

SOCIO - ECONOMIC CHALLENGES OF WOMEN STREET VENDORS

Kyompaire Patience

A research submitted to the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, University of Witwatersrand, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Management (in the field of Public and Development Management).

March 2006

Abstract

The research report assesses the socio economic challenges of women street vendors operating in the inner city of Johannesburg. The study was done to investigate the socio economic problems faced by the women street vendors as well as possible solutions to the problems were identified. The study was undertaken amongst other things to focus on the financial challenges, environmental challenges, policy implementation, and support from municipality structures. The study found out most of the women street vendors operate under strenuous conditions with continuous challenges most of which have endless solutions.

The findings showed that most women street vendors face various financial, environmental, social and economic challenges as they ply their trade on streets. The researcher further concluded that most of the women street vendors had a low level of education, were independent, the achievements were uneven, lack of capital, high permit charges for the trading space, and lack of infrastructure were a major problem.

Declaration

I, Kyompaire Patience declare that this report is my own, unaided work. It is submitted in the partial fulfillments of the degree of Masters of Management in the field of Public and Development Management) in the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before for any degree or examination in any other University.

Kyompaire Patience
March 2006

Dedication

To my husband Apollo

and

Our daughter Vivian Segawa

Acknowledgement

I express my appreciation to everyone who assisted me accomplish this study, it was an uphill task. However special thank go to my husband Apollo, who tirelessly supported me throughout the research project and to my daughter Vivien whose birth came in the midst of the report.

I am grateful to my supervisor, Dr. Thomas Mogale who was ever there to help and guide me throughout the process. Without his assistance, this research would not have been possible.

To my mother and father, you understood the essence of education and will ever thank you for having my interest at heart and greatly for making me what I am today.

Thanks also go to the family of Doctor F.Kiggundu and Doctor E,Kiggundu who have also been of great help. Thanks to my brothers and sisters, friends and colleagues at P&DM for all your assistance. Without you, this research would not have been possible.

I would like to dedicate this report to my husband Apollo. Thanks for believing in me and funding my education. May God richly bless you all.

Table of contents

	Page no
ABSTRACT	I
DECLARATION	II
DEDICATION	III
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	IV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	V
LIST OF TABLES	X
LIST OF APPENDICES	XI
LIST OF ACRONYMS	XII
 CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	 1
 1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM	 2
1.1.1 The origins and geographical location of the city of Johannesburg	2
1.1.2 Historical backdrop to the problem	3
1.1.3 Informal sector in Johannesburg; race, space and class of people	4
1.1.4 Location of the study; inner city Johannesburg	6
1.1.5 The informal sector and street vending activities in Johannesburg	6
1.2 Problem statement	7
1.3 Research question	7
1.4 purpose of the study	8
1.5 structure of research	8

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	10
2.0 Introduction	10
2.1 Street vending and Urbanisation	11
2.1.1 The concept of street vending	11
2.1.2 The concept of urbanization	11
2.2 The political history of street vending	12
2.2.1 Early origins and Problems of street vending	12
2.3 The growth of the urban and street vending	14
2.3.1 The concept of the city	14
2.3.2 The city in history	16
2.3.3 The city as an economic place	16
2.3.4 The city as place of interaction	16
2.4 The role of women in the third world economies	17
2.5 Working in the informal sector	19
2.5.1 Goods sold, trading sites and the trading structures	19
2.5.2 The challenges of street vending	20
2.6 Institutional frameworks	21
2.6.1 Street vending Policies and By laws	21
2.6.2 Taxes, registrations and licensing	25
2.6.3 Organisation of street vendors	26
2.6.4 Relations with the local government officials and development partners	28
2.7 Infrastructure and service provision	29
2.7.1 Crime and security	30
2.7.2 Skills training	31

2.8 Significance of street vending	32
------------------------------------	----

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY **33**

3.0 Introduction	33
3.1 Overall study design	33
3.2 Data collection methods	34
3.2.1. Personal interview	34
3.2.2 Unstructured interview	35
3.2.3 Direct observation	36
3.2.4 Secondary data	37
3.2.5 Questionnaire design	37
3.3 Reliability and validity	38
3.3.1 Validity	38
3.4 Study population	39
3.4.1 The sample size	40
3.5 Selection of respondent	40
3.6 Area of study	41
3.7 Data analysis	41
3.8 Ethics and legal action	42
3.9 Limitation of research	42

CHAPTER 4: DATA PRESENTATION **45**

4.0 Introduction	45
4.1 Demographic data	45
4.1.1 Age group	47
4.1.2 Marital status	47

4.1.3 Educational level	47
4.1.4 Household income	48
4.1.5 Children and dependent	48
4.1.6 Family status	49
4.1.7 Previous work experience and effects of entry into the market	50
4.1.8 Working hours	50
4.1.9 Access to infrastructure	51
4.2 Cost of sites	52
4.3 Policies and By laws	53
4.4 Socio - economic challenges	53
4.5 Organised street vending formations	54
4.6 Municipality responses to Socio–economic challenges	55
4.7 Summary and conclusion	56
CHAPTER 5: INTERPRETATIONS OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS	57
5.0 Introduction	57
5.1 Factors affecting women entry into street vending	57
5.2 Goods sold, trade structures, and other trade partners	58
5.3 Problems faced by street vendors	60
5.3.1 Police and local government harassment and financial implications	60
5.3.2 Lack of education and business skills	61
5.3.3 Health and sanitary problems	62
5.3.4 Crime cases problems and security	63
5.4 The major social challenges	64
5.5 Environmental challenges	65

5.6 Major economic challenges	66
5.7 Bad debtors and related financial problems	67
5.8 Organisations needs and support	68
5.9 Policies	69
5.9.1 Accessibility of by laws to the street vendors	69
5.9.2 A lack of consultation with vendors in drawing up by laws	70
6.1 Policies and by laws	71
6.2 Positive interventions to street vending by city authorities	72
6.3 Summary and Conclusion	74
CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	76
6.0 Introduction	76
6.1 Conclusion	76
6.2 Recommendation	77
6.3 Limitation of the study	79
REFERENCES	80
APPENDICES	89
LIST OF INTERVIEWS	98

List of tables

	Page no
Table1: Demographic data variable	46
Table 2; Goods sold by women street vendors	49
Table 3; Monthly Trading charges	52

List of Appendices

	Page no
APENDIX ONE	
Questions for women Street vendors	89
APPENDIX TWO	
Questions for the municipality officials and councilors	95
APPENDIX THREE	
List of interviews	98
APPENDIX FOUR	
Map of the inner city of Johannesburg	99

List of Acronyms

- ABET - Adult Basic Education Training
- ANC - African National Congress
- BAC - Business Against Crime
- CBD - Central Business District
- CSS - Central Statistics Service
- FNB - First National Bank
- IBF - Informal Business Forum
- JSE - Johannesburg Stock Exchange
- LRA - Labour Relation Act
- MLC - Metropolitan local council
- PIBA - Pretoria informal Business Association
- RSA - Republic of South Africa
- SAPS - Structural Adjustment programs
- SAPS - South African Police Service
- SEWU
- Self-employed women's union
- SEBS - School of Economics and Business science
- SMLG - South metropolitan local council
- WIEGO - Women in Informal Employment; Globalising and Organising

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This study seeks to investigate economic and social challenges experienced by women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg. It also hopes to identify possible solutions to these challenges. Johannesburg has undergone rapid change in its economic set up since the demise of apartheid and its restrictive laws were dismantled in 1990 (Johannesburg; 2004). One of these changes has been the growth of informal sector and women street vendors in particular. The study as the title illustrates is going to assess the social and economic challenges of women street vendors operating in inner city Johannesburg. The research report comprises of six chapters. Chapter one (1) gives a brief historical background of inner city Johannesburg and the problem statement. It also states the research question, and purpose of the study. It further identifies and seeks to plug the knowledge gap that exists on Women Street vending in inner city Johannesburg.

Chapter two (2) is the literature review presents arguments within the academic literature and debates on topics are presented. Conceptual and theoretical aspects pertaining street vending are tackled in this chapter.

Chapter three (3) presents the research report methodology that includes the data collection methods such as personal interviews, unstructured interviews, direct observation and use of the secondary data. This chapter also presents the overall study design and how the respondents were selected. Data analysis, ethical and legal considerations, reliability and validity, the study population are also being laid out in this chapter.

Chapter four (4) is the central focus of this research or study. It comprises of the presentation of the research results of the data gathered. Chapter five (5) presents the interpretation of the research results of the study.

Last but not least, chapter six (6) gives a conclusions and recommendation of the research on how to promote street vending in the inner city of Johannesburg.

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM

1.1.1 The origins and geographical location of the city of Johannesburg

The city of Johannesburg is located in the Southern hemisphere on the Eastern plateau of South Africa known as the high veldt at an elevation of 1753 meter (5751 feet) above sea level. It enjoys a dry, sunny climate with the exception of late afternoon showers from the month of October to April and it has average rainfall of between 600 to 800mm. Average maximum daytime temperatures is around 20 degrees and about 25 degrees in summer and below freezing sometimes in winter causing frost (Johannesburg; 2004).

Johannesburg is the most crowded city in South Africa and the second most heavily populated in sub Saharan Africa behind Lagos. The local residents refer to the city as "Jo'burg", or "Jozi". The Zulu name for the city is "Egoli" which means a "place of gold" as forty percent of the world's gold has been found in the vicinity of the city. This name however is seldom used. Johannesburg is the provincial capital of Gauteng province, the wealthiest province in South Africa. It is among the newest major cities in the world and was only founded in the late 1800's. Johannesburg is the only major city in the world that was not founded on the coast or that does not have a river running through it (Johannesburg; 2004).

Johannesburg is the financial capital of South Africa hosting Africa largest stock exchange, the Johannesburg Stock Exchanges (JSE). It is also the center of the gold and diamond trade in South Africa, due to its location on mineral rich Witwatersrand.

The population of the city is more than three million (2001 South African national census). Johannesburg's land area of 1.644km² (1019, 2 square miles) is very large when compared to the other cities hence the population density is very low, at only 1.962km. The population of metropolitan is over seven million based on the projections

from the 2001 census. This includes figures for the East Rand and West Rand, which are functionally integrated into the Johannesburg conurbation (Johannesburg; 2004).

Within 10 years of its origin, Johannesburg was one of the biggest cities in the country and by 1936 was recognized as the “largest and most densely populated European city in Africa” (Chipkin; 1993). A building boom prior to the turn of the century and economic expansion following the Boer war (1899-1902) between the British and Afrikaners resulted in a rapid increase of population (Chipkin; 1993). By 1929, when the Native Urban Area Act was passed, it was illegal for the blacks to rent or purchase property in the white designated areas. By 1933 the whole of the city of Johannesburg had been proclaimed white and by 1938 much of the black population had moved south to the new town ship of Orlando and Orlando east in Soweto (Carr; 1990). Of the total population 500,000 people in Johannesburg, 60,000 had been reallocated.

1.1.2 Historical backdrop to the problem

Throughout these years, the city’s population grew with every surge in the local economy. By 1936, Johannesburg had over 425, 000 legal residents and by mid 1980s the metropolitan area was the home to over 2.5 million people. This increased to 2.7 million by 1996. The whole urban conurbation, comprised of Johannesburg, Tshwane (formerly Pretoria) and Ekurhuleni (formerly East Rand) metropolitan areas, was estimated at 6 and 7 million. With the country’s population at approximately 38 million, this combines metropolitan region accounted for 17% of all South Africans (Tomlinson and Beauregard; 2003)

Blacks began moving to the inner city from township areas and into inner city suburbs beginning in the 1980s. Diminished capacity to enforce apartheid legislation and escalating repression and violence in the townships under a general state of emergency were key factors. At the time of the city’s centenary celebrations in 1986, approximately 20,000 black people of a population of 120,000 lived in the inner city suburb. By 1993, 85% of the inner-city residential population was black (Morris; 1999) and by 1996 only 5% was white (Crankshaw; 1997). The majority, moreover were more affluent than those who remained in the segregated townships and in the informal settlements (Crankshaw; 1997, Morris, 1999).

The city has also taken on a cosmopolitan look because it has attracted migrants from sub Saharan Africa, Asia and Europe who come to the city to exploit its perceived numerous opportunities and to seek jobs. If South Africa is a “world in one country”, then Johannesburg is a “country in one city”. Nowhere else have the people been able to come together and form such an interactive culture, combining traits from each group and creating their own identity. The streets are alive with call of fruit sellers and street vendors and the city presents an exciting blend of ethnic and western art and cultural activities in the many theatres and open-air arenas (Johannesburg; 2001). Johannesburg has the largest population of street vendors in South Africa. It was estimated earlier in 1995 that there was about 1000 street vendors in the Johannesburg CBD (Central Business District) according to the then Great Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan council report of 1995.

As already indicated the study seeks to investigate the socio-economic challenges that are experienced by women street vendors especially those located within inner city Johannesburg. In this era of women emancipation, an African woman cannot expect to be supported entirely by her husband but must try to fend for herself independently. In light of this, many women have started informal business activities on the street in order to be self-reliant. The researcher seeks to discern the problems of women working as street vendors and suggest ways to address their plight, as this would be an important channel aimed towards women emancipation and development in urban environments.

1.1.3 Informal sector in Johannesburg; race, space and class of people

The context for the rapid increase in street trading and the informal sector generally is the sharp drop in formal employment opportunities. At the end of the 1970's, when the informal sectors were banished from the streets of Johannesburg, there were thought to be about 200 to 250 hawkers on the sidewalks of the CBD. Two decades latter, there were about 15,000 street vendors in the CBD (Rogerson; 2000). The growth of street vendors does not represent traders formerly “bottled up” in the townships now “surfacing” in the inner city. Instead we are witnessing the struggle to survive amidst far reaching structural changes in the country's economy arising from its exposure to

the global market (Bhorat and Hodge; 1999). The informal sector is becoming increasingly characteristic of countries to the north where an ever-larger proportion of the labor force will never find formal employment (Halfani; 1996).

Rogerson (2000) reported that in Gauteng province 46% of informal sectors are engaged in retail activity, with 31% being involved in services and 23% in manufacturing. Street vendors are by far the largest group, but unknown proportions are not traders in their own right so much as employees of wholesalers. The main retail sectors are food vending, clothing, and soft goods like textiles (Tomlinson and Beauregard; 2003).

The bulk of informal trading is concentrated around bus and minivan taxi termini and along formal retailing streets. It mainly serves the black market. The traders use public transport to move the goods throughout the city and to other areas (for example building sites) where a high number of black consumers are concentrated. Most visible for the visitors are the many people selling goods at stoplights (called robots in South Africa). In this case, the market comprises all persons passing by regardless of race (Tomlinson and Larsen; 2003).

Street vendors sell the same products such as mangoes, tomatoes or whatever is on season. This had created a lot of competition and overtrading due to lack of barrier to entry. In Johannesburg as well as other cities in South Africa, the jobs are few there is a lot of competition for the informal jobs, which involves circumventing the rules. Due to competition in Johannesburg it has caused a lot of crime and violence the law enforcement is very weak (Tomlinson and Larsen; 2003).

1.1.4 Location of the study: Inner city Johannesburg

Inner city Johannesburg comprises of 1760 hectares. The inner city of Johannesburg is a widely recognized strategic planning area, which constitutes Smit street in the East, north along Graf street, south along Solomon street, and in the west. The areas around the railway reserve in the New town and the Ridge areas in highlands and Rand view are excluded: Therefore the areas where the research was conducted constitute Hillbrow, Yeoville, Doornfontien, Joubert park which is in the Central Business District (CBD). Refer on the map (Inner city of Johannesburg) appendix 3.

1.1.5 The Informal sector and street vending activities in Johannesburg

The most quoted definition of the informal sectors is that contained in the ILO Kenya Report (1972). The informal activities are defined by ILO as “a way of doing things” characterized by ease of entry, reliance of indigenous resources, family ownership of enterprises, small scale of operation, labor intensive and adopted technology, skills acquired outside of the formal school system and unregulated and competitive market. An informal activity encompasses different types of economic activity, these include trading, collecting, providing a service and manufacturing and often require different employment relations. Informal sector activities often involve self-employment, paid, unpaid workers, disguised wagedworkers, and different activities with different economic potential and often include survivalist activities and successful small enterprises (Skinner; 2004).

