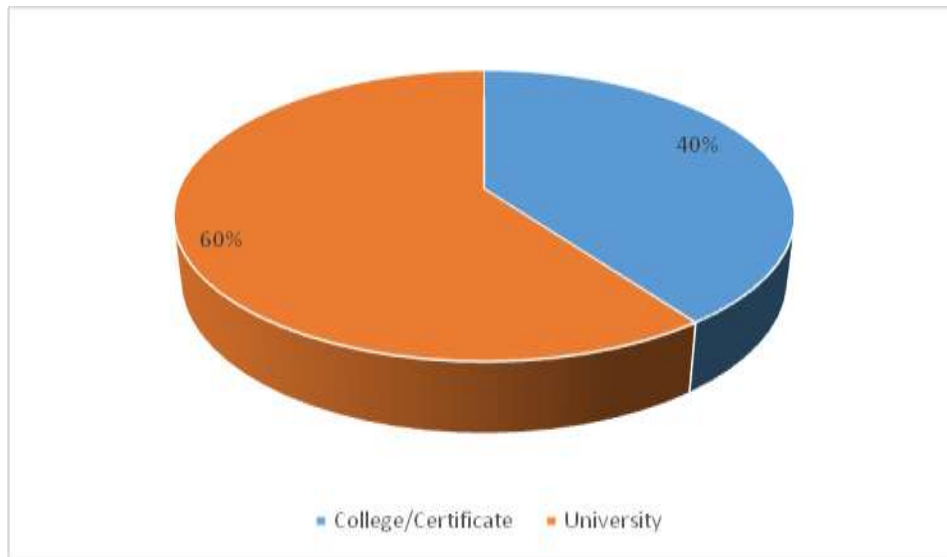


Figure 3.9: Level of education for the leaders
“Source: Primary Data”

Figure 3.9 above shows that forty percent of the leaders sampled for this study had completed their college education and obtained a certificate, compared to sixty percent who held a bachelor's degree.

3.6 Collection of Data Procedure

Flick, U. (2014) defines data collection as the systematic collection of information on the variables used in the research, which information is then processed to answer the research questions. In order to make conclusions for this study, both primary and secondary data were collected, processed, and analyzed. A questionnaire was used to gather the data. The Questionnaire is here attached and marked as Appendix 1.

A research license was acquired from the National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation (License No.: NACOSTI/P/22/22321). The researcher was officially permitted by the license to carry out the study. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the license, designated Appendix 2. Additionally, the National Defense College in Kenya provided the researcher with an introduction letter, which was useful in introducing himself to the respondents and reassuring

them that the data collection was solely for academic purposes. The Introduction Letter copy is labeled Appendix 3 and is attached.

3.7 The Pilot Study

Piloting is defined by Cooper R. Donald, Schindler S. Pamela (2014) as selecting and interviewing a small sample of the population, equivalent to the research's recommended sample size of at least 10% of the entire study population, to verify the validity and comprehensiveness of the questionnaire. Before they are applied to the entire study population, any errors found at this point are fixed. Five young people who were enrolled in school and five who weren't were used in a pilot study. These were from the Mukono district, which is adjacent to Kampala and has nearly identical features. The researcher proceeded with the investigation based on the findings of the pilot study and modifications made to the questionnaire.

3.8 The Validity and Reliability of Data

Yilmaz, K. (2013) defines validity as the degree to which inferences made from the examination of field data gathered in the field are unmistakably consistent with the phenomenon under study. He posits that a research tool's reliability is determined by how often it produces comparable results. The questionnaire was tested to make sure that it was comprehensive and that it met and covered all the requirements of the study. Pre-testing the questionnaire with respondents who were not going to take part in the study helped determine the suitability and clarity of the questions. Additionally, data from secondary sources was used to verify data from primary sources.

3.9 Data Analysis and Presentation

First, the accuracy and completeness of all the data were verified. The data was then tallied and percentages computed using the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS), and the results

were shown as tables, figures, graphs, and charts. In order to analyze and interpret the primary data that was gathered from the study participants, the Chi-Square statistical test was also employed. According to Mathieu Rouaud (2017), the Chi-Square examines sample variables to determine whether the expected and observed results are well-fitting. It tests the probability of outcomes of the hypothesis on which it bases to reject or accept, to determine whether the results are significant or insignificant. The normal distribution curve values (probability) fall between 0 and 1. If the probability value, or p-value (of the Chi-Square test), is less than 5%, or less than 0.05, it is statistically significant; otherwise, it is statistically insignificant.

3.10. Ethical Considerations

First of all, the researcher started by obtaining informed consent of the respondents and providing information about the research before administering the questionnaire. The study's purpose, goals, and the intended use of the information collected from participants were all covered in the information supplied. Due to the possibility that this additional formality may have scared research participants, verbal consent was also obtained.

Respondents remained anonymous and their personal details were not required. Throughout the study, the researcher maintained the utmost professionalism and made sure that the respondents' identities remained private. For the purposes of this investigation, every piece of information was used. Finally, the researcher always asked the respondents if they had any questions about the research at the conclusion of each interview and made an effort to address all of their inquiries.

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter contains the presentation and interpretation of the research findings collected using the research instruments (questionnaires) attached as Appendix 1 to this research report. It discusses data in relation to the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda; the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda; and the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda.

4.2 The relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda

In this section, findings on whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs, whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market, whether some youth are unable to accept any job that becomes available and whether unemployed youth are more likely to become involved in crime than those who are employed, are presented. The researcher interviewed youth out of school, those in school and leaders. Data from each category of respondents now follow.

4.2.1 Responses from youth in school on the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda

Following interviews with seventy (70) school-age youth, the following tables present the tabulated results:

Table 4.1: Youth in school on the availability of jobs

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	14	20.0
Neutral	15	21.4
Agree	14	20.0
Strongly Agree	27	38.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.1 is in respect to the responses of youth in school on whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. As can be seen in the above table, 39% of respondents strongly agreed with the statement, 21% chose to remain neutral, 20% agreed, and 20% disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs.

Table 4.2: Youth in School on youth lacking jobs' requisite technical skills

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	14	20.0
Neutral	15	21.4
Agree	14	20.0
Strongly Agree	27	38.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.2 is in respect to the responses of youth in school on whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market. In this group of respondents, 39% strongly agreed with the statement that most young people lack the technical skills needed for jobs that are currently available on the market, while 21% chose to remain neutral, 20% agreed, and another 20% disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market.

Table 4.3: Youth in school on some youth despising some jobs available

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	6	8.6
Neutral	20	28.6
Agree	25	35.7
Strongly Agree	19	27.1
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.3 is in respect to the responses of youth in school on whether some youth are not agile in taking on any job available. As the above table demonstrates, 36% of respondents agreed that some young people lack the agility to take up any available job, 29% chose to remain neutral, 27% strongly agreed, and 9% strongly disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that some youth are not agile in taking on any job available.

Table 4.4: Youth in school on unemployed youth more likely to commit crime

Reponses	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	5	7.1
Agree	12	17.1
Strongly Agree	53	75.7
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.4 is in respect to the responses of youth still in school on whether youth who are not employed are more likely to be involved in crime compared to those who are employed. As the table above shows, majority (75.7%) of the youth in school strongly agreed with the statement which stated that youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who are employed, 17% agreed and 7% were neutral. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who are employed.

4.2.2 Responses from youth out of school on the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda

The results of the interviews with seventy (70) out-of-school youth were collated in the tables below.

Table 4.5: Youth out of school on the availability of jobs

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	5	7.1
Agree	5	7.1
Strongly Agree	60	85.7
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.5 is in respect to the responses of youth out of school on whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. The statement that there are more job seekers among young people than there are open positions was strongly agreed upon by an overwhelming majority (86%) of respondents, as shown in the table above. Only 7% of respondents disagreed, and the remaining 7% chose to remain neutral. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs.

Table 4.6: Youth out of school on youth lacking jobs' requisite technical skills

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	3	4.3
Neutral	16	22.9
Agree	13	18.6
Strongly Agree	38	54.3
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.6 is in respect to the responses of youth out of school on whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market. In this area, 54% of respondents

strongly agreed with the statement, 23% opted to be neutral, 19% agreed with the statement, and 4% disagreed, as shown by the statistics in the above table. The majority of young people, according to the statement, do not possess the technical skills required for the jobs that are in demand. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market.

Table 4.7: Youth out of school on youth despising some jobs available

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	17	24.3
Agree	25	35.7
Strongly Agree	28	40.0
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.7 is in respect to the responses of youth out of school on whether some youth are not agile in taking on any job available. 40% of respondents in this category strongly agreed with the statement, 36% agreed, and 24% chose to remain neutral, as shown in the table above. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that youth are not agile in taking on any job available.

Table 4.8: Youth out of school on unemployed youth more likely to commit crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	5	7.1
Neutral	5	7.1
Agree	5	7.1
Strongly Agree	55	78.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.8 is in respect to the responses of youth out of school on whether youth who are not employed are more likely to be involved in crime compared to those who are employed. The statement that youth who are unemployed are more likely to get involved in crime than those who have jobs was strongly agreed upon by a whopping 79% of respondents, while 7% strongly

disagreed, 7% agreed, and 7% chose to remain neutral. The conclusion that can be drawn from the aforementioned findings is that youth who do not have jobs are more likely to become involved in crime than those who do, based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed.