Street vendors in Johannesburg travel in from the town ship to the inner city to start up their businesses. A variety of informal businesses are carried out on the pavement and streets. The majority are predominantly women selling a variety of goods like fruits like vegetables. These women light up their imbaulas (coat pots) to roast mealie (corn) on streets. Hairdressers’ work outside from the streets and others set up shops between street vendors who hawk in ripe fruits and cheap clothing. Street hair braiders are skillful and they use their hand to plait black South Africans.

Some women and men use bicycles while others either carry their things in a trolley or boxes. The street vendors tend to settle down at some fixed spots where they offer their services. Most of them sell one type of goods and this is commonly either food (vegetables, eggs, processed food, or snacks) household items (teapots/bowls) or services such as bicycle repair shoe polishing and barbering). The street vendors also sell a combination of household and personal items (oil lamp, knives, brushes, and clothes for different age groups).

1.2 Problem statement

Although the problem of street vendors is increasingly being acknowledged in South Africa and the rest of the developing world. A few studies such as a study by Skinner Caroline which was carried out in 1999 and titled "local government in transition; a gendered analysis of trends in urban policy and practice regarding street vending in five South African cities" have been done here in South Africa about the socio economic challenges of women working on streets of large cities like Johannesburg. But almost none at all on the inner city of Johannesburg streets.

However, any casual observation and basing on previous studies on informal sectors, (Arizper 1989 and ILO Report,1991), it has indicated that there appears to be serious socio economic challenges experienced by women working as street vendors. The challenge is to establish what women in inner city Johannesburg streets face and what can be done to assist them in their plight. This study therefore seeks to establish information about the challenges women working as street vendors experience and suggests recommendations on how authorities can assist in finding ways of addressing the plight of women street vendors especially in urban environments.

1.3 Research Questions

In order to address the research problem: the study focuses on the following:

1. What are major financial challenges confronted by women street vendors in setting business operations?
2. How do women street vendors identify, keep and protect trading activities?

3. How do street vendors cope with environmental challenges for example rain, cold, wind etc?
4. What is the involvement of women in street vending policy? How was it conceived, developed and implemented?
5. What support do the women street vendors from municipal structure?

1.4 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this research is to;

- To identify and analyse the problems that women street vendors face in inner city Johannesburg.
- To identify and analyse ways in which women street vendors cope with the existing policy towards street vending.
- To help find ways in which government policy can be reformulated to help ease the challenges of women street vendors.

1.5 Structure of the research report

This research report is organised under six chapters as follows.

Chapter one (1) presents a background to the research, statement of problems, research question and purpose of the study. Here, the context for the research report is set, in which the research question is explained and background is set.

Chapter two (2) is the literature review presents arguments within the academic literature and it show the need for research and debates about the topic are tackled in this chapter.

Chapter three (3) presents the area of study, overall study design, study population, selecting of respondents, methods of data analysis, problems or limitations of research and attempts adopted by the researcher to minimize them and also methods are discussed.

Chapter four (4) is the central focus of this research or study. It comprises of the presentation of the research results from the data gathered. Relevant statistical data and tables are presented in this chapter.

Chapter five (5) which is interpretative analytical nature, is given meaning by attempting to respond to the research questions in chapter one and the application of theoretical framework is presented.

Chapter six (6) gives a conclusions, and recommendations of how to improve street vending in the inner city of Johannesburg.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This section among other issues will provide the background on street vendors, the problems faced, definition of street vendors and urbanization ,concept of the city, local municipality responses on street vending, the nature of goods sold by street vendors, the policy formulation of street vending, the concept of inner city and the city, infrastructure and other related issues. The chapter also provides theoretical literature on street vendors, reasons for street vending and analyses the challenges related to street vending across the Third world.

The past few decades have been marked by the emergence of a new and significant phenomenon in the third world cities and this is the growth of the urban unemployed. Increasing flows of people from rural areas to the cities and high rates of population increase, combined with a tendency of capital intensive industrial development, has led to an oversupply of labour. In absence of unemployment benefits, these urban unemployed out of necessity turned to a variety of activities in order to survive, which include; hawking, street vending, making clothes and mats (Dewar and Watson; 1981).

Rural-Urban migration in South Africa is considered high in relation to industrial development in the cities. This has resulted into high levels of unskilled labor supply in the cities. The largest number of urban migrants are the poor, unskilled individuals and landless and thus these people migrate to towns looking for short term urban jobs in order for then to earn a living (Todaro ; 1994). However, bulk of these unskilled people migrating from rural areas resort to employment in the informal sector as a form of "survival strategy" due to lack of access to the formal economy (Radcliff and Mingione; 1985).

2.1 Street vending and urbanisation

2.1.1 Concept of street vending

Street vending is defined as the vendors who sell merchandise or provide services from a fixed point of a public thorough fare (Arora; 1992). Street vendors usually start out urban rural migrants who come to cities as economic refugees hoping to provide necessities for their families. The street vendors normally locate themselves at a fixed place on the public thoroughfare by assessing the value of the location, determine whether the location is economically feasible, assess the potential customers' worth and thus determine whether they to trade at that particular spot. These street vendors evaluate the possibility of an agreement with other people operating on the streets to avoid conflict and sometimes consult the government officials about the policies, which are put in place before they establish their business.

2.1.2 The concept of urbanisation

Urbanisation is defined as the economic and demographic growth process of the urban centers (Todaro; 1994), 'urbanisation' is also used in two interrelated ways but different understanding. Firstly, in a behavioral sense, it refers to the process of urban accumulation that is the social transition of individuals and families from rural to urban dwellers. Secondly the term can be viewed in a professional sense, referring to the movement of people from rural areas, like villages, and small suburbs or farms in search of employment or jobs (Todaro; 1994). These often-unskilled immigrants from rural to urban environment form the bulk of the street vendors in all major cities in Africa and the entire world travel to seek employment.

2.2 The political history of street vending in South Africa

Historical research discloses that street trading is along establishment of the informal sector especially in the large urban areas (La Hausse 1984; Naido 1993; Maylam and Edwards; 1996). The history of street vendors and other informal sector activities in urban areas in South Africa is closely linked with the influx control measures and segregation policies of the apartheid era and the changing legal environment regarding the deregulation of South African economy. During the 1930s until early 1980s, street traders in South African urban areas were subjected to a well-entrenched tradition of repression, harassment and prosecution (Maylam 1982, Dauskardt 1991; La Hausse ;1996). During the first three decades of the twentieth century, street vendors started operating in Durban where they were allowed to operate with relatively few restrictions. The street vendors established themselves around the key transport nodes and others outside the sites of economic and social activity, such as hostels for *togt* laborers working on daily contracts at the ports and around many eating-places and both outside and inside the formal and informal places that emerged.

2.2.1 Early origins and Problems of Street Vendors

Street vending in Africa is viewed as an economic activity for those with a low level of education. For the case of women, it is also considered as an extension of their reproductive and dominant role (Cross and Balkin; 2000). The level of education attained by women has an influence on their occupational place generally in Africa where women are less educated than men. This makes the majority of women less likely to be effectively employed in the formal sector.

In the 1980s, the obsession in South Africa with political exclusion of people who were not whites changed in order to promote the development of black business (seen for example in the 1987 White Paper on Privatization and Deregulation in the RSA). The government had lost control over the movement of the black people to cities by the mid 1980s. Influx control legislation was formally repealed in the 1988, and property rights for the black people in cities started to be granted in 1988. The 1991 Business Act was a key measure for deregulation removing barriers to the informal sector operations,

making it an offence to enforce the move-on laws. Also in 1991, four key pieces of legislation which had underpinned the apartheid regime were removed; the group Area act, Black land Act, Development Trust Land Act, and the Population Registration Act (according to which all south Africans were officially racially classified at birth) (Lund; 1998).

South Africa is rich in natural resources and relatively industrialized with more than 55 percent of the population in urban areas (CSDS report of 1998). In the 1980s and early 1990s, negative real growth was experienced, and went along with large-scale job losses. Many women in the clothing and textile manufacturing industries lost jobs (Voladia; 1996). Women participation in the labor force has however increased in recent years. In 1995, 46% of all women were reported to be economically active, compared to 63% of all men (Budlender; 1998). Of all those who are in employment, about 56% men and 44% are women. A good majority of these women are involved in informal street vending activities.

The petty traders operate in the market places and on the streets. Because of the pressure of street traders on urban space, there is a serious problem for city authorities in maintaining cleanliness and order. "The street vendors are seen to occupy urban space in a disorderly fashion, to cause traffic congestion, to compete "unfairly" with more formal retail shops. The struggle between street vendors and authorities is unending and the authorities usually loose out, but at great cost to street vendors. Repression is sporadic but the threat of repression by the municipal authorities is constant, the vendors are one with the cities and there are a traditional life time activity of many working poor since the formal sector cannot guzzle them," (Lubell; 1991). Among the most popular activities is the selling of prepared food and vegetables by women street vendors in most South African cities (Dedans; 2003).

Street traders in South Africa have generally been viewed as "bird in the corn field" as Stadler's analogy from his study on squatter movements in Johannesburg (Stadler; 1979). It took more than 40 years to implement a comprehensive net of repressive apartheid legislation to chase the street traders out of the major cities. However, various social, economic and political pressures became too powerful, and in the early

1980s, a slow deregulation process started which saw a flood of street vendors entering the city. Durban for instance, in the 1980s there were 200 street vendors (City Engineers Department 1984) and by 1997 the number these street vendors had increased to almost 20000 (Markewiecz, English and Associates; 1997).

Street vending in South Africa is predominantly an African, Indian and increasingly female activity that forms the dominant component in the large South African informal economy (Preston- Whyte and Rogerson 1991, Naidoo 1993, Rogerson and Hart; 1989, Rogerson; 1996). Street vending in the Third World cities referees to as a survivalist economic sector comprising micro enterprises with one or a few employees. Based on self-employment the enterprises involve different kinds of conceptual agreement of out of sale of Indians or whites who run the business.

2.3 The growth of the urban and street vending

Cities in most countries differ in terms of size, racial composition and the main economic activities. Most countries do not have an accurate number of street traders in there major urban centers but in South Africa, the vast majority of these vendors are mostly black and poor people. In South Africa, there are more women compared to men on the streets. African women are estimated to be about 60% of workers in the informal economy (Valodia; 1996). The women are disproportionately represented at the poorer end of the sector where they largely carry out there informal businesses on the streets.

2.3.1 The concept of the city

Before we dwell into the understanding of the concept of city, it is necessary to understand the term 'city'. Many theorists have conceived the concept 'city' in many different ways. Some have concentrated upon human interaction, others upon the social process shape cities spatial form, this is because it is believed that, social processes shape cities spatially, and still others have looked at the economic of land use location (Webber; 1964). In order to gain an understanding of what inner city can be, it is therefore important to first define what a 'city' really is. All the different definitions

and concepts tend to have varying connotations and influences on policies that affect street vending.

Based on the assumptions above one might want to ask whether a city;

- Is the economic system based on profit and competition, or the utilization of resources through the cooperation of community; or
- Is a collection of houses, streets, industries, high block of flats, schools, clinics and sports clubs; or
- Is an obstructing grouping of individuals or an expression of an individual or group of individuals.

Scholars from different schools of thought have attempted to define the city, from different perspectives. From Park, Burgess and Mckenei (Bourne; 1971), "The modern city is primarily a convenience of commerce". Webber (1964) sees a city as a market place. The concept of the city as a primary convenience of commerce and as a market place should largely encompass street vending as a commercial activity but this is not always the case. Dewar (1984) views the city as the place in which civilization flowers. For Harvey (1973), the city is a "tangible, built environment – an environment which is a social product". However, Lefebvre (in Elliot Hurst, 1975) who believes that "...the city is a projection of the total society, with its culture, its value, including its economic base, which gives it its structure, offers a more comprehensive definition."

Although the study of the city as a whole is not an objective of this research report, it is important to understand what is a clear framework that can be studied in order to gain insights into the city as a whole. This will in turn help understand the challenges of street vending as a commercial activity in the concept of the city.

It is worth mentioning at this point that each city is unique as far as history, character and cultural setting are concerned and the city of Johannesburg could not be an exception. However, there is a degree of uniformity in cities and each reflects common elements. These elements are as follows;

2.3.2 The city in history

Each city has its own history and stories to tell, each has beginnings, past functions and has been subjected to a number of pressures, direct, or indirect which then contribute to the shaping of that city into its particular present form (Oram; 1965). Going back to history, one can note that the past disparities created by apartheid have resulted in an upsurge of violence, caused by socio-economic problems such as unemployment, which were also enhanced by political frictions. Developers and entrepreneurs have thus turned down opportunities to develop and establish the inner city especially the CBD (City Business District) due to fears of violence, intimidation and vandalism of property. Also in South Africa, due to historically control measures and segregation policies, which influenced the South African economy the black people did not have jobs in formal sector were not allowed to trade in the CBD thus forcing them to join the street trading activities.

2.3.3 The city as an economic place

Contemporary cities are to a greater or less extent, part of the national economic system. Cities function economically by selling products or services to the outside world. There are also internal economic forces, which operate within a city, which determine for example, the value of land, or the cost of transportation. The city being the economic place it attracts so many people who execute business activities (Dewar; 1984). Therefore, the street vendors are attracted to the cities because they want to carry out the economic activities.

2.3.4 The city as a place of interaction

The city is not merely comprised of a built environment but it also houses people. People are diverse and active with a whole range of potentiality and capabilities. The city being the center of existence for those who live in it, it affects people's behavior and the way of life in terms of activities, which they carry out. Although the above elements explain the concept of the city, it is equally important to make use of the contributions made by Bryson (1990) concerning the definition of city, though it might seem overlapping if equated with the above term of 'the city as an economic place'.

For Bryson (1990), cities are the product of the interrelationship between a particular form of social and economic organization. The built environment of the city exists to service the economy, and as such is a product of it. The shape of the city is modified by new capital investment to accommodate the current economic and social order (Bryson; 1990). The economy and society are in a continual state of flux and consequently cities are a product of a combination of economic, political and social processes operating at a particular time and place.

It is a general agreement that a "good city form" is one which stimulates the growth of the individual, is recognizable (accommodating symbolic meaning to the community) and meaningful to them, is diverse and promotes community participation in decision-making, attracts people to do business and harmonious interaction amongst individuals.

2.4 The role of women and Informal Sector in Third World Economies

Women dominate the rural urban migration mitigation and they comprise a great number of the urban population (Todaro; 1994). Street, vending attracts those who have limited opportunities to obtain formal employment or prestigious business. Street vending is increasingly becoming an employment for many countries and its citizens. Street vending no longer limits the lower social groups, especially the underprivileged who carve out a living in an environment, which is full of harassments of the government authorities as experienced in other countries. Since the beginning of the Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPS) which resulted in the retrenchment of the civil servants across African countries most entrepreneurs saw street vending was the only option. For the case of Uganda, informal trade is nearly the largest form of employment. Uganda accounts for 13 per cent of the labour force as compared to 5.3 percent of the formal sector. In this case women dominate street vending due to the limited economic opportunities for women in both rural and urban areas, gender bias in education which favors men thus end up augmenting their husband's income (Muyingo;1999).

Women traditionally engage in certain sectors of economy and in particular occupations. Women constitute 39.4% of the workforce, but they account for 68.4% of all service workers and more than half of the all-clerical and sales workers for the case of South Africa. A Central Statistics Service (CSS) reports that 48% of all South African women and 57% of African women are in the community, social and personnel services sectors whether as employees, employers and self employed (Daniels; 1997). Seventy three percent of women employed are domestic servants. Of all South African recorded as working, only 3% are classified as managers or senior officials and 4% as professionals according to the CSS survey. Sixteen percent of women work as technicians or associate professionals, 20% as clerks, 12% as sales or service workers and 36% as unskilled or elementary workers. This indicates that women are still neglected that's why most of them undertake vending due to lack of other source income and employment.

Tumika Daima of the women's National Coalition is also referred to by Daniels (1997) as saying that in general, "the perception is that women work to supplement the income earned by men and that they are not seen as developing their own careers or as bread winners in their own right.. Black women in South Africa have the additional burden of when they do advance; they always have the stigma of Affirmative Action."

In 1997, unemployment figures indicated that 41% for Africans, 23% for colored, 17% for Asians 6.4% for whites were unemployed. Only 23% of the economically active populations were women in the 1960, and this did increase by an average of 4.3% per annum to 36% by 1990, but remembering that women have higher unemployment rate than men (Bendeman; 1994). The Green paper on Employment and occupation Equity (1996) estimated that a white South African male is 5000 times more likely than a black South African woman to be in top management position is Naidoo (1996) reports that in the public service, 49.9% of staffs were females and 50.1 % males but males constitute 89% of the management. In senior management, 88% are males and 12% females. Of the females in management, there is an equal split between white and black female's managers with each group constituting approximately 5%. "This clearly shows that the issue of racial equity in management has not been addressed by the local government

the situation with respect to gender equity also leaves much to be desired". (Employment Equity Bill; 1997).

The above information gives an indication of the environment in which the female street vendors operate and the working people setup in South Africa in general. It also highlights some of the real problems women street vendors have to contend with in their world of work.

2.5 Working in the Informal Sector

2.5.1 Goods sold, Trading Sites and the Trading Structures

Street trading and service provision in African cities is located in different public spheres where there is a high concentration of pedestrians movement and activity. In general, most traders locate themselves at strategic point with heavy human traffic along routes (streets, roads, bridges, taxi ranks) which link to the transport terminal with other important nodes of social and economic activity (Cross and Balkin; 2000) . Despite the By-laws and licensing systems the degree of control has been only limited, as most of the street vendors operate out side these restricted area and without licenses. For instance in Kenya street vendors settle in streets spontaneously without any official allocation, a few of them consult owners in the neighboring yard, others negotiate with acquaintances and the local authorities allocate the trading space to other people. For the case of Kampala, street vendors were located sites outside the CBD, the street vendors rejected the sites because they were not accessible to the customers.

Most common goods sold on the city streets in South African cities are foods (41%), fruits and vegetables (37%), and clothing (30%). Household goods were the least common traded goods (CASE; 1995). The foods include prepared foods such as rice, pap, vegetables and beef stew. Uncooked foods include potatoes of different varieties, fruits and vegetable like bananas, grapes, apples, tomatoes, onions, oranges and pineapples. Other traded goods are second hand and new clothes, household goods like saucepans, spoons, plate and cups are sold. Knowledge of the volume of sales is relevant for the efficient planning and appreciation to the contribution of the street

trade to the economy. However, in some countries information is lacking traders lack written records of income and expenditure. For example in Ghana the volume of goods that go in and out of the market need to be documented, and the market officials have no ideas about the volume of the various goods that enter and leave the market. Definitely, this neglect of record keeping explains the little significance given to street and market traders.

Traders use different structures to conduct there businesses, these include shade with tables, racks, wheel burrows, handcar, and bicycles seats to display their goods. Others display their goods on the ground or gunny bags, while others simply carry their commodities on their heads, hands and shoulders. There are also those that hang their goods such as clothes on walls, the fences and an advanced group that construct temporary shades with stands for displaying their goods (Mitullah;2003).

2.5.2 The Challenges of street vending

Informal retail activities all too often intrude on the normal retail activities. Informal retail often inconvenience office workers and diminish the sales of formal retailers. When taxi groups take over a particular street, they tend to spur an increment in the number of informal street traders due to the increased pedestrian flow and then drive out formal trading activities that were formerly there due to the increased competition and sometimes associated crime.(Tomlinson and Beauregard; 2003).

Contestation over “turf” easily turns violent in such congested trading areas. Competition also takes place in more subtle ways, which is sometimes racially defined. For example a reportedly a major problem, formal retailers and wholesalers face competition from other “wholesalers” invariably identified as street vendors who it is claimed are supplied cheaper imported goods from which duties were not paid and are paid a commission by there Asian suppliers. The street vendors who are supplied by these low cost goods position themselves on the streets outside the formal retailers and sell there products at “wholesale” prices, this often tend to create a lot of tensions (Tomlinson and Beauregard; 2003).

2.6 Institutional Frameworks

Efficient institutional and legal framework is important for ensuring a smooth and operations of business. The institutional framework for informal activities including trade has generally been hostile in most of the African countries. The policies, By laws, licensing, and relationship with government are the major issues of concern as discussed in this section.

2.6.1 Street vending Policies, and By – laws

Policies are tools for setting standards in the provision of public goods and services. Policies protect consumers, investors and the general public, while the By-laws are set to ensure that urban areas are safe and clean (Mitullah;2003). The policies and By-laws help the local authorities to collect revenue for payment of services such as refusal collection and management of the vending sites.

The specific local government policies and implementations in South Africa include the following.

- Simplification of registration costs for vendors and home based workers with incentives for registration.
- Representation of informal trader organisations on planning and policy committees
- Provision of support to trader organizations (for example meeting places, legal advise and secretarial help) using existing municipal assets.
- City officials and traders working together to improve the image of the informal economy (Source: Durban metropolitan council; 2001). All the major South African cities including Johannesburg implement the same policies.

However, whether or not they have developed street trading policies, most cities and towns have now formulated street trading By-laws in line with the Business Act. The Business Act, which was amended in 1993, and some powers to restrict trading were

given back to municipalities. Municipalities were empowered to establish areas where trading was restricted or prohibited all together. In areas where trading is restricted, space sometimes demarcated and hired out. In the time between the passing of the Business Act at the provincial level and the formulation of new trading By-laws being formulated at Municipalities were powerless to do anything about street vending. This is why some street vending has been so uncontrolled. Officials in a number of cities studied identified this sequence of events as making the task of managing very difficult, they had to shift from a situation of no control to one of much greater control (Skinner; 1999).

The case of South Africa, the National Government is committed to create a conducive environment for the small informal economic activity, which also includes street vending. This is realized at National, Provincial, and local level where new laws are put or are to be put in place. The Business Act of 1991 changed the legal approach of informal sector, which acknowledged street vendors people who contribute to contribute to the economy. The Act provided the street vendors the right to trade, whereby the local authorities merely regulates but cannot stop the street vendors from trading.

The Johannesburg street vending policy emphasizes the importance of street vending as a trading activity that contributes to the economy. For example, the introduction to the policy states that, "Know that the informal sector plays a vital role for the future, the greatest challenge to the local government is to promote and effectively manage informal Trading." (Great Johannesburg transitional metropolitan council; 1995). The most recent economic policy document issued by the African National Congress (ANC) asserts that, "small business activities, which contribute significantly to job creation, should be actively encouraged by a democratic state. In addition, small and medium sized businesses need attention. (Rogerson; 1994). This further cements the support of the South African government for the informal sector.

However, several restrictions are placed on street vending and are clearly reflected in the Johannesburg metropolitan By-laws. These metropolitan By laws on street vending contain clauses which;

- Prevent traders from obstructing the movement of traffic or pedestrians.
- Ensure that the movement of safety and service vehicles is not restricted.
- To protect the public from potentially dangerous street equipment like cooking fire, gas or electrical equipment or unsafe stocking of goods.
- Limit the attachment of street vending equipment to fire hydrants, buildings, road signs or other structures, which the public needs to see and have access.
- Ensure that traders keep their sites clean (Skinner; 1999).

Local authorities in South Africa are a major obstacle to the development of informal sector activities. Most of them use outdated restrictive policies, by-laws and regulations originally intended to control and regulate the growth of indigenous enterprises, (Mitullah; 2003). Restrictions make vending principally illegal, and view vendors as responsible for making cities dirty, obstructing traffic and therefore a public nuisance. Historically, this was a true reflection of the street vendors. Therefore, such provision perceptions were for dealing with cities planned for colonial governors. The policies do not provide for any trade within the Central Business District (CBD), and most street trading activities that take place within the CBD have no legal provisions. The policy does not appreciate the role of street vending in an urban economy (Mitullah; 2003). Thus the street vendors need to be organized with well established channels of communication with urban authorities so that their views can be represented.

In the 1990's South Africa's new democratic government showed commitment to the upgrading and development of the small informal business economy, this had been characterised by poor economic activity under, suppressed conditions (Rogerson and Rogerson; 1996). The South African national government is now however committed to creating a conducive environment for small informal economic activities that include street vending. In order to realize this, at national level, provincial, and local levels, the introduction of new laws such as the street net international alliance of street vendors in South Africa. It was membership-based organization (unions, co-operatives or associations) these directly organized the vendors in order to promote the exchange of information and ideals on critical issues facing the street vendors, (New laws of street vendors; 2003).

Street Nets is an international organization whose major activities are to help improve the lives of street vendors. One way of doing this was to persuade the government to adopt progressive policies and laws for the regulation of street vending and provide support for street vendors and other informal traders to assist them earn a better income for the work they do, (Haysom; 2005). The Street Nets played a major role in getting the government adopt an appropriate taxation system for street vendors. In addition, training for trade unions on how to adapt their organising and collective bargaining styles for workers in the informal economy (on request) is emphasised by the street nets. All these laws are in place or are being put in place.

For instance in Zimbabwe according to the research conducted by Mitullah in 2003 it shows that most of the street vendors are unaware of the existence of By-laws, and they do not have access to them others know but they tend to ignore them.

The White Paper on National strategy for Development and Promotion of Small Business in South Africa of March 1995 commits the government to the creation of the environment that encourages and assists the development of all categories of the economy. The 1998 White Paper on Local Government requires that Local Government be committed to working with citizens and groups within the community to find sustainable ways to meet their social, economic and material needs and to improve quality of their lives. South Africa also has laws and policies aimed at protecting rights of women and raising their status in the country. They include the requirement that 1/3 of all ANC parliamentarians must be women, establishment of a commission on gender equity in the 1996, setting up an office on the status of women to ensure gender equity (Mitullah; 2003)

The progress made in South Africa, differs across South African cities with Durban having the best environment for street vendor operations. Durban has a Department of informal trade and Small Business opportunities (Mitullah; 2003). The Hawkers Report of 1984 investigated the importance of street vendors in Durban's and it argued for a more flexible approach towards the regulation of street trading. A simpler licensing procedure was recommended more importantly the idea of a number of 'immune zones

in the central business district where street vendors could operate on a 'free for all' or 'first come' basis (Cross and Balkin; 2000).

2.6.2 Taxes, registrations and licensing

Most traders pay some form of tax or dues to enable them operate in various locations in the cities. The taxes vary from one area of inner city Johannesburg to another. They include municipality tax, license, security, tax, rent space or tables, cleaning tax, electricity and association or union fee. Most urban authorities have no consistent policies and regulations applying to street vendors as far as regulation and registration is concerned. They refer to street vendors as a nuisance and in some cases even the licensed vendors are harassed in the general raids (Mitullah; 2003). In Kenya, for instance licensing of street vendors is a major problem, which has contributed to the confrontation between street vendors and municipality officials. For those who have licenses in Kenya have to either pay a bribe or be well connected to the municipality officials (ILO; 2003).

Obtaining a license does not give street vendors free trading rights. Vendors have to observe other trading requirements for example, trading in approved or designed areas and observing health requirements. While this is appropriate, a majority of street vendors are not aware of the details of health regulations. In order to observe the health requirements as a result they confiscate the licenses. For example in South Africa if the street vendors do not keep their trading place clean, the metro police confiscate their goods.

2.6.3. Organisation of street vendors

Organisations are weak and poorly organised which has affected the urban development in general therefore street vendors need to participate in planning their activities. Most association in the African countries except South Africa address mainly welfare issues and very few focus on business affecting their operation such as services, licenses, policy advocacy and sites to trade.

Organising street vendors is easier than organising workers in some other parts of the informal economy because the vendors are visible on the street. They do not hide in homes and in small workshops. Nevertheless, organising street traders is also ridden with many difficulties as those faced in organising other forms of informal workers (ILO; 2003).

Some traders are not at work everyday or not at work in the same place. Most traders earn small amount of money thus do not want to be involved in any structured organisation. This also means that they cannot afford to pay a lot of money to the organisation as subscriptions. Traders also may not want to give up any time for the meetings because they will loose sales while they are at the meeting. Time is a special problem for women because most of the women also have to look after there children and other home cores like cooking and their homes.

The South Africa labour laws are not very helpful for street traders. The main law about workers organisation in South Africa is the Labour Relations Act of 1995 (LRA). This law talks about the rights of 'employees'. (ILO; 2003) It excludes street vendors who are self employed. This discourages organisations, which include self-employed street vendors from trying to register under the LRA.

However, this certainly does not mean that the street vendors cannot organise them selves. The constitution of South Africa says that every person has a right to freedom of association which means that the right to join organisations. The 1998 white paper on local government must be participatory. It must let all the people who live in a municipality to have their say. The laws and policies mean that informal economy workers have the rights to organise and voice their needs. However, research shows that very few street vendors belong to organisation.

- A study in Johannesburg in 1998 found out that only 15% of the traders belong to the organisations.
- A study in Grahamstown found that only 11% of the women traders are members of the organisation.

- A study in Durban in 1998 found that only 6% of women vendors were members of the organisations. (ILO; 2003).

The studies also show that although the urban authorities collect revenue from street vendors they hardly participate in important issues such as planning and management of urban development. There is a poor communication between the urban authorities and street vendors and their associations. There is hardly any dialogue and relationships are largely determined by favoritism, nepotism, and corrupt practices (Mitullah; 1993). For example in Ghana Street vendor's organizations are new and have begun to engage the urban authorities in planning.

Thus, street vendors have no influence on any policies developed for managing their operations while the urban authorities hardly provide services nor are they accountable to street vendors. This has affected potential joint action and impaired relationships between street vendors and urban authorities.

This is partly due to lack of joint action by different weak vendors associations. Their weakness has partly contributed to the imposition of decisions by urban authorities during the operations. In order for the street vendors and their associations to influence policies and By laws they need to be organised with a well-established effective channels of communication with urban authorities (Cross and Balkin; 2000). For the case of South African, some associations provide business services for members, such as storage facilities, training, negotiation and purchase of goods. For instance in South Africa the African federation of informal trader's organisation represented street traders from various groups during negotiation of By-laws. In Durban, the Self Employed Women's Union (SEWU) negotiated with the central council for the improvement of facilities such as toilets, shelter, water and sanitary facilities and childcare facilities for its members. The section below discusses some of the tribulations street vendors experience in their relationship with local municipality officials.

2.6.4 Relations with the local government officials and other development partners

The street vendors mostly relate with the local and government official in planning because they formulate the By laws and policies (Cross and Balkin; 2000). However, the relation of the local municipality official and street vendors is limited because the local officials usually graft in the identification of trading sites, provision of the trading sites; payment of daily fees the relations of street vendors and municipality authorities is generally poor. The local municipality officials regard the street vendors as a nuisance their relation varies from opposition, cooperation and indifferences that's why they keep on harassing them by confiscating there goods.

In Uganda, apart from interacting with the local municipality authorities while processing their license, and allocation of the trading sites, harassment is the main mode of interaction between street vendors and local municipality authorities. The local economy has not grown enough to absorb them and informal sector is the only source of employment for the majority. In Kampala municipal council gender insensitive, exploitation and law, enforcement is inhuman. The street vendors have responded to this through corruption the local municipality authorities as for the bribes openly (Muyingo; 1999).

Street vendors have minimal relations with other development partners. For instance in Kenya the street vendors they have a relationship with other development partner and their only limited to training and provision of credit facilities. The partners that support street vendors' relation to business are the financial institutions. Most of these financial institutions require the street vendors to form organised groups, which can help them in accessing the loans in order to improve their businesses.

2.7 Infrastructure and Service Provision

Most street vendors operate in places that lack infrastructure and services such as water, electricity, refuse collection and sanitary facilities. In a few trading sites, refuse collection is done but water and sanitation, electricity, storage and daycare facilities are lacking. For instance, in Uganda, the street vendors work in a harsh condition they lack storage facilities and work in open space without shelter while a big market like Owino has only four toilets and the refuse collection is insufficient. The urban authorities use the excuse that the traders do not have license, as a justification for not providing services. However, in many cities, street vendors do not pay a daily fee, which is cumulatively more expensive than the cost of an annual license. Since the street vendors either lack or have weak associations, they are not able to lobby for the service provision and fair fees (Lund; 2004).