4.2.3 Responses from leaders on the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda

Forty (40) leaders were interviewed and these included parents, local council officials, police officers and community members. The following tables present the tabulated findings:

Table 4.9: Leaders on the availability of jobs

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	4	10.0
Agree	4	10.0
Strongly Agree	32	80.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.9 is in respect to the responses of leaders on whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. The statement that there are more young people looking for work than there are open positions was strongly agreed upon by an overwhelming majority (80%), as shown in the table above. Another 10% agreed and the remaining 10% disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs.

Table 4.10: Leaders on youth lacking jobs' requisite technical skills

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	4	10.0
Disagree	4	10.0
Neutral	12	30.0
Agree	12	30.0
Strongly Agree	8	20.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.10 is in respect to the responses of leaders on whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market. As shown in the table above, 30% of the respondents in this category agreed with the statement which stated that most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market, another 30% opted to remain neutral, 20% strongly agreed, 10% disagreed and another 10% strongly disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market.

Table 4.11: Leaders on some unemployed youth despising some jobs available

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	4	10.0
Disagree	4	10.0
Neutral	8	20.0
Agree	20	50.0
Strongly Agree	4	10.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.11 is in respect to the responses of leaders on whether some youth are not agile in taking on any job available. As shown in the table above, 50% of respondents concur that some youth are not quick to take on any job that becomes available, 20% remained neutral, 10% strongly agreed, 10% disagreed and yet another 10% strongly disagreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that some youth are not agile in taking on any job available.

Table 4.12: Leaders on unemployed youth more likely to commit crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	4	10.0
Neutral	4	10.0
Agree	16	40.0
Strongly Agree	16	40.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.12 is in respect to the responses of leaders on whether youth who are not employed are more likely to be involved in crime compared to those who are employed. As the above table demonstrates, 40% of respondents in this category strongly agreed, another 40% agreed, 10% chose to remain neutral, and 10% disagreed that young people without jobs are more likely to become involved in crime than those who do. The inference that can be made from the above findings and based on the percentages of those who strongly agreed and agreed, is that youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who are employed.

4.2.4 Data Interpretation and Discussion

4.2.4.1 Data Interpretation

The research questions that served as the study's guiding principles have been used to evaluate the data and describe the results from primary data in this part. The basic data gathered from the study participants was analyzed and interpreted using the Chi-Square statistical test. Chi-Square analysis evaluates sample variables to see how well the expected and actual findings fit together (Mathieu Rouaud, 2017). To ascertain whether the results are significant or not, it analyzes the likelihood that the hypothesis will come to pass on which it based its decision to accept or reject it. The probability values along the normal distribution curve range from 0 to 1. The observed link is statistically significant if the probability value, or p-value (of the Chi-Square test), is less than 5%, which is less than 0.05.

The first research question stated: What is the extent of youth unemployment in Uganda, and how does it correlate with the incidence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda? The researcher examined the opinions of adolescents in school (age group 18–25) and those out of school (age group 26–30) to see if their perspectives on a certain subject differed in order to provide appropriate data interpretation.

The first statement was: The number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. The Chi-Square test results for this statement are presented in the tables below followed with the discussion as appropriate.

Table 4.13: Number of youth job seekers more than the available jobs

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.044 ^a	2	.080
Likelihood Ratio	6.975	2	.031
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.13 is to the fact that the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. Since $p=.08$ is greater than 0.05 the relationship between the variables is not significant. The inference that can be made from the above findings is that the views of the youth in and out of school do not vary regarding the issue of whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs.

Table 4.14: Youths' requisite technical skills for the available jobs

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.760 ^a	3	.021
Likelihood Ratio	10.381	3	.016
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.14 is to the fact that most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market. Since $p=.021$ is less than 0.05, the relationship between the variables is significant. This means that the views of the youth (both in and out of schools) regarding the

issue of whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market vary depending on whether one is in school or not.

Table 4.15: Likelihood of unemployed youth to commit crime

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	8.004 ^a	3	.046
Likelihood Ratio	10.021	3	.018
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.15 is to the fact that the youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who are employed. Since $p=.046$ is less than 0.05, the relationship between the variables is significant. This indicates that opinions among young people (both in and out of schools) on the question of whether young people who are unemployed are more likely than those who are employed to become involved in crime vary depending on whether one is enrolled in school or not.

4.2.4.2 The Discussion of Findings

The discussion of field data that is supplemented by an analysis of relevant documents on how unemployment has influenced youth crime in Uganda is presented in the section that follows. The majority of the study's findings agreed with the body of earlier literature. Statement by statement, the conclusions are covered.

On whether the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs

The findings as presented in tables 4.1, 4.5 and 4.9 have indicated that indeed the number of job seekers among the youth are more than the available jobs. These findings are in agreement with findings from other literature on the subject. The Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2016–17 found that only 9 million of the country's 15 million workers were considered to be employed. The difference of approximately 6.0 million people shows that there are many people engaged in unpaid work in Uganda. According to UBOS (2017), most of those people work in subsistence industries, particularly in agriculture. In support of the aforementioned findings, the

Advocates Coalition for Development (ACODE, 2014) Report states that although 400,000 young people are released onto the labor market each year by postsecondary school institutions, there are only less than 100,000 jobs available.

According to UBOS (2020), the total unemployment rate (UR) for 2016–17 was 9.2 percent; women had a greater rate (14 percent) than males (6%). There were differences depending on where people lived, with rural residents experiencing higher unemployment rates (10% vs. 8%). The percentage of young people (18–30 years old) who transitioned to stable or satisfying jobs (based on those already employed) was 27%, indicating that there are not enough stable or satisfying employment opportunities for young people in Uganda.

The Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) for youth increased from 50% in 2016–17 to 54% in 2017–18, with 66% of males and 42% of females, according to UBOS (2019) data. The majority of young people who were employed (45%) were in the service sector, which was followed by occupations in forestry, agriculture, and fishing (40%). About 58 percent of young people in employment were categorized as being "in vulnerable employment", defined as "having low wages, low productivity, and challenging working conditions that violate workers' fundamental rights." The aforementioned findings support the study's conclusion that there are more young people looking for work than there are open positions. This presents a worrying situation and hence, something needs to be done to address the issue of youth unemployment.

On whether most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market

The findings as presented in tables 4.2, 4.6 and 4.10 indicated that indeed most of the youth lack technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market. Vogt, L. E., et al. (2016) quoting Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (GLSD) 2011 data, observed that 46% of young people had the appropriate education for the jobs they were applying for, compared to 43% who did not. The youth unemployment rate increased from 13% in 2016/17 to 18% in 2017/18. But the rate of labor underutilization (LU3), which takes into account both the unemployed and the potential labor force, was 33 percent. This basically means that 33% of the youths who are institutionally qualified in Uganda are unable to find jobs, and the situation is even worse for semi-skilled and unskilled youths. Relatedly, Bukuluki, P. M., et al (2020) notes

that 44% of the youth did not have adequate skills necessary for self-employment, while 46% lacked employable skills.

Pletscher, Michael (2015) observes that the Ugandan (or more broadly, "African") educational system has been criticized for being overly theoretical and failing to adequately prepare students for finding employment after graduation because they lack employable skills, despite the fact that the employment opportunities correspond to their areas of study. As a consequence, Tukundane, C., et al. (2015) notes that there is a skills training gap in Uganda which creates a discrepancy between acquired skills and what employers want. The lack of appropriate skills among young people is frequently cited by employers the researcher has spoken with as a major barrier to employment. Even after hiring young people, employers still need to provide intensive additional on-the-job training to bring trainees, recent graduates, and young hires up to the level required for their business.

This has been made worse by the fact that many young people in the nation's universities and other tertiary institutions are finding it harder and harder to secure internship placements with businesses or organizations that operate there. Pletscher, Michael (2015) observes that employers frequently favor those employees with a lot of experience. There are arguments that a large share of current high youth unemployment is "structural," in a sense that most of the unemployed youth have skills which are not compatible with the jobs becoming available. It is further argued that many of the unemployed youth either possess inadequate skills or possess skills that have greatly deteriorated or are not applicable to the available industries.

According to Gontkovičová, B., et al. (2015), the size of the youth labor force plays a key role in determining the aggregate determinant of youth unemployment because a larger labor force needs more jobs to be supported. According to Barford, A., et al. (2021), one of the main factors contributing to Uganda's high young unemployment rate is a lack of employable skills, which the Uganda National young Policy acknowledges as exacerbating the country's unemployment problem. The Youth have difficulty applying their talents after graduating or finishing a course in skill development, which makes issues worse. This is due to a shortage of available resources. For young people to start farming or to use their skills in tailoring and mechanics, they need start-up kits, tools, or money to buy their own equipment. The shift to a professional life is

challenging for those with little physical resources. Frederike van Diemen (2019) notes that most people do not currently want to seek vocational training, even though it may enable them to pick up skills more rapidly and begin working as soon as they graduate.

On whether some youth are not agile in taking on any job available

The findings as presented in tables 4.3, 4.7 and 4.11 indicated that indeed some youth are not agile in taking on any job available. ACODE (2014) observed low self-esteem and lack of focus among talented adolescent workers who generally adopt a mentality of seeking out "quick" money and hunting for a job rather than developing their own jobs, which lends support to these findings. According to Mr. Ocici, cited in ACODE (2014), a lot of young people are reluctant to work in the private sector since they lack the ability to seek personal growth. He said that if young people altered the way they felt about working, their chances would also change. He added that because there are so many young innovators, young people are frequently characterized as being very entrepreneurial. It is crucial to keep in mind that the majority of these entrepreneurs are motivated by the availability of funding, and the majority of their products only reach the prototyping stage.