Due to lack of storage facilities, it therefore compounds the transport situation. This implies that each day, vendors have to carry their commodities back and forth from sites of operations. This is because spaces are not planned for trade and therefore do not have infrastructure and services. In South Africa, some local authorities like in Durban have managed to provide storage facilities. However, facilities are expensive for an average trader.

The 1995 International Declaration on Street vending provides useful set of guidelines with attention paid to legal recognition if street vendors measures to protect the right to seek secure livelihoods and enable access to secure space. It also specifies the importance of increasing the allocation of resources to street trading / vendors including facilities and infrastructure as well as support services such as access to credit facilities and training and highlights the importance of mechanisms that promote the participation of vendors in the local government (Skinner;1999).

2.7.1 Crime and security

A secure environment is a prerequisite for any type of business. In most streets in the major cities in Africa, security is a major concern for formal and informal businesses as well as the public. Street traders worry about their own security and security of their goods and customers. They refer to security and safety as an economic priority, and not only as a personal safety. In South Africa crime results in a loss of customers, it frightens tourists, cripples businesses and reduces income and generally interferes with trading. In Johannesburg, 10% of street vendors were assaulted, while 55 percent had been robbed. Because of this some traders have formed voluntary associations to fight crime, while the police are often viewed as collaborators since they do not arrest some known criminals (Mitullah; 2003). In Johannesburg, however installation of cameras on the street that has reduced crime in several parts of the city. For the case of Uganda due to overcrowding in the city and mostly on streets pick, pocketing and petty thieves are rampant on the streets of Kampala. However, this reduced when the city authorities evicted the street vendors from the streets in 2001.

A number of initiatives that address crime within the inner city of Johannesburg are put in place. Under the auspices of the Safer Cities Project, (Local Government Crime Prevention Programs) are being developed. A number of crime prevention schemes planned and implemented, the first of which was the car guard's project through which a number of people trained and have to operate in the CBD, Hillbrow, Yoeville, Joubert Park and Doornfontein area.

There is also an SAPS project denominated "Programme Johannesburg" (Reid; 1997), which places significant emphasis on the inner city to develop pockets of policing excellence, which can be replicated through South Africa. The Program focuses on the project that together make up the component parts of effective policing, including the implementation of policing sector, an effective detective development program and improved crime intelligence, alongside attention to standards and service delivery. Business Against Crime, (BAC) supports the program.

By improving safety and security within the inner city Johannesburg area, investment proposals gave a greater form of assurance. Naturally, independent isolated stores are more susceptible to crime. By creating shopping centers, the trading area would be easily controlled (Massingue; 1999). Johannesburg offers a great deal of opportunities to industrialist. It has good access by roads, rail and air to other parts of the country and the world. Industries and informal traders should be encouraged through good security measures to locate in the Johannesburg inner city and thereby provide employment to the unemployed people, the biggest source of crime.

However, the inner city Section 59 committees, the appointment of inner city managers, and the move to a single local authority that will help to improve the situation of the four competing metro councils. These developments will mean a better metropolitan contribution to the management of inner city by 2030.

2.7.2 Skills training

A few financial institutions relate with street vendors, however, this relationship is restricted to training and accessing credit. In South Africa, an effort between the street vendors association, Pretoria Informal Business Association (PIBA) and Pretoria Local Authorities has negotiated free, full time, five week training at Pretoria College for their members. PIBA was created in response to a crisis over the control of trading sites in the city (Mitullah; 2003). The civil society organisations provide financial support or those working in the areas of human rights for training street vendors. CIDA Campus and School of Economic and Business Science wits enterprise in the inner city Johannesburg has provided business support training to a large number of informal street traders and unemployed youth supported by First National Bank (FNB). For the case of Zimbabwe, the street vendors are not trained at all instead the people concentrate on educating their children and other dependants.

2.8 The significance of street vending

In all the cities in South Africa, street trade is rampant and a source of employment for many urban dwellers. However, in most of the countries, it is uncounted and unrecognized in national economic statistics. Street trade in the past has been an underground activity that undermines the healthy function of the formal economy. This perception has resulted in conflicts with urban authorities over licensing, site for operation, sanitation and working condition according to the executive mayors mid-term report of 2003 (WWW.joburg.org.za). This had been the perception of the Johannesburg metro management for a long time until recently. In the transition period since 1994, small businesses played a major role as a source of development, particularly with respect to black economic empowerment, job creation and needed much attention (Skinner; 1999).

Most countries the mainstream economist lack an understanding and coverage of street vendors (Lund; 2002). Even the local authorities that collect substantial revenue from the sector do not mention the records of the numbers and the contribution of the sector to urban economy. This implies that the local authorities cannot adequately plan since they have no representative statistics of the informal sector. There has been minimal research in street vending for example South African cities on the gendered analysis of trends in urban policy and practice regarding street trading in five cities. Thus the present case studies do not provide recent estimates of street vendors (Mitullah; 2003). The negligence of the street vending activities has resulted in the lack of accurate estimates of the number of street vendors thus their plight has not been addressed.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter makes a detailed account on how the research was carried out. It spells out how data collected and the following methods were used.

- . Personal interviews,
- . Direct observation, and
- . Secondary data

This chapter also shows how data was analysed, the research design, study population, selection of respondents, reliability and validity, ethical and legal framework and methods used in collecting data.

3.1 Overall Study Design

The study was a descriptive, qualitative case study, which aimed at establishing the socio economic challenges of women street vendors. Saravanja (1999) asserts that a qualitative approach to the research process ensures a holistic approach while a quantitative approach tends to be particularistic. Qualitative research allows more flexibility in the process of conducting research in the sense that it adds information or source of information, which enables a deeper insightful challenge of women street vendors whereas the quantitative approach tends to be more rigid.

Schmity and Klimoski (1991) also argue that a qualitative approach allows for a more in depth explanation of the phenomenon under investigation, on the assumption that the data of interest must be generated from participant's point of view in as much as it is the subjective interpretation of reality that accounts for much of the variation in the phenomenon of interest. The value of this inductive approach is supported by Brynam;1988 that because , ' "it takes the actors point of view as a central focus ,and in doing so, it may bring to the surface issues and topics which are important yet which are omitted by relying on the research as the source of what is relevant".

Qualitative research, according to McMillan and Schumacher (1993) is a naturalistic inquiry, which uses non-interfering data collection strategies to discover the natural flow of events and processes and how participants interpret them. They argue that most qualitative research describe and analyses individual and collective social action, beliefs, thoughts, perceptions and are connected with understanding the social phenomenon from the participants perspective.

The research method also can be described as having been exploratory; hence, it used research questions rather than a hypothesis. A hypothesis, according to Babbie (1979) is a statement of specific expectations about the nature of things derived from theory. Determining whether theoretical expectations are confirmed by what goes on in real situation can test this.

3.2 Data Collection Instruments

The researcher employed three methods of qualitative data collection, unstructured Interviews, distribution of questionnaire, a review of secondary data and direct observation. The use of multiple sources of data is advocated by Yin (1984), to 'encourage divergent lines of data', which assists in avoiding subjectivity and bias on the part of the researcher. Leedy (1993) notes that construct validity are improved when different methods of measuring the same construct converge or focus in their results.

3.2.1 Personal interviews

Primary tools of data collection such as unstructured and structured interviews and questionnaire were used (Refer to Appendices 1 and 2). Using a questionnaire, the researcher interviewed eight (8) respondents (street vendors), four (4) Johannesburg municipality officials and two (2) chairpersons of the Yoeville and Hillbrow Street vendors associations. "The smaller sample size that usually goes with the greater time involved in the interviewing need not necessarily lead to poorer research," (Pirow; 1993). The questionnaire was designed in the light of research question and it had structured and unstructured questions to ensure a wide range of responses.

Unstructured interviews can be less biased than structured Interviews on condition that the interviewer was well skilled, careful and honest, (Gordon in Pirow; 1988).

Introductory letters were sent to respondents like the municipality officials (general manager and marketing officer metro trading company, economic development officer Johannesburg 2030, the manager central Johannesburg partnership, officer from city of Johannesburg)explaining the purpose of the survey and requesting the respondent's assistance in the data collection process by completing the questionnaires which was attached. The interviews were conducted in English and local languages (Zulu) to allow probing and easy clarification thus obtaining adequate and reliable data.

3.2.2 Un-structured interviews

Un-structured interviews refer to survey where the interviewer works with a list of general questions. The questions asked, their wording and order vary from interview to interview (O'Sullivan and Rassel; 1989).

The interviews were unstructured to the extent that a discussion guide framed as a questionnaire was used, with a set questions being posed to the respondent. This ensured that the researcher remained objective yet addressed the research question thoroughly. Blunt (1983) supports the use of un structured interviews as a means of using the spontaneity of a natural conversation which allows the interviewer the opportunity of ensuring that respondents understands the question in the intended manner, and to check the validity of responses against non – verbal behaviors clues of the respondents.

The researcher formulated a questionnaire in light of research question, which comprised of both open ended and closed questions solicit responses. The questionnaire guided the researcher and the respondents through the interviews. This method of interview is more flexible and likely to yield information that is more useful from respondents as opposed to questionnaires (Leedy and Ormrod; 2001). The questions were semi- structured to allow unique responses from each respondent.

Open – ended questions were formulated to generate discussion of the experiences of the socio economic challenges of women street vendors in the inner city Johannesburg. Careful consideration was taken to avoid asking leading questions and none of the questions was asked in the negative in order to retain neutrality on the part of the researcher. According to researcher open ended questions at least five reasons; were asked they helped a researcher identify the range of possible responses, and responses can more easily answer some questions with a few words rather than selecting an answer from a long list of possible responses (O’ Sullivan and Rassel ;1989).

The range of questions was intentionally limited to those questions that would elicit comment on the questions raised by research question, yet, which were as precise as possible. The set of questions used was refined after pilot interviews were conducted with a number of women street vendors in the inner city Johannesburg.

The respondents were encouraged to present their views on the issue raised by the research question, with the interviewer probing any inconsistencies, shallow responses or comments indicating particularly strong views. In the way, it was possible to elicit the experiences, views and perception of the respondents.

3.2.3 Direct observation

Observation is generally unobtrusive method for gathering information about how the program or initiative operates. Observation was used as a complimentary method to verify some of the information and give proxy to it. Observations was highly structured with the protocol for recording specific behaviors on the street in the city of Johannesburg at specific time or unstructured taking a “look and see” approach. This was done by moving around on the streets and recording specific behaviors, which were related to the challenges of the women street vendors.

3.2.4 Secondary data

Secondary data are existing data that result from the efforts of individual researcher, a research team, and an agency division or research organisation. The data may have been collected for a specific study, for a management system or to maintain a database (O'Sullivan and Rassel; 1989).

The following sources provided secondary data during the research; textbooks, journals and research reports and Internet. The following documents originated from the city of Johannesburg; policies on the street vendors. The following governmental documents were used; Municipality Systems Act (2000), Municipality System Bill (1999), the White Paper on the Local Government (1998), and Municipality Structure Act (1998).

3.2.5 Questionnaires and design

Based on the research questions the researcher formulated two different questionnaires; one of the women street vendors and one for the Johannesburg city municipality officials. A cover letter was attached to the questionnaire to introduce the purpose of research and to request respondents for their participation. Fourteen (14) questionnaires were distributed and the researcher made personnel contact with the respondents. The researcher interviewed eight (8) women street vendors, four (4) municipality officials and two (2) chairpersons of Yoeville and Hillbrow street vendors organisations' in the inner city Johannesburg.

In order to design a questionnaire that would maximize the response rate, the researcher made the questions short and precise. Questions were stated in a simple way to facilitate the respondent's ease of understanding (Leedy and Ormrod; 2001). Care was taken to ensure that the questionnaire was designed to with the research questions in mind. Each question was checked to ensure its relevance and appropriateness to the stated proportions. The questionnaire was pilot tested with the three women street vendors who were not included in the original sample.

3.3 Reliability and Validity

Validity was obtained by making sure that the research instruments actually measure what it purports to measure and that it did so accurately. According to Leedy and Ormrod (2001), reliability was obtained by ensuring that the research instruments would consistently produce the same results when used repeatedly. Reliability and validity are the most important aspects of any research study because these qualities characterize and underpin the soundness of the research and its findings. Thus, the researcher designed a suitable questionnaire as the instrument that can reliably obtain the information that was important for obtaining information that was relevant to this study.

3.3.1 Validity

The researcher employed several validity concepts that enabled the acquisition of reliable and valid data. There are six main types of validity and the measures taken to address each type are addressed separately.

a) Face validity

This research met the criteria for face validity as the research instrument used has been checked by the researcher's professional and academic peers. Representative of the sample was ensured by using quota-sampling technique.

b) Criterion validity

Criterion study was ensured through extensive pilot testing of the questionnaire.

c) Content validity

Content validity was ensured by seeking input on the measuring instruments from the researcher professional and academic peers. It was also ensured through pilot testing of the questionnaire and reviewing the responses received during the pilot tests to ensure that information elicited by the questionnaire was appropriate. The pilot test was done on three street vendors.

d) Construct validity

Construct validity refers to establishing correct operational measures for the concepts being studied (Yin; 1994). The construct validity of the measuring instrument was ensured during the pilot – testing phase. The pilot responses were analysed in order to ensure that respondents were in fact answering the question that was being asked. The clarity sought by the pilot test subject to the terminology used in the questionnaire enabled the questions to be reworded in a way to ensure that respondents interpreted the questions correctly.

e) Internal validity

Internal validity refers to the evidence that specific independent variables caused a change in an observed dependent variable (O'Sullivan and Russell; 1989) this research has internal validity in it because it was objective in nature and it was assumed the street vending would have an effect in achieving the developmental goals.

f) External validity

External validity refers to the appropriateness of extending or generalizing research findings to a group beyond that involved in the study (O'Sullivan and Russell; 1989). This research has external validity because the research findings can be generalized to other municipalities dealing with the women street vendors.

3.4 Study population

The study population comprised of women on streets, municipality official, councilor and the street vendors chairpersons. The researcher used quota-sampling technique to choose the respondents in the study. Women ranging between the ages of 18 to 45 years were interviewed both married and unmarried were included. These women were chosen because it was the focus of the study and they form the bulk of the street vendors in the Johannesburg inner city. In addition, the municipality officers senior administrative level were interviewed because they are key players in forming policies and

by laws` on street vending. Respondents were sought from various localities within areas defined as inner city Johannesburg.

3.4.1 The sample size

The size of the inner city Johannesburg region necessitated sampling. The sample size was comprised of 8 respondents which represented the whole population size of women street vendors that number about 10,000 traders according to the city of Johannesburg website in the mayoral report of 2003(www.joburg.org.za).

3.5 Selection of respondents

It was not possible to include all women on street vendors the researcher selected few respondents on street to represent the study population. For the respondent to be included in the sample the researcher used background information questions on age, education, and marital and occupational status, to find out whether it was eligible to be included in the sample. The researcher used the following techniques to select the sample.

The researcher applied the non-probability quota sampling technique, which implied that the researcher set a quota for women street vendors in different streets and areas of the inner city until she met the quota in each group. Also quota sampling can be defined as " any technique in which the selection of the sample items is not determined by chance, but rather by personal convenience, expert judgment, or any type of conscious selection," (Willemse ; 1985). Here the researcher used the types of items sold as the quota control. Four street vending activities were studied mainly trade in household groceries like (tomatoes, onions, carrots, spinach) dried beans, maize flavor, general merchandise like scurf, gloves, ear rings, food sellers like (cooked and raw food sellers), working on the phone both and selling of sweets.

This was done to ensure that information, which was obtained, was well represented. In order to get the actual units of the study two respondents were purposively selected

from each quota; respondents with viable and non-viable business were included so as to get representative data.

For any business to qualify as viable or non viable depended on the size of stock hence responds with big stock were considered to be in viable business while those with small stock were considered to be in non viable this applied to all quotas. With the above techniques, the researcher was able to select a sample of eight (8) women, four (4) Johannesburg municipality officials, and two (2) chairpersons of Yeoville and Hillbrow Street vendors association represented the study population.

3.6 Area of study

The study was conducted in inner city of Johannesburg. The inner city forms part of the region 8 administrative areas of the city of Johannesburg. It comprises the city center or Central Business District (CBD); the inner city of Johannesburg constitutes Smit Street in the East, South along Solomon Street and Graf Street in the North. The researcher specifically conducted her research from the Central Business District (CBD) Joubert park, Yeoville, Doornfontein, and Hillbrow in inner city of Johannesburg.

3.7 Data Analysis

Analysis can be defined as "any technique for making references by systematically and objectively identifying specified characteristics within text" (Stone, Dunphy, Smith, and Ogilvie; 1966). The researcher used the definition she looked at the answers and got the trends and made inferences from the conclusions. The researcher ensured classification, organization and interpretation of data into a logical pattern that would ease interpretation. The research used a thematic analysis procedure where data was summarized into broad themes. Responses who dominated a given theme would constitute the "majority" for that particular theme, question or sets of questions.

A Qualitative research design begins with some specific observations and builds towards general patterns. The process as one in which the researcher came to make sense of the patterns which the researcher observes in the data, which then tested and reviewed

in an iterative manner, until analytic, conceptual and categorical dimensions emerge which explain the data (Ferreira and Puth; 1988).

3.8 Ethical and Legal Considerations

Ethics are generally considered to deal with beliefs about what is wrong and right, proper or improper, good or bad. During the research, the researcher was open and honest with the subjects. The purpose of the study was fully disclosed. Respondents were not subjected to any kind of physical, emotional and mental discomfort.

Respect for human dignity was uppermost and respondents were not tricked into participation by means of promises of false benefits. Respondents were first consulted to make a decision to participate in the research process. Respect for privacy and informing participants that their responses would be remain anonymous ensured confidentiality because respondents were not asked their names during the interviews.

3.9 Limitations of research

Like any other research especially one done on the street about street vendor's number of limitations were encountered which include the following;

First the respondents took the researcher for a government operative who is out to assess their earnings and tax them or chase them away from their stalls. However, with a bit of patience and help the interpreter this was overcome.

The research-excluded business carried on in the evenings or at weekends. It was only included women street vendors in the inner city in Johannesburg. It is necessary to emphasize that the research will be carried out with limited time and recourses. The aim of the interview was therefore not obtain statistically reliable or representative data, but rather to gain a feel of these activities on streets on how they operate and problems faced.

The consistence of the answers from the respondents was affected by the interruption from the customer who kept on buying this and that from the vendors. Since selling their goods is of utmost importance than some inquisitive stranger who wanted information about there trade. In addition, the municipality officials saw the researcher as someone who was interfering but it required patience to get the needed information.

The study excluded men and women below 18 years of age because it is believed that these women are usually catered for by their parents under normal circumstances. Those women beyond 40 years are considered very weak to participate on the street vendor.

Lack of the local language knowledge by the researcher limited the research somehow because she was not being able to probe well and get all the required information. In addition, the some women street vendors were not cooperative after realizing that the researcher did not speak the local language. The researcher got someone who translated for her in the local language for those respondents who did not understand English. It was necessary because she wanted to probe and get the required information.

Another limitation was that the respondents expected to be paid at the beginning and end of question. They would argue over the many questions asked and lost time thus demanding to be paid. It took some convincing to make them understand that I was just a student.

Congestion o the streets was another limitation. Squeezing through the customers and other street vendors with a pen and paper was a nightmare. The above-mentioned limitations were the limitations encountered during the course of the study not forgetting the financial strains.

Lastly, many respondents could make it a condition for the researcher to explain how and of what good the research was to them. The researcher therefore had to explain that many people, academicians, urban planners and Non-governmental organisations

(NGO) could use the research findings in the future, if they cooperated and gave correct information.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION

4.0 Introduction

The study explored several challenges experienced by women street vendors in the inner city Johannesburg and among the major issues investigated includes; support from the municipal authorities in terms of a helpful legal framework and policies, proper gazette working areas, security, hygiene, social welfare, general infrastructure and access to finance, attitudes towards current laws and policies among other things. This was done by gathering data on a number of variables among the women street vendors who were interviewed. Information was gathered on several aspects that provided background information and influenced directly on the challenges these women face and such demographic data variables included; age group, family status, educational levels of the respondents, income, marital status, previous work experience and other, cost of work sites, and security among others. The results are presented in a tabular form, and then analysed in details with references to available literature. This information was used to come up with logical answers and analysis in respect to the research's core question of analyzing the problems faced by women street vendors in inner city Johannesburg.

The information and opinions expressed by the respondents during the interviews are also analysed in this chapter. Eight street vendors were interviewed and both structured and un-structured questions were used (refer to appendices one and two). Four municipal officials, street vendor's organisations and a councilor in the city of Johannesburg were interviewed. The study was conducted in the inner city of Johannesburg in the localities of Doornfontein, Yoeville, Hillbrow and Jobuert Park.

4.1 Demographic data Variables the women street vendors

Table .1 As follows on next page

Sex – females	Number of women	Numbers in percentage
Age group	-	
18 – 24	1	13%
25 – 30	2	25%
30 – 35	3	38%
35 – 40 or above	2	25%
Total	8	100
Marital status	-	
Divorced	-	
Married	3	38%
Widowed	1	13%
Never married	4	50%
Educational level	-	
Primary school	4	50%
Secondary school	3	38%
Post graduate	0	0
Did not go to school	1	13%
Household income		
R0 – R500	1	13%
R500 – R1000	6	75%
R1000 – R1500	0	0
R1500 – R2000	1	13%
R2000 and above	0	0
Children & dependants		
0 – 2	2	25%
2 – 4	3	38%
4 – 6	3	38%
Family status		
Living with parents	1	13%
Head of family	4	50%
Others	3	38%

4.1.1 Age group

This study about women street vendors as conducted in the inner city Johannesburg showed that the majority of the women vendors (38%) were in the age group of 30 – 35 years. The Johannesburg CBD census showed that the majority of the street traders (77%) were falling in the age groups 25 – 49 years (CASE; 1995). Only Thirteen percent (13%) of respondents were in the 18 –24-age bracket. This indicates that a good number of women appear to start street trade when they are older.

4.1.2 Marital status

According to this study as conducted in the inner city of Johannesburg, (50%) of the women street vendors did not have partners at the point of interview. Thirty-eight (38%) of the women street vendors were married and a few of them were widowed (13%) and others were divorced and separated. In the study by Farane (1998) that was conducted on women street vendors in Durban, half of her sample of 30 women were divorced, eight (8) were married (six (6) of whose husbands were unemployed), five (5) were single mothers and one had been deserted.

4.1.3 Education level

This study also confirmed the low level of education among the women street vendors. Half of the women street vendors (50%) who were surveyed have only primary school education (grade 6). The literacy levels among vendors are low, as no woman had attained a high school education and the study showed that only thirty eight percent (38%) of respondents have attained secondary education. This low level of education among women street vendors is a key factor that further compounds the challenges that they face.

This lack of education clearly indicates that the ability of these women to operate a profitable business is minimal. Sales and profits cannot be recorded properly. Furthermore, with that low education level among these women, credit cannot easily be extended to them since they cannot provide a proper accountability. The researcher

also quoted two (2) respondents comments regarding the communication problem that sometimes arises due to the different educational levels of the vendors;

"we are hated by our fellow women (vendors) especially when they hear us conversing in English language. The other women conclude that we have been back biting them and end up not talking to us just because they don't understand English."

Thus, the cooperation between the illiterate and literate women vendors is inhibited due to the low education levels. The majority of these women tend to be very suspicious about any form of organisation (Hart; 1973) because they do not feel secure with people they feel are more knowledgeable than them; they always think they are ripped off since they cannot follow written documents properly.

4.1.4 Household income

The study also showed that seventy-five (75%) of the women street vendors interviewed earn R500 – R 1000 per month. About thirteen percent (13%) of the women street vendors earn R1500 – R2000 per month. Manning (1996) has commented that although urban earnings are still so low, most street vendors do not want to change their economic activity to other sectors of the economy which offer better earning opportunities. This is largely because of their lack of education and thus skills to survive in the formal economy.

4.1.5 Children and dependants

Since access to childcare is a key variable affecting women ability in the paid economy, thus, this aspect in respect to women street vendors was also investigated. The study in the inner city of Johannesburg shows that more than a third (38%) of the women street vendors interviewed had children below 6 years of age and a few had children below 2 years (25%). The women street vendors with children under six years were asked where the children were living. About fifty percent (50%) said their children were living with them. Some of the women sent their children to live with the grand parents

and other relatives, this was done because the women street vendors wanted time to do their work and for those who had children below 4 years were living with them.

Bedford's study of SEWU (Self-Employed Women Union) members, which was conducted in 1995, showed that forty percent (40%) relied on another family member as caregiver. Children of school going age were sent to live elsewhere. Only forty one percent (41%) of the traders reported that children of school age lived with their parents; fifty-five (55%) said the child lives somewhere else and the rest said the child sometimes lives with them or some body else like relatives and friends.

CASE (1995) also points out:

Families are broken up for economic reasons; women street vendors are unable to sustain the dual responsibilities of economic production and child care simultaneously. While the apartheid labour system has been scrapped, families continue to be separated for economic reasons.(CASE,1995).

4.1.6 Family status

The study also shows that half of the women street vendors (50%) interviewed were head of families or the main breadwinner. A few (about 13%) of the women street vendors were living with their parents. Women street vendors are more likely to be household heads, to be the main breadwinners, and to have other earnings in the household (Bedford; 1995).

Table 2; Goods sold by women street vendors

Goods	Total in number	Percentage
Selling of prepared meals	2	25%
Selling of fruits and vegetables	2	25%
General merchandise	2	25%
Operating private telephone	2	25%
Total	8	100

The study on women street vendors shows in the above table that they were selling a very limited range of goods. Twenty five percent (25%) of women street vendors

interviewed were selling only one vegetable and fruit, twenty five percent(25%) sell prepared meals and general merchandise and a few were selling other types of goods. Therefore the findings in the inner city of Johannesburg shows that the common goods sold by women street vendors were fruits and vegetables (25%), and those providing private phone services were the least at twenty five percent (25%) according to the observation method they looked few. This is in contrast with the characteristics of street vendors in 1970s when the sale of prepared meals, soft goods, fruits and vegetables and miscellaneous curios and handcraft (Beavon and Rogerson; 1982).

The notion of independent and dependent in respect to the goods sold the wholesalers needed to be explored further in this study. Some women street vendors were selling only goods purchased from wholesalers whereas others were selling on commission from the wholesalers. In addition, other women street vendors were employed on a wage basis by the formal sector traders (About 13%). This indicates that the women do not have capital to start up their own business.

4.1.7 Previous work experience and effects of entry into the market

The study showed that most of the women street vendors joined the informal sector (street vending) by need rather than choice. Fifty percent (50%) of the women joined street vending because they were redundant at home and couldn't find job in the formal sector (CASE; 1995). Seventy five percent (75%) of the women street vendors interviewed had either been employed only as domestic workers. Three out of eight had never had steady jobs. Thirteen percent (13%) of the women had housework or family responsibilities. That is possibly, why most of them had to go out and look for any work so that they could earn a living and look after their children and families.

4.1.8 Working hours

The study shows that the women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg work long hours and usually an average of 9 hours a day except Sunday. The women street vendors have differences in the trading hours between traders selling different products, (Lund; 1998). Seventy-five (75%) of the women street vendors interviewed

work only from Monday up to Saturday and a few work only on Sundays 13%. The busiest months of the years are around the major holiday seasons of Christmas and Easter. The number of hours worked by women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg is an average of 10 hours a day, except Sunday (Jennings *et al* 1995). The busiest day of the week is Friday because that is when most of the people shop a lot of grocery for the weekend.

While most of the respondents reported to work at 8:00am and left at 6: 00pm, a few of them left work at about 7:00pm. Several other South African studies show that street vendors work for long hours and rarely observe the regular working hours throughout the year (Lund; 1998.). The respondents said that the busiest time of the day is 4:00pm onwards when commuters are from work. This applied more to the vegetable and fruit sellers and those selling general merchandise. For the food sellers the busiest time was from 11:00am to 3:00pm because that is when the people are free and go to have their lunch during that time.

4.1.9 Access to infrastructure

The study shows that women street vendors' lack of access to infrastructure is one of the causes of problems and challenges they experience. In particular shelter against the sun and rain features consistently as priority, as do water, access to storage facilities and sanitation (Skinner; 1999). With regard to shelter in the inner city Johannesburg, only 38% of the women vendors had covered stalls. The majority (63%) of the women street vendors interviewed did not have water, electricity or refuse removal and nearly six out of eight (75%) did have access to toilets which has contributed to a dirty atmosphere in the inner city of Johannesburg.

Most the municipality officials mentioned that leadership of hawkers and street vendors was not fragmented any longer and would want to work with the councils and municipality officials to address their issues and problems. The study also found out that the municipality officials mentioned street vendors no longer litter many dirty things on the streets. The economic development officer mentioned that most the

street vendors require services like shelters, followed by a need for toilets, water, storage facilities.

4.2 Costs of sites

There was a misconception that women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg do not pay for the trading space. The study shows that women street vendors in many places pay for permits/trading space, which constitutes revenue to the local government except in Hillbrow Street vendors were not paying for their trading sites. The reason could probably be that the government is trying to promote street vending as an activity. Table 3 shows that the amount paid for the trading spaces vary according to the study from the municipality officials.

Table 3: Monthly trading charges

Exact area	Amount per month
Doornfontein	R 40 R 100
Hillbrow	R 30 – R 120 (Most do not pay)
Yeoville	R 75 R 130
Joubert park	R 40 R 150

The introduction of permits has not been accompanied by an improvement in infrastructure to provide for traders- shelter, toilet and storage facilities. Further, as far as permit charges are concerned poorer women pay R30 according to size of space, which may be ten percent (10%) of her income daily, and for some women earning R1500 per months it may be about two percent (2%). Women street vendors pay the permit or trading space fee because it gives them security over their sites (Skinner; 1999).

4.3 Policies and By laws

The study about women street vendors showed that seventy five percent (75%) understand and know the street trading By laws. These By laws include ensuring the movements of safety and services are not restricted, limiting the attachment of street vending equipment to fire hydrants, buildings, roads signs, which the public needs to see and have access, and also ensuring that trader keep their sites clean. Fifty percent (50%) of the women were handled with street wise booklets which are written in English and the local languages about the street trading by laws and Regulations for the city of Johannesburg, which implies that the municipality wanted the street vendors to read them and understand so that they could help them avoid harassment by the metro police. Also workshops are organised by the Johannesburg municipality to inform the women about the policies and street trading by laws. At least three to four workshops were organised in a year according to the economic development officer of the city of Johannesburg.

4.4 Socio- Economic Challenges

The study in the inner city Johannesburg shows that (63%) of the women street vendors had family related problems such as facing abusive husbands upon returning late at home from work. The majority of the women (75%) interviewed were getting their start up capital from the saving scheme. The metro police treated also 50% of the women badly after confiscating their goods. This is mainly because according to the municipality manager of the metro trading company, these vendors keep on breaking the laws. By laws commonly broken, include cleanliness and obstruction pedestrians in the city are one of most violated By-laws. Seventy-five percent (75%) paid a fine of R300 – R700 to get their goods back. City of Johannesburg (2002) suggests street vendors should be given 48 hours notice so that they can get time to vacate their sites before any action is taken against them.

One of the women street vendors was quoted saying;

*"When the metro police want to confiscate our goods, it goes around with
The truck and forcibly removes us from the streets by beating us and we
End up running away leaving our goods behind,"*

This partly explains why the street vendors objected to pay for their sites because there are sometimes removed even when they pay for there sites. Those vendors whose goods are impounded are however, given a receipt that itemises confiscated goods (City of Johannesburg; 2002).