Agriculture still remains the largest employer. However, youth consider primary agriculture an unattractive sector. According to Atayo, R. (2018), one of the main reasons for a high rate of youth unemployment in Uganda, as also acknowledged by the national youth policy, are the unfavorable attitudes that young people have towards labor, particularly in agriculture. Furthermore, a large number of young people the researcher has spoken with still believe that a college degree is the key to success, and as a result, they have a bad attitude toward technical and vocational schools. For some time to come, the informal sector will continue to be a significant employer, but young people, especially those with formal education prefer white collar jobs and they are not interested in working in the informal sector.

On whether youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who are employed

According to the data shown in tables 4.2, 4.6, and 4.10, young people without jobs are in fact more likely to become involved in criminal activity than young people with jobs. These

conclusions are corroborated by the results of the Urban Labour Force Survey 2010 (UBOS, 2010), which demonstrate the extent of the unemployment problem. According to Tukundane, C., et al. (2015), 122,600 persons, or roughly 13.3 percent of the working-age population, are unemployed in Kampala and the urban regions of Wakiso and Mukono. In general, over 202,000 people in Kampala and the cities of Wakiso and Mukono are underutilized. But for young people, unemployment has social as well as economic repercussions. Ndagije, E. M. (2019), who asserts that young people without jobs must look for alternate means of income, such as survival-type activities in the unofficial sector and, in the worst circumstances, criminal behavior, supports this claim. This is consistent with research conducted by International Alert (2014), which found that youth involvement in protests and civil unrest is often caused by unemployment. Relatedly, ACODE (2014) points out that youths who remain unemployed or underemployed and do not exploit their full potential, are often associated with high incidences of drug abuse and gambling.

The press and the media in Uganda are awash with stories about crimes being committed on a daily basis. The New Vision, Uganda's Daily Newspaper (Jul 28, 2013) reported that one of the underlying causes is the high unemployment rate especially among the youth. International Organisation for Migration (2017) observes that most young people without jobs reside in slums. As "breeding grounds" for persistent crime and disease, slums have been shown to be extremely hazardous and insecure in the majority of countries. Among the numerous additional social issues that may be present are cholera, prostitution, drug usage, drug dealing, and alcoholism. Local media refers to Uganda's high unemployment as a ticking time bomb because it leaves many young people without employment opportunities (Mbogo, 2015). Since youth are usually at the vanguard of revolutions and political upheaval, the high rate of inactivity can have a destabilizing and unsettling effect on both the economy and society at large. Table 4.16 shows that 31% of respondents attributed youth participation in demonstrations to unemployment as a primary cause.

Table 4.16: Drive factors for youth to participate in demonstrations and rallies

Reason	No.	%
Unemployment	52	31.0
Oppressive policing	39	23.2
Used by politicians	33	19.6
Change of political establishment	26	15.5
Paid to participate	18	10.7
Total	168	100

Source: International Alert 2014

4.3 Influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda

This section presents research on whether some young people migrate from rural to urban areas in search of work, whether some youth move from rural to urban areas to start their own private businesses, whether some young people are forced to move from rural to urban areas in search of work due to a lack of farmland, and whether some young people in urban areas are readily persuaded to commit crimes by their peers. Following are statistics from each group of respondents.

4.3.1 Responses from youth in school on the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda

Seventy (70) youth in school were interviewed and the findings were tabulated in tables below.

Table 4.17: Youth in school on search for employment as cause to urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Agree	16	22.9
Strongly Agree	54	77.1
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.17 contains responses from students regarding the question of whether or not some students move from rural to urban areas in search of employment. The majority (77%) of respondents in the category of youth in school, as shown in the table above, strongly agreed with the statement that some young people move from rural to urban areas in search of employment opportunities, while 23% of respondents disagreed. Hence, the inference that can be made from the findings is that according to the youth in school, some youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment.

Table 4.18: Youth in school on starting business as a cause to urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	15	21.4
Disagree	8	11.4
Neutral	1	1.4
Agree	24	34.3
Strongly Agree	22	31.4
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.18 is in respect to the responses from youth in school on whether some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business. According to the table above, 34% of respondents agreed, 31% strongly agreed, 21% strongly disagreed, 11% disagreed, and only 1% of respondents chose to remain neutral regarding the statement that some youth move from rural to urban areas with the intention of starting a business. The results show that, when the percentages for those who strongly agreed and those who agreed are combined together, some young people do move from rural to metropolitan areas in order to start a business.

Table 4.19: Youth in school on rural areas land scarcity as a cause to urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	13	18.6
Disagree	20	28.6
Neutral	11	15.7
Agree	20	28.6
Strongly Agree	6	8.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.19 presents the replies of school-age youth regarding the question of whether the lack of land for farming in rural areas has compelled some young people to relocate to metropolitan areas in search of higher-paying opportunities. According to the statistics in the above table, 29% of respondents agreed that a lack of agricultural land in rural areas had caused some young people to relocate to metropolitan areas in pursuit of other professional opportunities. Remaining responses to the assertion were 29% disagree, 19% strongly disagree, 16% indifferent, and 9% strongly agree. The statistics above indicate that school-aged children do not agree with the statement when the percentages for those who strongly agreed and those who agreed are added together.

Table 4.20: Youth in school on urban youth committing crime due to peer influence

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	25	35.7
Agree	7	10.0
Strongly Agree	38	54.3
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.20 is in respect to the responses from youth in school on whether some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence. As shown in the table above, 54% of the youth in school strongly agreed with the statement which stated that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence, 36% decided to remain neutral and 10% agreed with the statement. Consequently, the inference that can be made from the above findings is that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence.

4.3.2 Responses from youth out of school on the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda

Following interviews with seventy (70) school-age youth, the results are given in the tables below.

Table 4.21: Youth out of school on search for employment causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	5	7.1
Agree	10	14.3
Strongly Agree	55	78.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.21 is in respect to the responses from youth out of school on whether some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment. The majority of young people who are not enrolled in school strongly agreed with the statement that some young people relocate from rural to metropolitan regions in quest of economic prospects, according to the data in the above table, with 14% agreeing and 7% declining to voice an opinion. When the percentages of respondents who strongly agreed and those who agreed are combined, the results above show that some young people do, in fact, relocate from rural to urban areas in search of employment opportunities.

Table 4.22: Youth out of school on starting a business causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	12	17.1
Disagree	8	11.4
Neutral	4	5.7
Agree	9	12.9
Strongly Agree	37	52.9
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.22 is in respect to the responses from youth out of school on whether some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business. The statement that some youth move from rural to urban areas in order to start a business was strongly agreed with by 53% of respondents in this category, according to the table above. By contrast, 17% strongly disagreed, 13% agreed, 11% disagreed, and 6% chose to remain neutral. The statement was agreed upon by the youth who had dropped out of school, and the aforementioned results indicate that some youth move from rural to metropolitan areas in order to start a business.

Table 4.23: Youth out of school on rural areas land scarcity causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	9	12.9
Disagree	12	17.1
Neutral	11	15.7
Agree	32	45.7
Strongly Agree	6	8.6
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.23 is in respect to the responses from youth out of school on whether land scarcity in rural areas for farming has forced some youth to move to urban areas from the rural areas looking for higher income generating ventures. According to the data in the above table, 46% of respondents in this group agreed with the statement that some youth have relocated to cities in pursuit of new employment opportunities since rural areas lack agricultural land. Out of the total respondents, 17% strongly disagreed with the statement, 16% decided to be neutral, and 9% strongly agreed. The total number of respondents who agreed and strongly agreed suggests that some youth do, in fact, move from rural to metropolitan areas in search of employment opportunities.

Table 4.24: Youth out of school on peer influence causing urban youth to commit crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	23	32.9
Agree	15	21.4
Strongly Agree	32	45.7
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.24 is in respect to the responses from youth out of school on whether some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence. As indicated in the table above, 46% of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement which stated that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence, 33% opted to remain neutral while 21% agreed with the statement. Hence, the inference that can be made from the above findings is that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence.

4.3.3 Responses from leaders on the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda

The results of the interviews with forty (40) leaders are shown in the tables below.

Table 4.25: Leaders on search for employment causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Agree	16	40.0
Strongly Agree	24	60.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.25 presents the leaders' comments regarding the question of whether some young people move from rural to urban areas in search of work. According to the above table, 40% of the leaders surveyed agreed with the assertion that some youth relocate from rural to urban regions in search of work, and 60% of them strongly agreed with it. As a result, it can be concluded that according to leaders, some youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment.

Table 4.26: Leaders on starting a business causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	4	10.0
Disagree	16	40.0
Agree	12	30.0
Strongly Agree	8	20.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.26 is in respect to the responses from leaders on whether some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business. The above table shows that 30% of respondents agreed, 20% strongly agreed, and 10% strongly disagreed with the statement that some young people relocate from rural to metropolitan regions in order to start a business. The inference that can be made from the above findings is that the number of those who supported the statement and those who opposed was almost equal.

Table 4.27: Leaders on land scarcity in rural areas causing urban migration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	16	40.0
Disagree	8	20.0
Neutral	4	10.0
Agree	8	20.0
Strongly Agree	4	10.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.27 is in respect to the responses from leaders on whether land scarcity in rural areas for farming has forced some youth to move to urban areas from the rural areas looking for higher income generating ventures. 40% of respondents strongly disagreed with the statement, 20% agreed and 20% disagreed, 10% strongly agreed, and 10% indicated they were neutral, according to the data in the above table. Considering the aforementioned findings, it is therefore false to state that a shortage of agricultural land in rural areas has caused some young people to migrate to urban areas in search of other sources of income.