The economic development officials in the municipality of Johannesburg particularly the one dealing with street vendors mentioned the establishment of markets with differing services and infra structures basing on the affordability of vendors by the year 2030. All four municipality officers with the facilitation and interventions which are to be put in place by the local government intended to support the women street vendors by providing more shelter, electricity, water, and toilets. Lund (2004) also reports this in his study on the women street traders in urban South Africa. The municipality officials also anticipated to re-examine the system of the confiscation of goods during the bylaws enforcement. In addition, the municipality official working in the economic development unit mentioned the following support, which they intend to give the street vendors that, is the awareness of the street by laws and providing proper infrastructure should be allocated to the street vendors by the year 2030. Also private sector markets need to be developed these may play a prominent role.

4.5 Organised Street Vending Formations

The study shows that only twenty five percent (25%) of the traders interviewed belonged to the two associations such as Johannesburg inner city association and IBF (Yoeville and Hillbrow Street vendors and hawkers organisation). The majority of those who belonged to the organisation were new members who had joined the trade in the last two to three years. Those who belonged to the organisation are older black South African who tend to have lower level of education with only fifty percent (50%) of them having attained primary school. Very few foreigners belonged to the organisations

because it was found out in the study that most of the organisation joining needed only citizens of South African.

They are different organisations in the inner city of Johannesburg as already mentioned include Johannesburg inner city association and IBF (Informal Business Forum) which is composed of Yoeville street vendors association and Hillbrow street vendors association. Most of the organisations have leadership, which is mostly dominated by men. Thirty eight percent of the women joined the organizations to share problems with others was the most important benefit of membership. Again drawing from the inner city of Johannesburg sixty-three (63%) of the women did not join the organisation because they were not well knowledgeable of any organisation in the inner city of Johannesburg.

4.6 Municipality responses to Socio–economic challenges

Addressing the question women getting any support from the municipality the research found out the following;

It was indicated by the municipality official that the city of Johannesburg will assist the street vendors in the following ways; more stalls will be provided to the vendors, monthly fee will be reduced depending on the size of stall and goods. In addition, the fine, which was charged after the confiscation of the goods, will be reduced and these goods will be returned to the owners without any harm.

Also it was found that after the city of Johannesburg has confiscated the street vendors goods imposed fines which has to be paid in order for them to get them back and for those who did not have there good were kept in store.

The city of Johannesburg provided approved sites to the majority street vendors especially those ones who have licenses. These streets are charged according to the space occupied by their goods and size of stalls. The charges start from R40 to R 150 per months.

4.7 Summary and conclusion

The study identifies the socio-economic challenges of women street vendors. Only women in the inner city Johannesburg as already indicated were interviewed and majority fell under the age group of 30 to 35 years.

The study also established that most of the women were rural – urban migrants. Most of them moved to Johannesburg in search of better employment and survival.

The study also revealed that most of the women street vendors had low levels of education and of those; the majority (38%) had not gone beyond secondary level (Grade 6).

It was observed that the majority of the women were independent workers. It was found out that the majority of these women had dependants and therefore extensive familiar obligation like looking after their children and relatives.

The study further looked at the government policies and By laws and found out that the majority of the women street vendors were not aware and comfortable with the current street vendor policies and wanted the government to change them. Also this is reported in the by Lund (1998) in his study about women street traders in urban South Africa

The findings also indicated that women had various appeals to government and majority of them proposed government should relocate them to proper stalls or markets, which are more viable for earning a livelihood. They wanted the government to consult them when drawing up by laws and policies. They also indicated that trading spaces and sites allocated to them need to be expanded because they were too small. A few of them were however of the view that government cannot do anything more to assist them. The report on city of Johannesburg about the rise and rise of hawking in the city, which was done in 2002 also, talks about the same.

CHAPTER FIVE

INTERPRETATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

5.0 Introduction

The chapter involves analysing and interpreting data obtained from questionnaires containing information obtained from women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg and Johannesburg municipality officials. This was done by looking at the patterns of answers given by the respondents and converting these into percentages from which conclusions could be made. It begins with an analysis of factors that affect entry of women into street vending in the inner city of Johannesburg. It then endeavors to answer all the questions raised in chapter one and two especially the social and economic challenges and suggest ways of dealing with them. It also touches on issues where women street vendors require government intervention and help. Also, the analysis of information and policies by Johannesburg municipal officials and possible interventions is also discussed. This chapter concludes with a short summary and discussion on the situation of women street vendors and their challenges.

5.1 Factors affecting women entry into street vending

Sixty five percent (65%) of the women vendors were previously employed in largely low paying jobs and twenty five percent (25%) of them mainly as domestic workers before joining street vending according to this study as conducted in the inner city of Johannesburg. This could have been because they had no other skills due to there low education levels as elaborated later in this chapter and thus could not find other jobs and street vending was the only way to earn a living. Hlatshwayo (2002) argues that this situation is understandable and can be attributed to the current economic reality in South Africa where the economy barely creates enough new jobs.

Other than low education levels, South African high rate of landlessness among the rural people is also a very strong push factor towards seeking informal employment in the urban areas (Lund; 1998). Thus, most of the women interviewed might have

reasoned that street vending was the only way they to be employed since most of them arrive in the city from the rural areas without any formal skills and become redundant at home with relatives in urban areas with no jobs. This leaves street vending as one of the few options left for them to earn some income since most of them were illiterate as elaborated later in the study.

The study further found out that twenty five percent (25%) of the women interviewed had previously been employed as domestic workers and a few of them had never been employed. Their bosses treated them badly and they joined street vending because it offered more independence, power and flexibility. Thus, the need to fulfill family responsibilities led them out to go out and find jobs so that they could earn living and look after their families. Women are often breadwinners in there household and they are usually involved in income generating activities of which informal trading is a one of the preferred options.

The study also discovered the previous working patterns of most of the women interviewed in the study. It was found out that most (63%) of the women worked for 2 to 3 years in their previous jobs and only a few of them worked for one year. Lund (1998) points out low income, job boredom and a lack of self-fulfillment may be factors that led them to start their own street vending businesses. Thus, most of the women joined street vending because it offered more independence, power and flexibility. In this case women street vendors proved that their satisfied by being independent and making an honest living through there own initiatives and creativity.

5.2 Goods, trade structures, vendor groupings and trade patterns

The study on women street vendors also analysed the nature of good sold, trading structures and general trade activities. It was discovered that thirty eight percent (38%) of the women sold vegetables and fruits, others operated public phones and twenty five percent sold cooked food on the streets. A lot of fruits and vegetables were mainly sold on the streets possibly because many people tend to snack on fruit, they are low cost goods and many inner city flat dwellers find it easier to buy from these vendors other than traveling to the supermarkets in suburban malls.

On whether they had any shelter in which to carry out their businesses, the study found out that most had some kind of shade structures and a few of them were displaying their goods on tables and others display their goods down on the ground over mats or gunny bags without any shades. Others construct temporary shades with stands for displaying their goods as Mitullah says in his thesis of 2003 about street vendors. The researcher concluded that most of the women street vendors don't have trade structures and couldn't afford to pay for the few stalls availed by the municipality and that's the reason why most of them operate in open pavement areas and display their goods on the ground.

The vast majority (88%) of the Women Street vendors interviewed were independent workers and very few (13%) of them employed any form of help or were employed by a third party. This probably was that women were earning very little and could not afford to hire any third parties to help them in their trade activities. This means that when they fall sick all have family problems, they often have to close their businesses. Their relatives and siblings however assisted a few of them in trading. Most of the respondents did not produce the goods they were selling but they purchased them from well-established and known individual suppliers. The reason for this is that most the women lack capital and land to produce their own goods. A few of the goods were purchased from the big wholesale store.

Twenty five percent (25%) of the women who were interviewed formally belonged to Hillbrow and Yoevile Street vendors' organization. Some claimed that people were not cooperative and others were not interested in joining the organizations due to time constraints and competition to join the organization. With reference ILO (2003), it can be argued the vendors believe that belonging to an organisation is largely seen as more problematic than beneficial in the informal sector.

5.3 Problems faced by street vendors

As a major purpose of the study, it was also set out to find the problems that women street vendors confronted in their everyday business activities. Some respondents were asked about mitigating factors that led them to street vending and it was found out that most of the 63% women joined street vending because they had families to look after, financial problems, had no formal skills and that street vending was the only way they could earn a living as already discussed. Many women were redundant at home and street vending was the only way they to be employed since they were not skilled due to low education levels. Mitullah (2003) in his study about street vending came up with the similar arguments about the factors that lead women to do street vending as already elaborated.

According to the respondents in the study, 88% of the women street vendors juggle their multiple responsibilities and face a lot of the domestic, social, and economic and community roles, issues and problems. Naidoo gives a very good idea of how women have to integrate household responsibilities with street vending, and how household are run when most men are at leisure (Naidoo; 1993). Other studies as one undertaken by Skinner (1999) also mentions the difficulty women face in securing access to a good site if they arrive late because of household responsibilities. Among the myriad of problems these women street vendors face according to this study include the following.

5.3.1 Police, local government harassment and financial implications

The majority (68%) of the respondents who were interviewed revealed that the municipality officials through their law enforcement agencies continually tend to harass them, and they complained about the harsh treatment. This does not reflect well on the local government and it ought to be addressed. The confiscation of the goods has very significant financial implications on the traders. The researcher asked the respondents how much they pay and they revealed that they pay the city of Johannesburg municipality permit charges for trading space ranging from R40 to R140 per annum.

Despite the payment, the vendors still get harassed, they loose out on income and with the low sales volumes, and they even sometimes fail to get money for transport as the following indicates. Two women were quoted as saying;

"We spend the whole day without selling anything yet we have to travel everyday to our homes. If we do not sell anything, we have to borrow Money from our friends for transport and paying back is always a problem."

Confiscation of goods is likely to have particularly significant implication for survivalist traders. Poorer traders frequently point out what a major setback this can be. The street vendors who operate from the Joubert Park said that when their goods were confiscated it took them a long time to save enough money to build up their businesses to the same position again. Women, who are disproportionately represented at the poorer end of the sector, are likely to be more negatively affected as reported by Skinner (1999), one street vendor was quoted saying;

"Once I fought with the metro police for confiscating my goods and they broke my finger."

It was found out in the study that most women vendors whose goods were confiscated by the Johannesburg metro police were not warned beforehand which subjected them to illegal raids and often using excessive force in arresting them and impounding their goods. The researcher concluded that women street vendors need to be given notice to vacate their sites before any action is taken against them rather than arresting them without being informed.

5.3.2 Lack of education and business skills

Another constraint that was reported is low education levels and thus limited business skills, which is one of the most important problems these traders face. Education is one of the most important aspects necessary for the success in any business venture and this also hold true in the informal sector and lack of it is a serious handicap (Afahar;

1991). From the study, the biggest number of respondents did not attain an education above grade 6 (Secondary). It further indicates that there was no respondent who reached tertiary level (University).

The education problem among the women vendors is compounded by the traditional culture characteristics, which tend to favor the boy child against the girl. Boys thus tend to gain a higher level of education than the girl counterparts (Regina; 1985). This further perpetuates the problem ensuring a steady flow of uneducated women remaining and trading on the already congested streets as vendors.

This partly explains why there are far greater numbers of women working as street vendors than men. Denad (2003) in his presentation about informal traders, which was conducted in the city of Johannesburg in 2003 mentions that their 51% women and 49% men working as street vendors, however other factors like early pregnancies and lack of school fees couldn't be, ruled out. Regina further confirms that majority of people employed in the informal sector/street vending are women. The researcher concluded that the education of girl child should be considered to be of utmost importance if the street vending to be made vibrant and organised.

5.3.3 Health and sanitary problems

Another constraint affecting women street vendors is congestion that characterises the working environment, this was observed by the researcher on especially Wanderers and De Vlliers Street in Joubert Park where there is severe congestion. This makes the working conditions in this market very harsh and unhealthy. Thus, there is a prevalence of many ailments among them ranging from flu, to diarrhea, and tuberculosis. This severely limits the working days since they are always bed ridden and unable to work thus affecting negatively on their incomes.

Lack of adequate sanitary conditions for the women also pose a major problem. Since their working areas are not clearly demarcated by the municipality authorities, there is hardly any allocation for toilets. The few public toilets around the inner city of Johannesburg can hardly cater for the population. Four (4) respondents reported that

the inner city has few public toilets for public to use. This leads to the appalling sanitary conditions in the inner city. A number of respondents complained of the garbage that is usually used to dump any wastes like human urine yet there some women who sell the cooked food around this garbage. This could probably result into a lower number of customers and it does not encourage them to flock the inner city due to the dirty waste, which is dumped, on streets in fear of diarrhea and other diseases.

In this study, the researcher observed that a barber performs his business next to a cooked food vendor, a medicine man sits next to a vendor selling the latest rat and cockroach poison, a food seller serves customers next to garbage. The sheer variety and number of these informal businesses in the inner city do not help this situation. However, the metropolitan trading company and all the stakeholders in the city should deal with this by developing the city so that they can construct more markets for the street vendors and demarcate them into different trading areas for different goods and services for proper hygiene.

The poor sanitation also led to health inspectors ban-bringing kids to work with their mothers. A number of respondents revealed that since the majority cannot afford housekeepers, this becomes a serious problem. Most of them end up leaving their kids with neighbors and relatives, some just leave them home alone and those who insist and come with them are the smallest minority. This probably could lead to unwanted distractions at work and short working hours for those who leave the kids at home, which ultimately affects negatively on their business.

5.3.4 Crime and security problems

Many women especially those working from the Central Business District (CBD) revealed that crime is one of their major concern. A number of studies cite crime as one of the most concerns of street vendors, which is a reflection of the high rates of crime and violence in South Africa (Lund; 1998). Crime was rated as the greatest and highest concern among the problems faced by women street vendors in Manning (1996), Mbona (1997) and Nair (1996) studies. Most of the women interviewed in this study had been exposed to dangerous life threatening situations in the previous years while

at work and one in ten had been assaulted according to a study by Jennings *et al.* (1995).

Crime and violence affect women in different ways, women are more vulnerable and may retreat rather than respond aggressively (Budlender; 1994). As observed by the researcher, Women on De Villier's and Wanderers Street in the Joubert Park were closing their businesses early on Friday. Crime could perhaps be the reason why they close so early because the women street vendors fear to be harassed by drunken men and also gangsters from robbing their cell phones and the little money, which they earn for a day. The women vulnerability to sex assaults is also noted in many of the South African studies such as Nair (1996), Naidoo, Nyman and Caga(1996).

5.4. The major social challenges

A host of family based challenges confronts the women, from having to look after small babies in such harsh conditions to having to cater for a big number of dependants at home. Thirty eight percent (38%) of the women street vendors who are married face their harsh husbands when they retire late in the evening. These women are expected to perform the normal duties of a wife despite their tiredness. As stated by Moses (1992) women tend to get physically and mentally exhausted after a few years of responsibility for a large number of dependants.

According to the study the majority 50% (refer to tab. 1) of the respondents were single parents thus compounding their responsibilities. Furthermore, those who had husbands were either separated or their husbands were jobless. Gerdes (1987) states "employed women are confronted by the problems of how to achieve a balance between satisfying their own needs and those of their family. The problem is likely to be most acute in cases of mothers of young children and single parents. The researcher managed to interact with one respondent a thirty-year-old woman had the following story to tell;

"I would like to approach the South African women lawyers' organisation for advice and assistance. My husband has other two other wives all with children. Recently he was

laid off from work. I am the only one with business now (selling general merchandise). Those other women have children going to school and my husband keeps on coming to take money from me to pay their school fees. Why should I continue to suffer like this? On top of that, he does not tell them to use family planning. I have had enough and I have to do something.”

The above case is one among the women who have harsh husbands who do not make their work easier; they tend to their wives get back home as early as possible. This tends to limit their working hours thus affecting their earnings and income.

5.5 Environmental challenges

Most (50%) of the women revealed that they work in a poor environmental conditions and are exposed to the elements (in South Africa there are extremes of heat and cold), with a general poor access of water, sanitation refuse removal and with poor working structures and equipments such as chairs and tables (Lund;1998).