Table 4.28: Leaders on peer influence causing urban youth to commit crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	4	10.0
Neutral	4	10.0
Agree	20	50.0
Strongly Agree	12	30.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.28 is in respect to the responses from leaders on whether some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence. As can be seen from the table above, 50% of the leaders interviewed agreed with the statement which stated that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence, 30% strongly agreed, 10% disagreed and another 10% decided to remain neutral. Hence, the inference that can be made from the above findings is that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence.

4.3.4 Data Interpretation and Discussion

4.3.4.1 Data Interpretation

The research questions that directed the study constitute the foundation for the data analysis and discussion of the raw data findings in this part. To analyze and assess the primary data gathered from research participants, the Chi-Square statistical test was employed. According to Mathieu Rouaud (2017), the Chi-Square evaluates sample factors to determine how well the actual results match the predictions. To ascertain whether the findings are significant or not, it examines the likelihood that the hypothesis will come to pass on which it bases its decision to accept or reject it. The probability numbers along the normal distribution curve range from 0 to 1. The observed association is statistically significant if the probability value, or p-value (of the Chi-Square test), is less than 5%, which is less than 0.05.

The second research question stated: What are the key push and pull factors driving rural urban migration among Ugandan youth, and how do these migrations relate to youth bulge related crime in Uganda? The researcher examined the opinions of adolescents in school (age group 18–25) and those out of school (age group 26–30) to see if their perspectives on a certain subject differed in order to provide appropriate data interpretation.

The first statement was: Some youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment. The Chi-Square test results for this statement are presented in the tables below followed with the discussion as appropriate.

Table 4.29: Youth migrate to urban areas looking for employment

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.440 ^a	2	.040
Likelihood Ratio	8.383	2	.015
No. of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.29 is to the fact that some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment. Since $p=.040$ is less than 0.05 the relationship between the variables is significant. This therefore means that the views of youth in school and out of school are different regarding the statement which stated that some youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment.

Table 4.30: Youth migrate to urban areas for starting a business

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	13.824 ^a	4	.008
Likelihood Ratio	14.276	4	.006
N of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.30 is to the fact that some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business. Since $p=.008$ is less than 0.05 the relationship between the variables is significant. This therefore, means that the views of youth in school and out of school are different regarding the statement which stated that some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business.

Table 4.31: Rural areas land scarcity cause urban migration for economic ventures

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.469 ^a	4	.167
Likelihood Ratio	6.540	4	.162
N of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.31 is to the fact that land scarcity in rural areas for farming has forced some youth to move to urban areas from the rural areas looking for higher income generating ventures. There is no significant correlation between the variables because $p=.167$ is greater than 0.05. The

statement that some youth have been forced to move to urban areas in search of alternative sources of income because there is a lack of agricultural land in rural areas appears to be a consensus among young people in and out of school.

Table 4.32: Some urban youth commit crime due to peer influence

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.193 ^a	2	.203
Likelihood Ratio	3.260	2	.196
N of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.32 is to the fact that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence. Since $p=.203$ is greater than 0.05 the relationship between the variables is not significant. This therefore, means that the views of youth in school and out of school do not vary regarding the statement which stated that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence

4.3.4.2 The Discussion of Findings

Under this paragraph, the discussion of field data is followed by an analysis of relevant documents to show how rural-urban migration has influenced crime related to Uganda's youth bulge. The findings are discussed statement by statement.

On whether or not some young people relocate from rural to urban areas in search of employment

The results indicate that some young people do relocate from rural to urban areas in pursuit of work opportunities, as Tables 4.17, 4.21, and 4.25 demonstrate. These findings concur with those from a review of the literature. Brewer, L. (2013), quoting the International Youth Foundation, noted that young people's top priority in life was finding productive employment so they could help their families. Likewise, International Organization for Immigration (2015) contended that

petty trade and other service sector businesses that are perceived to be less risky but offering quick and regular income tend to attract more young people to urban areas.

In support of the aforementioned findings, Uganda Bureau of Statistics (2017) reported that, compared to the overall urban population, which made up 21% of the total population, the proportion of adolescents and young people in urban areas was 23% and 32%, respectively. This shows that there were more young people in urban areas between the ages of 10 and 30. The findings also showed that, regardless of age group, a higher percentage of young people in rural areas migrated than young people in urban areas. Accordingly, the National Science Academies (2018) have noted that every year more and more people—particularly young people—move into urban and semi-urban centers. As they get older, the pattern suggests that a lot of young people move to urban areas. UN (2021) asserts that this is the case because the economy has not undergone the level of structural change required to generate acceptable employment opportunities and sources of livelihood that can accommodate the expanding working-age population.

However, Brewer, L. (2013) quoting the International Youth Foundation argues that this is because youth are disproportionately affected by high un-and under-employment, making up over 80 percent of total unemployment in Uganda (72 percent in urban areas and 83 percent in rural areas). High unemployment is intimately related to a shortage of skilled workers, which results from flaws in education and training. Employers questioned by the International Youth Foundation regarding skills mismatches agreed that there is a significant disconnect between what students learn in the formal educational system and what the business requires. However, Frederike van Diemen (2019) contends that young people relocate to urban areas in search of the superior social services and facilities—such as electricity, water systems, and schools—that are lacking in rural areas. This is connected to the uneven distribution of services and regional development.

On whether some youth move from rural areas to urban areas with an aim of starting a business

The second statement was: Some youth move from rural areas to urban areas with an aim of starting a business. The findings as presented in tables 4.18, 4.22 and 4.26 indicated that indeed

some youth migrate to urban areas from rural areas with an aim of starting a business. According to IOM (2015), 66% of the internal migrants move from rural to urban areas, especially to Kampala. About 45% of them are aged 15-29, with young women constituting 54%. Pletscher Michael (2015) claims that economic reasons are the main force behind this continuous rural-urban movement, with rural populations attempting to escape their inferior standard of living in search of employment and a better life in metropolitan regions like Kampala.

The International Entrepreneurship Report, cited in Pletscher Michael (2015), supports the aforementioned claim by stating that 29.3% of people between the ages of 18 and 64 are actively engaged in either starting up or managing a new business, which is a remarkably high percentage. Although Uganda does have an entrepreneurial spirit, the youth lack the ability and skills necessary to be successful businesspeople. Many young people also lack the technical business skills needed to launch and maintain a successful business. No wonder, majority of the enterprises started by youth collapse within their first two years of establishment. The government of the Republic of Uganda has developed various economic interventions through the Presidential Initiatives on Job and Wealth Creation, such as the Youth Livelihood Scheme, Parish Development Model (PDM), Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), Youth Skilling Centers, and Emyoga, to support youth business initiatives. This is the best explanation for why so many young people are starting businesses in urban areas.

These Presidential initiatives on job and wealth creation, however are not well coordinated and have registered a number of shortfalls to meet their intended objectives. For instance, OWC is focused on providing agricultural inputs such as heifers, piglets, chicks, seeds, seedlings, fertilizers and other farm inputs. However, on occasion, due to insufficient preparation, seeds and seedlings are delivered near the end of the planting season and are wasted. In some cases, farmers who report a bumper crop are not given assistance with post-harvest management and marketing, which again results in losses and deters farmers from continuing with agricultural production. In respect to piggery and poultry, the OWC does not provide feeds, and given the high cost of feeds, the youth end up failing to sustain these projects. There are several reported cases of embezzlement of PDM funds by local government officials. In addition, each parish is reporting to be allocated 100 million Uganda shillings, and considering a number of villages per

parish, and a number of persons in each village, these funds are inadequate to create the desired effect. Also, the youth under *Emyooga* programme have been given startup capital, which is a revolving fund, to help them undertake economic ventures of their interest. However, due to poor enterprise selection, the youth have failed to pay back which has negatively impacted on extension of these funds to other beneficiaries.

The funds under these various Presidential initiatives, if they were to be pooled under one programme are substantially a reasonable fund. It would create a considerable impact if these initiatives were restructured into one programme, its activities, beneficiaries and implementation guidelines well streamlined and focused to realize given targets over a period of time. The current focus of over decentralizing funds to allow as many youths to benefit may not create the desired lasting effect as the funds disbursed are too inadequate to effectively support a business. It would be desirable if a few youths, after undergoing thorough skills and business enterprise development training, are adequately supported to start businesses, and after their businesses have taken off, another lot is considered.

On whether the lack of farmable land in rural areas has compelled some youth to move to cities in search of alternative income-generating opportunities

Thirdly, there was the argument that some young people were compelled to relocate to urban areas in pursuit of alternative livelihood opportunities because there was insufficient agricultural land in rural areas. Tables 4.19, 4.23 and 4.27's results disprove the myth that young people in rural areas are drawn to cities in quest of other employment opportunities due to a scarcity of agricultural land. FAO (2014), on the other hand, contended that land is still available in rural areas, even though inheritance customs within families make it difficult for young people to access it. Additionally, some young people have sold their land in the past, while others lack money to buy land. Similarly, while the majority of young people in Uganda still rely on the agriculture sector for their livelihoods, Ahaibwe et al. (2013) report that by 2009/10, this percentage had dropped to 64% as 33% of these young people had switched to the services sector as their primary source of employment. According to the World Bank (2015), a rapid rate of urbanization is strongly correlated with the process of development, with a trend toward a shift in the labor force toward higher productivity industries like services and manufacturing, which are

typically concentrated in urban areas, and away from low-productivity activities like subsistence agriculture.

The majority of Ugandans, according to Alexandra Löwe and Sanyu Phiona (2017), rely largely on agriculture for their work prospects and overall well-being: the industry employs 70% of the workforce and generates 26% of the nation's GDP. They also point out that, rather than a shortage of fertile land, the true causes of youth migration to cities are the concentration of economic growth in urban areas and the slower rate at which poverty is reduced in rural areas compared to urban areas. The World Bank (2015) has reported that, similar to many other developing nations, Ugandans from rural areas continue to be drawn to the metropolis by the promise of decent jobs, higher salaries, and improved living conditions.

The dependence of traditional methods of agricultural production, especially the hand hoe and vagaries of nature have rendered agricultural production unprofitable. As a result, the youth are forced to abandon agriculture in search of other economic opportunities. Agriculture can be profitable if it could be revolutionalised by introducing mechanization, modern agricultural practices such as green houses, improved seeds, fertilizer application and irrigation. In this way, the youth would pick interest in agriculture as one of the best income generating opportunities.

On whether some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence

The fourth statement was: Some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer influence. The findings as presented in tables 4.20, 4.24 and 4.28 has indicated that the statement is indeed true. The National Development Plan II (NDP 2015/16-2020/21) provides more support for this, stating that "the nation is endowed with the capacity to produce a cheap and plentiful work force that can propel development and change". Young people, unfortunately, experience a sense of futility and idleness when they can't find work, which can result in an increase in crime, mental health issues, violence, conflicts, and drug use." In addition, MGLSD (2013) notes that the youth unemployment is a global concern because it is a breeding ground for organized crime, lawlessness, political instability, and social conflicts.

Namuli, K. (2018) observed this issue of youth peer pressure in Uganda is further exacerbated by uncontrolled and rapid urbanization, which concentrates the most at-risk demographic group into urban enclaves of poverty, unemployment, and disenfranchisement in the country. Similar to this, Pletscher, Michael (2015) points out that Uganda has one of the world's youngest and fastest-growing populations, which can offer a solid basis for economic growth. The Pearl of Africa's political stability and long-term development, however, may be jeopardized by the widespread youth unemployment that the country faces. As the Arab Spring is just one example, young people are frequently the ignition for uprisings and political unrest.

In support of the aforementioned, Azeng and Yogo (2013) conclude from their quantitative study that youth unemployment has a significant detrimental effect on the political stability of nations, particularly developing nations. This is especially true in nations like Uganda that have a high rate of youth unemployment. The findings of a study by LASPNET (2018) also showed that while social unrest and crime can have a negative impact on society as a whole, youth unemployment's effects, such as social exclusion, can result in drug abuse. The survey also notes that 63% of young people incarcerated in Ugandan jails are categorized as street children, sex workers, drug users, orphans, and impoverished youngsters who are responsible for looking after their younger siblings as well as themselves.

A study by the US Agency for International Development (USAID, 2011) found that whereas female teenagers mostly turn to prostitution, male youths are more likely to participate in criminal activities such as gambling, theft, and robbery. After more research, it was discovered that the youth believed they were susceptible to those who wanted to overthrow the political system, especially those who could persuade them to vote for opposition candidates or join rebel groups.

Regarding the causes of crime, LASPNET (2018) argued that drug and alcohol abuse significantly affects young people's propensity for crime. One reason for Uganda's low productivity and criminal susceptibility is alcohol consumption. This is exacerbated by youth drug usage, which affects roughly 57% of youth. More than 60% of participants in a research by Aggrey Moses Olweny (2022) stated that drug usage was a significant issue for young people in

the community and that it was a factor in juvenile delinquency, among other things. However, no one would ever admit to using drugs themselves.

In a study carried out in Uganda, (Kampala and Wakiso schools), Ronald Bahati, et al. (2015) found out that, 71% of students were using drugs, with alcohol and cannabis taking the highest percentages and most of these were between ages 14-17. Over the past two decades, the use of drugs in Uganda has rapidly risen to unprecedented levels, engulfing the whole country. Drug abuse has been linked to problems of rising crime rate, unrest in schools, dysfunctional families and poverty. Youth are deliberately and tactfully recruited into the drug culture through uncontrolled media influences and social exposure. The study further established that use of hard drugs is on the increase and can be expected to grow even faster given that the East African region is rapidly becoming a transit point of drugs from Asia through West Africa into South Africa and Europe.

As per the Uganda Police Force Annual Crime Report (2020), the number of crimes reported to police decreased by 8.9% from 215,224 cases in 2019 to 195,931 cases in 2020. Regarding the locations of the crimes, in 2020, urban centers accounted for 43.9% of all crimes, while 3.14% were committed along highways. Rural areas accounted for 52.9% of all crimes. Peer pressure was shown to be the most significant social factor among the behavioral variables in a study conducted by Ronald Bahati et al. (2015). Noteworthy is the fact that youth are more susceptible to peer pressure and influence than older people.

According to Elizabeth Harrop (2016), the most common crimes committed by children in Uganda (both boys and girls) include drug abuse (mostly marijuana), gambling, theft, violent fights and assault occasioning bodily harm, arson, and defilement (mostly committed by boys). Socio-economic ills in society like gambling (sports betting) and drug abuse are increasing. Evidence shows that such social ills could spark insecurity in form of riots and demonstrations as has been witnessed in and around Kisekka, Bwaise and Kalerwe Markets in Kampala (ACODE 2014).

4.4 The impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda

This section contains research findings on three areas: whether the high cost of living in cities has led some young people without jobs to turn to criminal behavior in order to meet their basic necessities; whether some young people have been forced to turn to criminal activity because they believe it will make them harder to be identified; and whether some young people have been forced to turn to criminal activity because they lack family support. Data from each category of respondents now follow.

4.4.1 Responses from youth in school on the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda

Seventy (70) youth in school were interviewed and the findings were tabulated in tables below.

Table 4.33: Youth in school on high cost of living in urban areas causing crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	9	12.9
Agree	12	17.1
Strongly Agree	49	70.0
Total	70	100.0

The responses from school-age youth regarding whether the high cost of living in cities has forced some unemployed youth to turn to criminal activity in order to pay for their basic needs are shown in Table 4.33. According to the data in the above table, 70% of people of school age who were interviewed strongly agreed that some young people without jobs have been forced to turn to crime in order to meet their basic needs because of the high cost of living in cities; 17% disagreed and 13% opted to say nothing. The students claim that some young people without jobs have been forced to turn to criminal activity in order to meet their basic needs due to the high cost of living in urban areas. This conclusion can be drawn from the findings presented above.

Table 4.34: Youth in school on crime as they are not known in urban areas

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	13	18.6
Neutral	15	21.4
Agree	32	45.7
Strongly Agree	10	14.3
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.34 is in respect to the responses from youth in school on whether some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified. According to the above table, 46% of respondents in this category agreed with the statement that some young people use the multiculturalism of cities to their advantage to engage in criminal activity because they believe it makes it harder for them to be identified. 21% chose to remain neutral, 19% disagreed, and 14% strongly agreed. The inference that can be made from the above findings is that according to the youth in school, some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified.

Table 4.35: Youth in school on crime in urban areas due to lack of family support

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	5	7.1
Neutral	20	28.6
Agree	36	51.4
Strongly Agree	9	12.9
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.35 shows the replies of young people in school about whether or not they believed that their lack of family support forced them to resort to criminal activity in order to fulfill their basic needs. Based on the information in the table above, 51% of respondents in this group agreed with the statement that, as a result of inadequate family support, some young people have been forced to turn to criminal activity in order to meet their basic needs; 29% had no opinion, 13% strongly agreed with the statement, and 7% strongly disagreed. According to the aforementioned

facts, some school-age adolescents believe that they have been forced to conduct crimes in order to satisfy their basic demands because of a lack of family support.

4.4.2 Responses from youth out of school on the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda

The results of the interviews with seventy (70) out-of-school youth were collated in the tables below.

Table 4.36: Youth out of school on high cost of living in urban areas causing crime

Response	Frequency	Percent
Neutral	6	8.6
Agree	15	21.4
Strongly Agree	49	70.0
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.36 presents the opinions of out-of-school youth regarding whether the high cost of living in cities has compelled some jobless youth to turn to criminal behavior in order to pay for their basic necessities. Seventy percent of the youth who were not in school strongly agreed with the statement that some unemployed youth are forced to participate in criminal activities to support their basic needs due to the high cost of living in urban areas; only twenty-one percent disagreed and nine percent were neutral. The aforementioned data leads to the conclusion that because living in cities is so expensive, some young people without work have been forced to turn to crime in order to pay their fundamental necessities.

Table 4.37: Youth out of school on crime as they are not known in urban areas

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	13	18.6
Neutral	7	10.0
Agree	48	68.6
Strongly Agree	2	2.9
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.37 is in respect to the responses from youth out of school on whether some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified. As can be seen in the above table, 69% of respondents in this category agreed with the statement that some young people use the multiculturalism of cities to their advantage to engage in criminal activity because they believe it will make it harder to identify them. 19% disagreed, 10% were neutral, and 3% strongly agreed with the statement. The inference that can be made from the above findings is that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified.

Table 4.38: Youth out of school on crime in urban areas due to lack of family support

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	6	8.6
Disagree	10	14.3
Neutral	7	10.0
Agree	29	41.4
Strongly Agree	18	25.7
Total	70	100.0

Table 4.38 presents the responses from out-of-school youth about whether or not the youth were compelled to engage in criminal behavior in order to meet their basic requirements due to a lack of family support. The statement that some youth have turned to criminal activity to satiate their basic needs because of a lack of family support was agreed upon by 41% of respondents, as shown in the table above. 14% disagreed, 10% were neutral, 9% strongly disagreed, and 26% of those who strongly agreed. Therefore, it can be concluded that the majority agreed with the statement that a lack of family support has caused some youth to turn to criminal activity in order to meet their basic needs.