Thirty eight percent (38%) of the women who didn't have shelter or a shaded structure reported that during the rainy season they close down their business and seek shelter somewhere they resume work after the rain has stopped. Others reported that they use plastic bags and boxes to cover their goods in case of any bad weather. A few of them revealed that during the winter season some of them report late at work that affects their earning. Other respondents revealed that during the sunny days they cannot use any cover and are expected to work in the sun because they are not allowed to use the umbrella by the urban authorities. Therefore, this seems to be extremely unfair policy by the municipal authorities and there is need to involve the street vendors in making decision, which will ensure an enabling environment in empowering this disadvantaged group.

5.6 Major economic challenges

The study also revealed that 88% of the respondents have no access to formal finance and largely rely on their own savings and finances from relatives and friends. Thus raising capital and expanding businesses by women are severely restricted which negatively impacts on their incomes and ability to gain a sustainable livelihood from their trade.

Many women revealed that the only support they get from the authorities was the shade structures which they expected to pay for at the end of the month. A few of the respondents 25% got free storage where to keep their goods after they have finished working in the evening this was reported in Yoeville. This is iniquitous for the street vendors who were conducting their business from Hillbrow and Joubert Park because they complained of not being provided with stores where to keep their goods which was expensive and not secure carrying them home everyday.

Another economic challenge according to the study was that many sixty three percent (63%) of the women closed their businesses in case of a family problem or other social issues, any sickness, and a few 38% of them left their relatives to run the business. From the study, it indicated that it was very expensive to hire employees. This, further negatively affect the revenues that they earn from their businesses.

The study also revealed that majority of the women who didn't have a shade structure and who trade in unauthorized spaces tend to have their goods confiscated by the metro police. Most of these women vendors work in a hostile environment without basic infrastructure and services face harassments, including beating and confiscating of goods by the urban authorities such as the Johannesburg metro police (Mitullah:2003). This further indicates that confiscation of goods is likely to have particularly significant implication for the survivalist traders with low capital to run their business.

The researcher also found out that urban authorities demanded a fine of R 300 to R750 from the women street vendors who get their goods confiscated. For those women who had goods less than R 600 capital would not get their goods back instead they would

look for the money to start up another business. For instance a group of traders who operated in the Joubert Park said that when their goods were confiscated it took them a long time to save enough money to build up their business to the same position again.

Berry et.al (2002) found in their research that the government support programs have had a bad reputation as government is perceived as a bad service provider and is not trusted. However, some street vendors did not know what a government was it would appear that they think that most business support are bad because of the confiscation of their goods by the Johannesburg metro police. This is unfortunate for government, as it does not really provide business support services directly. This compounds their financial situation thus making their economic situation very precarious.

The women street vendors need to be warned before their goods are confiscated; the policy says that local government must help street vendors with business instead of hindering them. For example Eastern Cape, the street vendors By – laws state before goods are confiscated, the officials have to give the street vendors warning in writing and the content of the warning has to be verbally explained to the vendors (Skinner; 1999).

5.7 Bad debtors and related financial problems

Many women also revealed that they face problems with bad debtors. There people who borrow or take commodities and never come back to pay. The researcher quoted one respondent selling raw food saying;

" I always give credit to my customers but they sometimes take one to three weeks to pay, yet I have little capital for my business, i also get goods on credit sometimes but I end up not working because I find I don't have money to buy more stock."

The researcher also found out that the problem of bad debtors was common especially with the women who sell prepared meals who in order to avoid ripening and decaying of food tend to give a lot of credit. They lamented that in there business, most of

payments are installments, customers order for food and promise to pay at month end and they sometimes refuse. However, the researcher concluded that rampant poverty in the country could probably attribute to the bad debtors. since most of the people do not earn enough money to sustain them or are just wage earners with no permanent jobs.

5.8 Organisations needs and support

The study ought to provide information that can be used to ameliorate some of the adverse challenges affecting women street vendors. The researcher found out that the women street vendors wanted the government to assist them more effectively in a number of areas as follows.

This could therefore have varied responses the government should give them credit facilities because their major constraint is inadequate capital. Women lack capital to inject in their businesses because it is cited as the most critical problem facing them.

The government should also reduce the permit charges for the trading space in the informal sector so that the women street vendors can raise more profits from their businesses due to the small nature of their businesses, they ought to pay little or no permit charge to the municipality authorities. .

Mitullah (2003) suggests that the inception of programs like CIDA campus in the inner city of Johannesburg to teach business skills may go a long way in alleviating this problem. The municipality official further indicated that development programmes were put in place such as the School of Economic and Business Science (SEBS), University of the Witwatersrand, in conjunction with students in Free enterprise to informal entrepreneurs. This school of economics widely acknowledges that the informal entrepreneurs provide a vital and vibrant contribution to the economic well being of the city therefore they lack fundamental knowledge and skills, which ought to be addressed. This was done probably because they wanted traders to given the necessary capacity to expand their businesses into sustainable and competitive operation not to only stop at being street vendors.

Some of the respondents were however doubtful that the government cannot do anything to assist them given the economic situation in the country. They believe the government cannot do more for them and they have to strive for themselves. Therefore, the local government needs to involve the street vendor's representatives in planning, decision making on issues pertaining their capabilities and recourse constraints. This could be a step closer towards the overall success of street vending since they contribute directly and indirectly to the economy.

5.9 Policies

South Africa still displays lack of awareness of the latest legislations on illegality of street vendors according to Mitullah (2003). For example the By law in areas which were declared restricted by the council in 1999 such as Braamfontein, Constitution hill, Fordsburg, Jeppestown and Newtown t street vendors are not allowed to trade from there. Also Section 6A of the Business Act which however confers on local authorities the power to "make By laws regarding the restriction of carrying on" of street vending, and hawking (City of Johannesburg; 2002) all seem to be in bad taste. This is a fundamental error by the government more especially regarding the fact that there is rampant unemployment by an often poorly educated workforce that sees informal trade as their only way out. Thus, a radical rethink of the government policies towards street vending needs to be implemented. Durban has addressed the plight of street vendors and turned it into a respectable way of earning a living (Skinner; 1999).

5.9.1 Accessibility of by laws to the street vendors

The South African constitution states that municipality By laws must be accessible to the public (South African constitution, section 162 (1), the implication being that local governments are constitutionally obligated to inform affected parties about the By – laws. Once the By-laws have been promulgated, it is important that street vendors know and understand them. For instance, the final clause of Johannesburg By laws states that in any prosecution of a street trader for a contravention of these By-laws, the accused shall be deemed to now the provisions of these By-laws and to know what

the offence with which she is charged is a contravention. Johannesburg By-laws show that information dissemination is very poor and it is serious and urgent to address this in order to protect the vendor's uncertain livelihoods. In the inner-city Johannesburg it was found out that most of the women street vendors were not aware of all the By-laws and a few didn't know them at all.

Street vending By-laws in the form, which they are gazzetted, tend to be very legalistic and wordy (Skinner; 1999). Making them accessible is a challenge. In speaking to street traders about how most effectively the laws can be made more accessible, two issues became clear, it was important that information dissemination occurs in the first language of street vendors and that it is not only in written form, but verbally presented. In the inner city of Johannesburg, it was found out that most women street vendors were far more willing and able to abide by rules that make sense to them. In the inner city of Johannesburg, streetwise booklets about By-laws were produced in three languages. It was found out most of the respondents did not have access to these By-laws booklets although Skinner (1999) reports that these booklets were mass-produced and handed out to traders all over Johannesburg. Due to the easy entry and exit into street vending, the practice of giving out these booklets should be a regular exercise. Rogerson (1996) further argues that policies should be designed with specific groups in mind. Therefore, the street vendors By laws need to be consistently enforced and further regulated.

5.9.2 A lack of consultation with vendors in drawing up By laws

Eighty-eight percent (88%) of the respondent in the inner city of Johannesburg according to the study reported a lack of consultation between the women street vendors and the municipality officials. This important problem needs to be addressed if viable and mutually beneficial policies are to be developed and implemented. Here again, Johannesburg can borrow a leaf from Durban as indicated by Skinner (1999) in his study on informal sectors.

6.1 Policies and By laws

The study endeavored to understand and analyse the current street vending by-laws by questioning two municipality officials at the local level and Councilors to gain an insight into the development and implementation of these laws in the inner city. From these interviews, it was found out that there several stakeholders who all have a say in the development of these policies that affect street vendors in the city of Johannesburg, which include the following.

The municipality official mentioned the following as the key street stakeholders in the city of Johannesburg and these include the city utilities bodies, metro trading company, economic development unit, Johannesburg Property Company, local government development agencies such as Johannesburg Development Agencies and Blue IQ. Corporate agencies such as Johannesburg Water and City Power, various Gauteng provincial departments such as public works, housing and water affairs and other public forces and companies such as Telkom, Sasol, Rand water, Egoli gas, Transnet construction companies and property developers as well as vendors themselves and motorists. All these stakeholders were said by the municipality officials to be invariably affected by the breaking of the bylaws by the street vendors.

It was indicated by the municipality officials that the violations of the street vendor By-laws tend to affect all the stakeholders and thus they need to be upheld. The By-laws in the inner of city Johannesburg mainly affected the general cleanliness in the city dumping of the rubbish on the streets is still a major problem, some of the women who sell prepared food do not operate under the health act, which prohibits them from cooking in open space. In addition, the street vendors violate the Business Act by operating in certain parts of the city, which are restricted to informal trading. A few of the municipality officers mentioned that the street vendors violate By laws such as impeding of pedestrian movements especially in the CBD of Johannesburg and displaying of their goods on buildings without the permission from owners. Therefore, the city needs to be vibrantly developed so that it can build more private markets, which may play a prominent role in keeping it clean and more organised.

Most of the municipality officials stated that Street vending was conceived and implemented in the city of Johannesburg as legal for those who have trading licenses, which gives vendors legal status by amending, enacting, repealing and implementing appropriate laws and policies. Street vendors must be made as a role in distribution, which implies that special components of urban development plans by treating them as integral and legitimate part of the urban distribution process.

6.2 Positive interventions to street vending by municipality officials

Most of the municipality officials in the city of Johannesburg mentioned the following interventions, which are appropriate in improving the plight of street vendors. Combating crime and prevention, it was one of the major interventions. This has been done by the installation of cameras by organizations like Business Against Crime (BAC) and such measures have reduced crime levels in the inner city considerably. Crime as already indicated was a major concern expressed by the disadvantaged women street vendors, business and residents in the inner city of Johannesburg. The city of Johannesburg will embark on establishing markets for street vendors so that they can be removed from the streets and are put in the new demarcated markets. It will also ensure legal and controlled street trade in the inner city and help prevent congestion. The Metropolitan Trading Company (MTC) was established to develop and maintain markets and provide infrastructure for informal traders (City of Johannesburg; 2002). The General Manager of Metro Trading Company MTC was quoted as saying that;

“Once completed, market in the city will have capacity to accommodate between 3000 and 4000 traders.”

The reason for providing the market trading facilities was to move traders from the streets to demarcated structures and thus improved conditions for the traders. This will increase the service for clients because on the streets, the vendors have no security of tenures and the infrastructure is either poor or non-existent. In the long term, it was anticipated by the city authorities that most the traders would operate from relatively

Well-equipped markets and only a few will remain on the streets. Therefore, the establishment of these markets could be due to the new development programmes in the city.

Also infrastructure and service development such as waste management and public toilets were to be constructed by the city of Johannesburg and other services like the provision and timely fixing of streetlights to stop and prevent crime in the Joubert Park and Doornfontien. This could probably be addressed by sectoral development as one of the intervention that need to be put in place by the city of Johannesburg to improve street trading because it will make sure that the interests of children and women are catered for. Also, if proper infrastructure is allocated the city of Johannesburg can be made more vibrant and it would attract more people and tourists.

The study that foreign traders are often better-educated (50%) (Refer to tab.1) than their South African counterparts. During the study, the municipality official who is responsible for street vending and hawking in the Johannesburg city was asked about the issues of foreigners because a number of the foreign street vendors have had violent attacks by South African and the situation is particularly acute in Johannesburg this was major problem affecting their businesses. The following were described on how to deal with the foreigner street vendors that getting rid of foreigners is one of the few issues that the formal sector and the informal sector and government appear to agree on. Local government officials recognize this to be difficult to achieve. Their responses however was to give the South African street traders preferences wherever possible.

A municipality official responsible of hawking and street vending in the inner city of Johannesburg said;

“That certainly being a south african was placed near the top list. In cases where foreign street vendors have been excluded south Africans simply hire out their sites to foreigners. Attempting to Control the foreign traders thus seems futile.”

In addition, the study shows that the municipality official in charge of allocating sites is sometimes pressured by councilors to allocate sites and resources. This could perhaps be that the relation of councilors and municipality officials is often difficult, because the councilors do not trust the officials. A Johannesburg municipality official said;

“The politicians are voted for, so they come and go. The municipality Officials have to guide the councilors politicians, so that a degree of Consistency is maintained.”

6.3 Summary and conclusion

The social economic conditions for women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg have improved for some and others it has stayed the same. The study shows that the achievements have been uneven across the four areas of the inner city of Johannesburg where the research was conducted such as Doornfontein, Hillbrow, Yeoville and Joubert Park. For instance in Hillbrow according to the study most of the women street vendors do not pay rent for their trading space and largely work in poorer conditions.

The study in the inner city of Johannesburg shows that street vending is an important source of employment and income, which sustains the women street vendor's families. Women Street vendors work in a hostile environment without basic infrastructure but full of harassment, including beating and confiscation of goods by the Johannesburg metro police. Some of the problems faced by women street vendor include; lack of capital, securing sites of operation, high permit charges trading space, crime, corruption, and confiscation of good by the metro police in the inner city of Johannesburg among others.

Although the women street vendors pay rent for the trading space, to the municipality officials, the officials are not able to deliver the required services like the provision of the stalls, storage facilities, running water to some vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg.

At the policy level the study shows there has been achievement as far as informal sector is concerned because it is recognized both as an integral part of local government responsibility and as an important part of the economic development policy.

Women street vendors have no access to formal finance and largely rely on their own savings and finances from friends and relatives. Security also is a major concern of for women street vendors particularly those working in Joubert Park and Doornfontien. Crime threatens women street vendors, lives and goods, and their customers' lives. This could probably lead to vendors losing their goods to the thieves and con persons especially those who do not have store where to keep them.

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Introduction

The study sought to discern the challenges of women street vendors. This chapter endeavor therefore to present the main research findings and the extent to which the study was able to meet and accomplish the stated research questions. The chapter further constitutes the conclusion, recommendation and shortcoming of the study.

6.1 Conclusion

According to the responses from the study, most of the women street vendors who were interviewed could not access credit facilities due their lack of knowledge about the existence and possible access to them. Thus, they cannot compete effectively with some like some of their sometimes better-learned male counterparts. This could be overcome by encouraging these women to form groups or organisation which can be used to access credit, teaching them managerial skills for management of small business enterprises (Kenneth; 1988).

However, it should be noted that these women working as street vendors make an important contribution to the national economy. Low- income earners living within the city and suburbs find buying stuff from vendors very convenient and the wares sold by these vendors very affordable and are a source for their foodstuff and other essential commodities.

6.2 Recommendations

This research recommends the following steps in order to alleviate the various challenges experienced by the women street vendors.

Having identified major challenges hindering women street vendors several policy, implication and recommendations do emerge. It is through effective mobilisation of the street vendors and addressing the socio - economic ills facing people in this sector that sustainable growing economy can be achieved. Success stories of cities that have taken this route are clearly indicated by the studies done by Skinner (1999).

The Johannesburg city officials should sensitise the street vendors about roadside Street trading policy. Such policies should be formulated with the participation of the vendors. The street vendors should clearly trade from demarcates areas so that there is some form of organization in the working areas other than blocking the street and roads.

Also the street vendors should form better organisations so that they can help them to access finance and also speak with a stronger voice to air out their concerns and problems.

The council should also come up with agreeable fee for the trading space. The street vendors complained of high tariffs for example charges range from R40 to R140 per month depending on the space or size of the stall covered by ones goods. This is quite high yet the women street vendors hardly get any protection from the Johannesburg municipality official.