4.4.3 Responses from leaders on the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda

Following interviews with forty (40) leaders, the results are given in the tables below.

Table 4.39: Leaders on youth more likely being involved in demonstrations

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	4	10.0
Neutral	4	10.0
Agree	16	40.0
Strongly Agree	16	40.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.39 displays the responses to the issue of whether any jobless young have turned to criminal behavior in order to cover their basic necessities as a result of the high cost of living in cities. The above table shows that 40% of the leaders strongly agreed, followed by 40% who agreed, 10% who disagreed, and 10% who remained neutral, with the assertion that some young people without jobs have been compelled to turn to crime in order to meet their fundamental necessities. The majority of respondents agreed with the statement, according to the aforementioned findings.

Table 4.40: Leaders on employed youth not getting involved in political demonstrations

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	8	20.0
Neutral	4	10.0
Agree	24	60.0
Strongly Agree	4	10.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.40 pertains to the responses provided by leaders regarding the possibility that certain youth exploit the multiculturalism of cities to participate in criminal activities because they believe it makes it difficult to identify them. The statement that some youth take advantage of the multiculturalism of urban areas to engage in criminal activities because they believe they cannot be easily identified was supported by the majority of respondents in this category (60%) as indicated in the table above. The remaining respondents (10%) disagreed, 10% were neutral, and 10% strongly agreed with the statement. The inference that can be made from the above

findings is that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified.

Table 4.41: Leaders on youth committing most of the reported robbery cases

Response	Frequency	Percent
Disagree	12	30.0
Neutral	12	30.0
Agree	8	20.0
Strongly Agree	8	20.0
Total	40	100.0

Table 4.41 details the leaders' responses regarding whether or not some young people have been compelled to turn to criminal activities in order to satisfy their basic requirements due to a lack of family support. According to the above table, 30% of the leaders disagreed, 20% strongly agreed, and 20% agreed with the assertion that some youth have been compelled to turn to criminal behavior in order to meet their basic requirements as a result of a lack of family support. From the aforementioned data, it can be concluded that respondents had differing opinions about whether or not some young people had to turn to criminal activities in order to satisfy their basic requirements due to a lack of family support.

4.4.4 Data Interpretation and Discussion

4.4.4.1 Data Interpretation

The research questions that directed the study constitute the foundation for the data analysis and discussion of the raw data findings in this part. To analyze and assess the primary data gathered from research participants, the Chi-Square statistical test was employed. According to Mathieu Rouaud (2017), the Chi-Square evaluates sample factors to determine how well the actual results

match the predictions. To ascertain whether the findings are significant or not, it examines the likelihood that the hypothesis will come to pass on which it bases its decision to accept or reject it. The probability numbers along the normal distribution curve range from 0 to 1. The observed association is statistically significant if the probability value, or p-value (of the Chi-Square test), is less than 5%, which is less than 0.05.

The third research question stated: How has urbanization influenced the prevalence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda? The researcher examined the opinions of adolescents in school (age group 18–25) and those out of school (age group 26–30) to see if their perspectives on a certain subject differed in order to provide appropriate data interpretation.

The first statement was: Due to the high cost of living in cities, some young people without jobs have been compelled to turn to criminal activities in order to pay for their basic necessities. The Chi-Square test results for this statement are presented in the tables below followed with the discussion as appropriate.

Table 4.42: High cost of living in urban areas forcing unemployed youth into crime

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	.946 ^a	2	.623
Likelihood Ratio	.950	2	.622
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.42 details how some jobless youth have been compelled to turn to criminal activities in order to cover their basic necessities due to the high cost of living in urban regions. According to the preceding table, there is no significant link between the variables because $p=.0623$ is higher than 0.05. This suggests that the views of youth, both within and outside of educational institutions, align with the assertion that certain jobless youth have been forced to resort to illegal activities to fulfill their fundamental needs because of the exorbitant cost of living in cities.

Table 4.43: Some youth commit crimes in urban areas since they are not known

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	12.266 ^a	3	.007
Likelihood Ratio	12.855	3	.005
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.43 is to the fact that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified. From the above table, since $p=.007$ is less than 0.05 the relationship between the variables is significant. This therefore, means that the views of youth in school and out of school are different regarding the statement which stated that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified.

Table 4.44: Some youth in urban areas commit crime due to lack of family support

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	19.710 ^a	4	.001
Likelihood Ratio	23.895	4	.000
No of Valid Cases	140		

Table 4.44 details how some youth have been compelled to turn to criminal behavior in order to cover their fundamental necessities due to a lack of family support. According to the above table, there is a significant link between the variables because $p=.001$ is less than 0.05. This suggests that different youth, both in and out of school, have different perspectives about the assertion that, as a result of inadequate parental support, some youth have been forced to resort to criminal behavior in order to meet their basic needs.

4.4.4.2 Discussion of the Findings

Under this paragraph, the discussion of field observations is followed by an analysis of relevant documents on urbanization's role in Uganda's youth bulge-related crime. The findings are discussed statement by statement.

On whether high cost of living in urban areas has forced some unemployed youth in order to meet their basic needs, to engage in criminal activity

The results, as shown in tables 4.33, 4.36, and 4.42, show that some jobless youth have been compelled to turn to criminal activities in order to cover their basic necessities due to the high cost of living in urban regions. Before delving into arguments for and against the statement, it is important to first look at the crime rate statistics in Uganda. The total number of crimes has been rising, as shown in table 4.45 below. For example, in 2017 they were 17,745 while in 2018, they were 18,819 (UBOS, 2020).

Table 4.45: The Crime Statistics in Kampala

Crime	2017	2018	Total
Thefts	6,001	6,305	12,306
Economic	2,595	2,769	5,36
Assaults	1552	1,765	3,317
Breakings	959	1,017	1,976
Robberies	758	929	1,687
Sex Related	822	833	1,655
Child Related	712	859	1,571
Narcotics	466	404	870
Homicides	216	211	427
Other Laws	172	169	341
Political /Media	23	46	69
Corruption	18	25	43
Terrorism	7	14	21
Other Crimes	3,444	3,473	6,917
Total cases	17,745	18,819	36,564

Source: Uganda Bureau of Statistics Annual Crime Report 2020

In order to meet their basic needs, some unemployed youth have been forced to turn to criminal activity, according to the MFPED (2016) report. This is because living in urban areas is expensive and there is a low density of workers of working age. According to Jonas Mbabazi and Phoebe Atukunda (2020), Uganda became the most rapidly urbanizing nation in Africa between 2002 and 2014, with an average annual growth rate of 5.4% in its urban population. Between 1991 and 2016, Uganda's urban population increased dramatically, from 1.7 million to over 7.4 million. A hungry and poor man has no logic; poverty forces him to commit crimes.

This is in line with the Ministry report (MGLSD, 2013), which discovered that most youths either work occupations that do not pay enough to support themselves or live on the periphery of the economy. Therefore, Namuli, K. (2018) concludes that increasing youth unemployment rates could contribute to social unrest, an uptick in drug use, and increased crime.

The paper also makes the case that youth unemployment has significant social costs because it causes expensive social issues like worsening health, strained relationships and families, rising crime, and a need for significant additional spending. Nagin, D. S., & Telep, C. W. (2020) observes that the social cost of crime among young people without jobs, for instance, is increased if a society's methods of resolving it promote additional antisocial behavior and attitudes. Many young people in Kampala especially slum areas such as Kisenyi and Bwaise, are trapped in a very difficult situation of unemployment which has always caused them untold suffering and living under poor conditions and getting involved into urban crimes. Having a big population alone is not a big problem but the number of young people aged between 12-30 years is growing very fast yet, most of them have nothing to support themselves with because they are unemployed (Ainomugisha Peruth 2018).

On whether some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified

The findings as presented in tables 4.34, 4.37 and 4.43 have indicated that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified. It is important to remember that a lot of cosmopolitan areas, like Kampala, have a high unemployment rate, a significant number of idle people with families to take care of, and are densely populated as a result of immigration. But also due to poor urban planning, there are so many alternative routes which the youth use after committing crime which makes it hard for anyone to follow up and locate them. Because of this, it is easy for young people to commit crimes and flee, especially when using *Boda Bodas* (motorcycles), without being caught. Terrorists have also taken advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of Kampala to commit crimes. The throwing of Bombs in October 2021 at one of the most popular pork roasting outlets in Kampala known as Digida, is one such example

(<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/tanzania/news/africa/one-killed-three-injured-in-kampala-bomb-blast>).

In a similar vein, Andrea Florence de Mello Aguiar et al. (2018) contend that while cities usually serve as the catalysts for economic progress in developing nations, they are also frequently the scene of rising crime, poverty, and inequality. Therefore, urbanization is a two-edged sword. Urban locations have several advantages over rural places, including better economic prospects, more social interaction, and generally higher living standards, but they also face complex and ever-evolving security and development concerns. These difficulties are partly caused by the concentration of primarily young people who want to take advantage of the relatively high economic dynamism and opportunities that cities provide. They frequently find themselves jobless and in extremely challenging living situations. This might result in desperate situations where some turn to illegal means of earning money or take part in uprisings.

According to Ainomugisha Peruth (2018), young people who are unemployed wind up on the streets and in urban slums where they engage in illegal activities like prostitution, thuggery, drug usage, and substance addiction. During this time of change, a lot of young people face significant challenges. Many people, especially the impoverished, find possibilities in cities because of the abundance of social services, better career prospects, and freedom from the constrictive social and cultural norms of rural communities. Overcrowding, traffic, unemployment, a lack of social and community networks, stark disparities, and possibly life-altering social problems like crime and violence are among potential drawbacks of city life, according to Rosen, E. (2020), referencing the World Bank (2008). In addition, the urban poor are particularly susceptible to shocks due to their strong reliance on the cash economy. Violence and crime are said to occur more frequently in environments with unequal distributions of scarce resources or power and lax institutional constraints, which are particularly typical of cities. Thus, Buhaug, H., & Urdal, H. (2013) conclusively asserted that there is proof that crime and violence are more prevalent in cities.

Availability of wealthy urban residents, amidst the poor, enhances the emergency of criminal activities. The situation has been compounded by the limited number of law enforcement

agencies especially the police. This was made worse by the Uganda Police management's decision to merge police stations in 2022 thereby reducing the number of Police outposts in the city. The Monitor News Paper, (Sunday, November 06, 2022) noted that while this was a well-intentioned strategy to reduce on costs, it has left many places without adequate security and criminals have started to take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to commit crime. Of note is that, one of the features of urban centers in Uganda is the emergency of slums. These are usually occupied by the poor looking for survival and hence, are inclined to committing crimes. According to the 2016 World Bank report, the poor people who live in urban areas suffer the most from the lack of employment opportunities, ineffective or unstable housing services, and violent environments. Additionally, frequent ejection of slum dwellers from their rented houses due to failure to pay rent but also insecure land tenure system, pushes them into crime.

On whether lack of family support has forced some youth in order to meet their basic needs, to engage in criminal activity

The results, which are shown in tables 4.35, 4.38, and 4.44, show that some young people have been compelled to turn to criminal activity in order to satisfy their basic needs due to a lack of family support. It has been observed that the family has an impact on preserving a free and stable society. The number of family members, insufficient and ineffective parenting methods, child abuse, antisocial and disorderly parents, and family strife are all potential causes of juvenile delinquency (Humphrey Sanders Kubende 2018).

According to Adebayo, A. A. (2013), who cited Wright and Wright's (1994) study on single parent families—especially mother-only families—these families are more likely than two-parent families to have children who are easily drawn into criminal activity. Humphrey Sanders Kubende (2018) cited Muehlenberg's (2002) research, which found that the absence of an intact family may encourage youth to join gangs. Compared to those from stable homes, children and young people from broken homes are more prone to commit crimes. Approximately seven of the ten deviations are likely the result of dysfunctional homes (Adebayo, 2013). At least four out of ten children from low-income homes are more prone to engage in antisocial conduct, according

to a number of research on the subject (Wasseraman and Seacini 2001, referenced in Humphrey Sanders Kubende (2018)).

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

With particular reference to Kampala City, the research study sought to analyze the factors influencing youth-bulge-related criminal activity in Uganda. The three areas of focus for this study were:

- (1) The relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda.
- (2) The influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda.
- (3) The impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda.

Three research questions on the above areas of focus were formulated to direct the study. The research questions were the following:

- (1) What is the extent of youth unemployment in Uganda, and how does it correlate with the incidence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda?
- (2) What are the key push and pull factors driving rural urban migration among Ugandan youth, and how do these migrations relate to youth bulge related crime in Uganda?
- (3) How has urbanization influenced the prevalence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda?

The data was obtained through primary and secondly data collection methods, analyzed, presented, interpreted and discussed in Chapter Four. In this chapter, based on the findings,

conclusions have been drawn and recommendations made taking one objective at a time. Suggested areas for future research are included at the end of the chapter.

5.2 Summary and Conclusions

The first research objective was: to identify the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda. Based on the findings, in the preceding chapters and subsequent discussions that ensued, the researcher made the following conclusions as regards to research objective 1. Unemployment is likely to contribute to crime associated with the youth bulge unless deliberate efforts are made by the government to systematically and effectively address all the root causes of youth unemployment in Uganda. Youth without jobs have needs to be met in order to survive.

There is a mismatch between acquired skills and the expectations of employers because young people without jobs lack the necessary skills, knowledge, and experience. This issue is made worse by the younger generation's preference for college degrees over technical and vocational credentials. The education received by the youth does not meet their needs and solve their problems. The education received will continue to be inappropriate and fall short of expectations, causing dissatisfaction among the youth, unless the government makes conscious efforts to make the curriculum respond to the needs of employers.

The second research objective was: to examine the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda. Based on the findings, in the preceding chapters and subsequent discussions that ensued, the researcher made the following conclusions as regards to research objective 2. Youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment. Ugandan youths from rural areas continue to move to the cities in search of better living conditions, better paying jobs, and higher incomes. This is likely to continue unless deliberate efforts are made to create similar opportunities in the rural areas. More youth will stay in their home areas if government establishes job opportunities in the countryside. It is indeed true that some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime related activities due to peer

influence. Despite popular belief, not all young people have been compelled to relocate to cities in order to find alternative sources of income.

The third objective was: to analyse the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda. Regarding research objective 3, the researcher came to the following conclusions based on the findings in the earlier chapters and the discussions that followed. The high cost of living in cities is forcing some young people without jobs who have no other means of support to turn to criminal activities in order to pay for their basic necessities. In a similar vein, some young people who work also engage in criminal activity for extra money because their jobs don't give them enough resources to ensure survival.

All the respondents interviewed were in agreement that some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified. This is because due to poor urban planning, there are so many alternative routes which the youth use after committing crime which makes it hard for anyone to follow up and locate them. Also, criminal related activities in urban youth is driven by the unequal distribution of scarce resources that leaves the majority in abject poverty, coupled with weak institutional controls in urban areas. The situation has been compounded by the limited number of law enforcement agencies especially the police.

5.3 Recommendations

The analysis of the study's findings and the conclusions reached led to the following recommendations, which seem reasonable and deserving of consideration by the Ugandan government and numerous other parties involved in creating youth employment and crime prevention programs. The recommendations have been made objective by objective.

The first Objective was: to identify the relationship between youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime among young people in Uganda. Based on the findings and conclusions drawn, the following recommendations have been made as regards to research objective 1.

Reform the education curriculum so as to produce school graduates with employments skills that are highly marketable on the job market. To this end, Competence Based Education Curriculum (CBEC) could be adopted which should focus students on professions that offer job opportunities. The CBEC should for instance focus the students in Advanced Level (A'Level) to study respective professions that they intend to study at University and other Tertiary Colleges. For example, after the Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE), students who want to pursue professional courses in Medicine, Agriculture, Forestry, Engineering, Education/Teaching, Law, and so on should be chosen as per their desired profession. Subsequently, their Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) course combinations ought to correspond with that particular intended career. What one studies at A'Level should be part or comprise of foundation studies of the professional program to be offered in University or Tertiary College. For successful implementation of the CBEC, the Teachers should be paid the highest salary of all professions such that the teaching combinations at A 'Level would be able to attract the best brains from O'Level, as the money motive is one of the reasons why students are shunning teaching profession as their first choice.

One of the factors contributing to youth unemployment in Uganda is a lack of the technical and professional skills needed on the job market. In this respect, it is recommended that the National Curriculum Development Center should consult widely with all stakeholders including potential employers, community, parents, teachers and the youth during the education curriculum design process so as to incorporate their unique requirements in the curriculum. The curriculum should then be designed to enable retooling and technical training programs in various fields to enable the youth become more suitable for employment in the available job market.

According to Article 17 of the Republic of Uganda's 1995 Constitution, one of a citizen's duties is to perform national service. In line with this constitutional obligation, the National Planning Authority in its Third National Development Plan (NDPIII) for the period 2020/21 – 2025/25 plans to roll out the national service programme with emphasis on the youth (NPA, 2020). Under the national service programme, the youth are to be trained in a number of fields including basic military training, ideological orientation, enterprises development, technical skills, value addition and innovation, just to mention. Through such trainings, the youth would be able to acquire the requisite technical skills that increase their employability; while some skills are

critical for those who wish to be self-employed. To note, however, is that the envisaged national service programme, since it is targeting the youth, could best be activated by institutionalizing National Youth Service (NYS) that would be able to establish training centres across the country for wider youth coverage. In Uganda, there is a mindset that holds that in order to get money, one must have a job, particularly among educated but unemployed youth. On the contrary, creating one's own employment through private entrepreneurship ventures is a better option given the current unemployment situation. There is therefore a need to help the youth to change their mindset which can best be done through ideological training which is one of the courses that would be taught under the National Youth Service Programme.

The second Objective was: to examine the influence of rural-urban migration on the occurrence of youth bulge related crime in Uganda. Based on the findings and conclusions drawn, the following recommendations have been made as regards to research objective 2.

Lack of economic sense in the agricultural sector is one of the main factors pushing young people from rural to urban areas. It is imperative to implement mechanization and contemporary agricultural techniques that increase productivity and yields, such as irrigation, greenhouses, modern post-harvest management techniques, storage facilities to minimize losses, and contemporary animal husbandry techniques. In this way, more youth would be attracted to the agricultural sector thereby reducing on the pressures of the need to migrate to urban areas looking for alternative economic opportunities.

There is high failure rate among the enterprises started by the youth. To make matters worse, most of the enterprise training programs have been theoretical, short and generic (not based on the unique business needs of the youth enterprises). Hence, government needs to prioritize the establishment of business incubation/innovation centers from where the youth can undertake internship training and which can accommodate their businesses for some period before they transfer their businesses elsewhere. Incubation centres can increase survival rates of youth start-up enterprises dramatically as they are professionally managed.

There is a need to develop an industrialization strategy based on the recently created cities to attract job opportunities and development in the respective cities so as to attract the youth that

are currently migrating to Kampala and Wakiso districts for jobs and other economic opportunities. These new cities have the potential to attract young people by offering employment opportunities, slowing the rate of migration to the Kampala and Wakiso districts, and contributing to their expansion and development.

The third Objective was: to analyse the impact of urbanization on youth bulge related crime in Uganda. Based on the findings and conclusions made, the following recommendations have been drawn as regards to research objective 3.

Young people without jobs are being forced by the high cost of living in urban areas to engage in criminal activity in order to pay for necessities like food, housing, and healthcare, to name a few. It is recommended that the youth should be provided with technical skills training to enable them acquire the necessary skills to either get employment or start their own skills-based self-employment ventures. In addition, some credit may be extended to the unemployed youth to enable them set up small scale business enterprises.

Uganda has several Presidential Initiatives on wealth and job creation programmes such as *Emyooga Programme*, Parish Development Model, Operation Wealth Creation, and Youth Skilling Centres. The major objectives of all these initiatives is to increase household incomes and to offer employment in the private sector. The problem, however, is that although a lot of funds have been injected in these initiatives, they are quite disjointed, and do not have a comprehensive policy document that clearly stipulates their operations. There is more reported information on the failures of these initiatives in respect to embezzlement of these funds and failure by the beneficiaries to pay back the funds lent to them more than the jobs and wealth that have been created as per their intended purposes. There is therefore a need to undertake a comprehensive study to come up with a policy document that harmonises all these presidential initiatives, streamlining their operations, and clearly setting the goals and targets to be achieved within a given timeline.

The youth also take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban centres to commit crime since they can easily move to a nearby location where they are not known, commit crime and disappear. This therefore, calls for community policing by emphasizing neighborhood watch to ensure that residents in a given neighborhood in the city know one another and are able to

quickly notice and apprehend any suspicious new comers in the area. This community policing should as well be complemented by increasing on the number of police stations in the area for effective apprehending of offenders.

5.4 The Areas for Further Research

The research study was about “Factors Contributing to Youth-Bulge Related Crime in Uganda”. The study was able to exhaustively bring to the fore the contributory factors which include Unemployment; Rural-Urban Migration and Urbanization. The study put forward a number of recommendations to address these factors that are drivers to youth bulge related crime in Uganda. As a build up to this research, it is recommended that an in-depth study be carried out into some of the recommendations advanced, particularly in the following three areas:

- a. Development of business enterprises incubation centers to kick start youth self-employment for national development.
- b. Reform of the existing Uganda education curriculum to align it with Competence Based Education Curriculum (CBEC) to be able to produce graduates with employable skills as well as innovation capabilities.
- c. Adoption of the National Youth Service Programme where the youth are given lifelong skills training to shape them into productive citizens for national development. Through the National Youth Service, the youth can be nurtured into productive citizens through a number of training programmes that include basic military training to shape their discipline; national patriotism programmes; poverty eradication skills; vocation technical skills training; business skilling and entrepreneurship mindset; leadership skills capability development; and character building.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Questionnaire

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR A RESEARCH STUDY ON FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO YOUTH-BULGE RELATED CRIME ACTIVITIES IN UGANDA

Note to the Respondents:

The “*youth bulge*” is defined as a relatively large proportion of young people in the population of a given country. The research study is being conducted in part fulfillment of the National Defence University of Kenya's requirements for the award of a master's degree in national security strategy. All Respondents' personal information will be kept confidential, and participation in the study is entirely voluntary. It's not necessary for you to give your name. The sole purpose for which any information is used is for this research study.

Any inquiries should be addressed to the Researcher at the following address:

Col Johnson Niwamanya (+256 772369637/+254 794908437;

Email:jmniwamanya@gmail.com)

Participant National Defence College, Kenya Course 25/2022-2023

PART ONE: DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

1. Participant Gender 1 Male 2 Female
2. What is your age bracket?
18 - 25 () 26 - 30 () 31 - 45 () 45 - 60 () Over 61 ()
3. What is your highest level of education?
Primary () Secondary () College/Certificate () University ()
4. Organisation (Any of under listed categories)
(Youth, Youth Organisation, Government/Local Authority, Community Member)
5. Date

Part TWO: UNEMPLOYMENT AS A CAUSE OF YOUTH BULGE RELATED CRIME IN UGANDA

1) indicate the degree to which you agree to the following considerations/statements with respect to unemployment as a cause of youth bulge-related crime in Uganda

“5 - Strongly agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Neutral, 2 - Disagree, 1- Strongly Disagree”

Consideration/Statement	“5”	“4”	“3”	“2”	“1”
The number of job seekers among the youth is more than the available jobs					
Most of the youth lack the technical skills for the jobs that are available in the market					
Some youth are not agile in taking on any job available					
Youth who are not employed are more likely to get involved in crime compared to those who have jobs					

PART THREE: RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION AS A CAUSE TO YOUTH BULGE RELATED CRIME IN UGANDA

2) indicate the degree to which you agree to the following considerations/statements with respect to rural-urban migration as a cause of youth bulge-related crime in Uganda

“5 - Strongly agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Neutral, 2 - Disagree, 1- Strongly Disagree”

Consideration/Statement	“5”	“4”	“3”	“2”	“1”
Some youth move to urban areas from rural areas looking for employment					
Some youth move from rural areas to urban areas with an aim of starting a business					
Some youth have been compelled to migrate to urban regions in pursuit of other income-generating options due to the lack of agricultural land in rural areas.					
Some youth in urban areas easily succumb to crime-related activities due to peer influence					

PART FOUR: URBANIZATION AS A CAUSE TO YOUTH BULGE RELATED CRIME IN UGANDA

3) indicate the degree to which you agree to the following considerations/statements with respect to urbanization as a cause of youth bulge-related crime in Uganda

“5 - Strongly agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Neutral, 2 - Disagree, 1- Strongly Disagree”

Consideration/Statement	“5”	“4”	“3”	“2”	“1”
The high cost of living in urban areas has forced some jobless youth to engage in crime-related activities to cater for their basic needs					
Some youth take advantage of the cosmopolitan nature of urban areas to engage in criminal-related activities as they perceive that they cannot be easily identified					
Lack of family support, especially in urban areas, has forced some youth to engage in criminal related activities to cater for their basic needs					

PART FIVE: CHARACTER OF YOUTH AS A CAUSE TO YOUTH BULGE RELATED CRIME IN UGANDA

4) How much do you agree with the following assertions about the characteristics of youth who commit crimes the most?

“5 - Strongly agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Neutral, 2 - Disagree, 1- Strongly Disagree”

Consideration/Statement	“5”	“4”	“3”	“2”	“1”
The youth are more likely to be involved in political demonstrations, riots and agitations					
Youth who are in gainful employment are less likely to get involved in political demonstrations, riots and agitations.					
Most incidents of reported robbery cases are committed mainly by the youth					
Most of the reported theft cases are committed mainly by the youth					

I sincerely appreciate your contribution to this research. You are once more assured of the confidentiality of this information and that it will only be used for this study.

Date of returning the questionnaire.....

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR RESPONSE

Appendix 2- NACOSTI Research Licence

 REPUBLIC OF KENYA	 NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
Ref No: 809493	Date of Issue: 06/December/2022
RESEARCH LICENSE	
	
This is to Certify that Mr., Niwamanya Johnson of National Defence University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Nairobi on the topic: Factors Contributing to Youth-Bulge Related Crime in Uganda for the period ending : 06/December/2023.	
License No: NACOSTI/P/22/22321	
809493	
Applicant Identification Number	Director General
	NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
	Verification QR Code
	
NOTE: This is a computer generated License. To verify the authenticity of this document, Scan the QR Code using QR scanner application.	
See overleaf for conditions	

THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)
Legal Notice No. 108: The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, hereafter referred to as the Commission, was established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) herein after referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE

1. The License is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the licensee shall adhere to such procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act, or prescribed by provisions of International treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to
2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way;
 - i. Endanger national security
 - ii. Adversely affect the lives of Kenyans
 - iii. Be in contravention of Kenya's international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN).
 - iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities in Kenya
 - v. Adversely affect the environment
 - vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
 - vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
 - viii. Plagiarize someone else's work
3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
4. The license any rights thereunder are non-transferable
5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.
6. The Licensee shall inform the relevant County Director of Education, County Commissioner and County Governor before commencement of the research.
7. Excavation, filming, movement, and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.
8. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.
9. The Commission may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project for the purpose of assessing and evaluating compliance with the conditions of the License.
10. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy, and upload a soft copy of their final report (thesis) onto a platform designated by the Commission within one year of completion of the research.
11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.
12. Research, findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time.
13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.
14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.
15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

National Commission for Science, Technology and
Innovation(NACOSTI),
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P. O. Box 30623 - 00100 Nairobi, KENYA
Telephone: 020 4007000, 0713788787, 0735404245
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Appendix 3 - Letter of Introduction

RESTRICTED

Telephone: 254-2-884036
Fax: 254-2-884036
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National Defence College
Warai North Road
P.O Box 24381
Karen - Nairobi
Kenya

When replying please quote:

Ref: NDC/A/141

November 2022

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

FACILITATION FOR COL JOHNSON NIWAMANYA ADM No. ND601/0020/2022

The above Senior Officer is a course participant at the National Defence College and has been admitted for Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategy, under the National Defence University- Kenya Programme.

As part of academic requirements, Col Johnson NIWAMANYA is required to undertake a research project in partial fulfillment of MA degree programme he is enrolled in. His approved research topic is **“Factors Contributing to Youth Bulge Related Crime in Uganda”**.

The purpose of this letter is to kindly request your office to facilitate the Officer as he conducts his research project.

Submitted for your kind consideration and facilitation.

Mr F M MABEYA
Head of Programme
for Commandant