Provision of adequate sanitary facilities the factor the Johannesburg city authorities should endeavor to provide enough public toilets, which are open free for these vendors and more should be constructed.

The system of confiscation and storage of street vendor's goods should be re-examined. The street vendors should be provided with stores where to keep their goods at a subsidised price or free of charge.

The Johannesburg metro police and the city council should also be told to treat the women street vendors in a humanly way after confiscating the goods so that they are returned to the owners without damage after a reasonable fine has been paid by the offenders. Also this fine should be reduced because the city authorities charge more than the capital of goods that are being confiscated. Fine should be charged according to the goods being confiscated. Street vendors should be given time to vacate their stall without any action taken against them.

A children care centre should be constructed to help cater for the women with kids. This can go a long way in helping them since mothers can carry out their business without any hindrance.

The general hygiene of the market should also be improved if more customers are to be attracted to the CBD or inner city of Johannesburg. Places should be allocated to hygienically similar goods to prevent cross contamination.

The ABET program should continue to sensitizing the about the Adult Education Programme such as CIDA, SEBS School of Economics and Business Science which are put in place to alleviate the low literate rates in the markets. This can be beneficial in helping women learn skill development such as business principles, business acumen, and also on how to improve their hygiene. Such adult education problems have been vital in improving women's welfare world -wide (Arizper; 1989).

There should also be increased government involvement in the matter concerning these women through the responsible of local government. The council should also facilitate the process for the viable traders to access micro financing. Such intervention can help these women form strong groups from which they can collectively access government grants and loans. This can help the women access credit facilities thus helping them achieve higher capital levels and bigger profit margins.

The study shows that the social constraints that street vendors face include lack infrastructure, Business Development and general services such as childcare, storage facilities water and sanitation, refuse and collection and lack of effective organization by the vendors. These issues should be addressed by all stakeholders with the government playing the role of partner and facilitator.

6.3 Limitations of the study

The researcher interviewed eight street vendors, four municipal officials and two chairpersons of the street vendor's organization of Yoeville and Hillbrow so the results may not be a representative of the entire women street vendors, municipality officials and street vendor's organisations in the inner city Johannesburg population. The sample size was fourteen (14), which is too small compared the population of women working as street vendor's municipality officials and street vendors organisations. This was due to inadequate time and funds to cover a larger sample number.

Also, the study concentrated more on women whereas men are also involved in these activities. Therefore, a future researcher must look at the whole street vendor's population including men.

Finally, there is need to analyse what government, Non Governmental Organisation (NGOs) and the community have done to assist the women street vendors as this could help in knowing how much these problems are being taken seriously and attended to.

REFERENCES

Afahar.H. (1991) Women, Development and survival in the Third World. New York: longman Inc.

Arizper, L. (1989) Women in the Informal Sectors; A Case Study of Mexico City, (Chichago USA)

Arora, R.K. (1992) Politic and Administration in Changing Societies: Essays in Honor of Professor Fred .W. Riggs. New Delhi: Associated pub. House.

Banugire, F.R. (1992) Class Struggle, Clan Politics, and The Magendo Economy, Uganda: MAWAZO vol.6.

Bedford, L. (1995) The Self Employment Women's Union Survey: Members and their situation. Durban:Independent Development Research.

Bendeman, H.(1994) " Women in the Public Service – Employment conditions," in *South African Women Today*, Lessing , M. (ed.), Cape Town: Maskew Miller Longman.

Berry. A., Von Blottniz.M., Cassim, R., Kesper, A. Rajaratnam, B., and Van Seventer. D.E. (2002) "The Economics of SMME in South Africa", Johannesburg'; Trade and Industrial Policy Secretarial.

Bhorat,H. and Hodge,J. (1999) " Decomposing Shifts in Labor Demand in South Africa." The South African Journal of Economics 67.

Bryman, A. (1992) Research Methods and Organization Studies, London: Routledge.

Bryman, A., Bresnen, M., Beardsworth, A., and Keil, T. (1988) Qualitative Research and the Study of Leadership. London: Institute of Human Relations.

Bryson, J.R. (1990) The Property Industry,, Geography, 75.

Bryson J. R. (1991) Office Development and Regional City; Process, Interest and Organisation. Unpublished PhD Thesis University of Leicester.

Budlender,D. (1998) The Third World Women's Budget. Cape Town: Institute for Democracy in South Africa.

Carr, W.J.P. (1990) Soweto: Its Creation, Life and Decline. Johannesburg Race Relations.

CASE, Jennings, R., Senegal, K., Hirschowitz,R., and Orkin,M. (1995) Our Daily Bread ; Earning a Living on The Pavement of Johannesburg.

Chipkin, C. (1993) Johannesburg Style Architecture and Society: 1880s-1964. Cape Town: in H. Judis and Ivladislovic. The Transformation of Johannesburg: Rotterdam NAI Publishers.

City of Johannesburg, (2002) IGOLI 2030 Johannesburg: retrieved October 12 2005 from <http://www.jobourg> 2030/article.

Crankshaw, O. (1997) "Challenging the Myths, Johannesburg: Inner City Residents Housing Usage and Attitudes" Report Prepared for Inner city Housing Update Trust.

Cross, C.J and Balkin,S. (2000) Street trading form Apartheid to Post – Apartheid : *More birds in the Cornfield?* Published in the International Journal of Sociology and Social policy.

Daniel, G. (1997, Nov.10) "Old Boys Rules The Roost", The Johannesburg Star,pp.11.

Dauskardt, R. (1991) "Urban Herbalism'- the Restructuring of Informal Survival in Johannesburg" in Preston- Whyte, and C. Rogerson, 1991. South Africa's Informal Economy. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Denad.S. (2003) Informal Trading in the city of Johannesburg, unpublished.

Dewar, D. (1984) Urban Poverty and City Development. Architecture South Africa. Vol. March / April. Vol. 2 May / June. Vol. 3 July / August.

Dewar, D and Watson.V. (1981) Unemployed and The Informal Sector: Some Proposals, Urban Problems Research Unit, University of Cape Town.

Fadane, N. (1998) 'Women Street Vendors and Housing in Durban, in Larsson.,A. M., Mapetla and A., chlyter (eds): Changing gender relation in South Africa's informal economy. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Ferreira, M. and Puth.,G. (1988) "Focus Group Interviewing," in Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods, Ferreira et al (editors). Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council.

Gerdes, L. (1987) "Women's Life Stages and Their Influence on Working Patterns" in *The Work Situation of south African Women*, Hirshowtiz , R. and Cilliers,G. Pretoria: HSRC.

Halfani, M. (1996) "Marginality and Dynamism: Prospect for the Sub-Saharan African City." in, Cohen, M.A, J.S. Ruble, and A.M Garland, Editor, Preparing for The Urban Future.

Haysom. (2005) South African Constitution Law the Bill of Rights. Durban: LexisNexis Butterworth 1 vol. loose leaf.

Hart. L. (1973) Informal income opportunities and urban employment in Ghana. Journal of modern African studies. Vol. 12 number 1.

Harvey, D. (1978) Planning the Ideology of Planning Theory in the 1980,s, New Jersey Centre for Urban Policy Research.

Harvey, D. (1978) The urban process under capitalism. International Journal of Urban and Regional Research.

Hlatshwayo, R.L. (2002) Management Skills in the Development of Small Enterprises ; Johannesburg: Research Report Published by the University of the Witwatersrand.

Hurst , D.K. (2002) Crisis and Renewal: Meeting the Challenge of Organizational Change: Boston, mass: Harvard Business School press.

ILO report, (2003) Street Traders and their Organisations in South Africa, Switzerland: English PDF file, Geneva.

ILO report, (1991) Women in Informal Sectors in Developing Countries. Gender and Population, The Adjustment of African Economies vol.19.

Johannesburg, (2001, March 9). Retrieved November 26, 2004, from <http://zambezi.ru/en/?/en/03/01>.

Johannesburg, (2004, August 13). Retrieved November 26, 2004 from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannesburg>.

Keneth. K.L. (1988) Training for the Urban Informal Sector in Developing Countries. Issues of modern African studies; Vo.12 number 1.

La Hausse, P. (1984) "The Struggle for the City: Alcohol and Emasheni and Popular Culture Durban, 1902-1936." Unpublished MA Thesis, University of Cape Town.

Leedy, P.D and Ormrod, J.E. (2001) Practical Research: Planning and Design. New Jersey: Merrill Prentice Hall. (Seventh edition).

Lubell. H. (1991) The Informal Sectors in the 1980s and 1990s Paris Development Center of OECD in Amin Nevel (2002) International Labor Organisation.

Lund, F. (1998a) Women Street Traders in Urban South Africa: A Synthesis of Selected Research Findings, Centre for Social and Development Studies Report no. 15

Lund, F. (2002) Social Security and The Changing Labour Market: Access for Non Standard and Informal Workers in South Africa, Social Dynamics, Vol. 28.

Lund, F. (2004) Livelihoods (Un) employment and Social Safety Nets: reflections from Recent studies in KwaZulu-Natal, Southern African Regional Poverty Network.

Lund .F. (1998b) Women Street Traders In The Urban South Africa: A Synthesis of Selected Research Findings, School of Development Studies (incorporating CSDS) University of Natal Durban.

Lund. F, and Skinner, C. (2003) The Investment Climate for The Informal Economy: A Case of Durban, South Africa. School for Development University of Natal.

Manning, C. (1996, February) Women in Micro-enterprises in Kwazulu-Natal – Avenues for Tertiary Institutions' Interventions: a feasibility study for Ford Foundation and University of Natal. Unpublished mimeo

Markewicz English and Associates, (1997) Inner city Market Study, Durban: Status quo report.

Massingue.O.F.(1999) Managing Inner City Renewal in Western Joubert Park, Johannesburg. University the Witswatersrand, Faculty of Management, Johannesburg.

Maylam. P. and Edwards, L. (1996) African Life in Twentieth Century Durban. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press.

Mitullah, V.W. (2003) Street Vending in African Cities: A Synthesis of Empirical Findings from Kenya, Cote D' Ivories, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Uganda and South Africa. Journal of University of Nairobi Institute for Development Studies.

Morris, A. (1999) Bleakness and Light: Inner city Transition in Hillbrow. Johannesburg: Witwatersrand University Press.

Muyingo.P. (1999) Problems of Informal Trading. Unpublished Thesis. Makerere University.

Naidoo.R. Nyman,R. and Caga . X. (1996) Starting Early; A child Care Provision Framework for workers. Johannesburg: NALEDI.

Nair. Y. (1996) Women and Survival; Trading in Crafts and Curious at Durban Beach Front. University of Natal, Masters Thesis.

Oram,N. (1965) Towns in Africa, Publisher London: OUP

O'Sullivan, E and Rassel, G. (1989) Research Methods for Public Administrators. New York: Longman.

Pirow, P.C. (1988) Excellence in Information Systems, Walkerville; Woodacres Publishers. ISBN 0 620 11769 9.

Pirow, P.C. (1993) A Guide for Management Research , Walkerville: woodacres Publishers. ISBN 0 620 17088 3.

Preston-whyte, and Rogerson, C.M. (1991) South African Informal Economy. Cape Town : Oxford University Press.

Redclif .N. and Mingione.E. (1985) Beyond Employment; Household, Gender and Subsistence. Cowley road Oxford ox4. UK Basil black Well Ltd.

Regina . T. (1985) A Struggle between Males and Females in Rural Development. London: UK Heinemann.

Reid .M.A. (1997) Training Interventions: Managing Employee Development . London Institute of Personnel and Development. (Fifth edition).

Republic of South Africa, (2000): Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000, Government Gazette, Capetown: No. 21776, Act 32 of 2000.

Republic of South Africa, (1998): Local Government: Municipal Structures Act No. 117. Pretoria: State Publishers.

Rich; 1978 in Rogerson C.M and Beaven,K.O.S.(1980) " The Awakening of 'Informal Sector' Studies in Southern Africa." South African Geojournal vol. 73

Rogerson, C.M. (1993) Re- Balancing Racial Economic Power in South Africa: The Development of Black Small Scale Enterprises. Kluwer Academic Publishers. Geojournal 30.1 63-72.

Rogerson, C. (2000) " Emerging from Apartheid Shadow: South Africans Informal Economy." Journal of International Affairs: 53(2): 673-695.

Rogerson, C. (2000a) " Manufacturing Change in the Witwatersrand." Urban Forum 11(2).

Rogerson C.M and Rogerson .J. (1996) The Metropolis as Incubator; Small-Scale Enterprises Development in Johannesburg: Netherlands Geo Journal (khuuwe-Academic Publisher.

Rogerson, P.A. (1994) The Geographical Analysis of Population: with Application to Planning and Business: New York: John wiley.

Rogerson C.M and D.M. Hart, (1989): "The struggle for the Streets: Deregulation and Hawking in South Africa's Major Urban Areas." Social Dynamics.

Saravanja, M. (1999) Organizational Development Needs of the Primary Health Care Department, Northern Metropolitan Town Council. Johannesburg: Research Report, Published by the University of the Witwatersrand.

Skinner.C. (1999) Local Government in transition – A Gendered Analysis of Trends in Urban Policy and Practice Regarding Street Vending in Five South African Cities.

Stone,P.J., Dunphy, D.C., Smith, M.S., and Ogilvie D.M.(1966) The General Enquirer: A Computer Approach to Content Analysis in the Behavioral Sciences. Cambridge Mass; M.I.T. Press.

Swilling, M., Humphries, R. and Subane, K, (Eds.) (1991) Apartheid City in Transition. Cape Town: OUP

Thomas, W.(2001) Wealthy or Poverty: Critical Choices for South Africa, Oxford University Press Walton Street.

Todaro,M.P.(1994) Economic Development ,New York Longman. (Fifth Edition)

Tomlinson, R and Rogerson,C.M (1999) "An Economic Development Strategy for the Johannesburg Inner City" Johannesburg: Strategy Prepared As Part of the UNDP City Consultation Process on Behalf of the Inner City Section 59 Committees.

Tomlinson, R and Robert, B. (2003) "Emerging Johannesburg" Perspective on the Post Apartheid City.

Tomlinson, R and Larsen, (2003): Race Class and Space of Shopping. South Africa: [s .l .: s.n.].

Valodia, I. (1996) 'Work', in Budlender, D(ed) The Women's Budget. Cape Town; Institute of Democracy in South Africa .

Willemse, T.R. (1985) "A Critique of Assumptions of Survey Research," *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 23, spring.

[WWW.joburg.org.za](http://www.joburg.org.za) (n.d) Retrieved August 8, 2005, from <http://www.joburg.org.za/publication/paper>.

Yin, R.K. (1994) Case Study Research: Design and Methods. London: Sage Publications Ltd.

Zukin ,S. (1991) Landscapes of Power: From Detroit to Disney World. Berkeley: University of California press.

Appendix 1:

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Background information Demographic data

1. How old are you?

- a) 18 -24
- b) 25 - 30
- c) 30 – 35
- d) 35 – 40 or above

2. What is your marital status?

- a) Divorced
- b) Married
- c) Widowed
- d) Never married

3. What educational level did you attain?

- a) Primary school
- b) Secondary school
- d) Post graduate qualification
- e) Did not go to school

4. What is your average household income?

- a) R0 – R500
- b) R500 - R1000
- c) R1000 – R1500
- d) R1500 – R2000
- e) R2000 and above

5. How many children and dependants do have?

.....
.....

6. What is your family status?

- (a) Living with parents
- (b) Head of the family

Work Experience

7. Have you previously been employed?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

8. If yes, how long were you in your previous job?

.....
.....

9. What was the nature of the employment?

- (a) labourer
- (b) Manager
- (c) Domestic worker
- (d) Others

10. What led you to start this type of business?

.....
.....

Present activity and goods which are sold

11. What type of goods are you selling?

.....
.....

12. What kind of structures do you use for shelter?

.....
.....
.....

13. Are you an independent worker or work for another organisation or business?

.....
.....
.....

14. How many employees have you got?

.....
.....

15. Of these how many are family members?

.....
.....

16. Are you affiliated to any business association?

- a) Yes
- b) No

17. If yes, what is the type of your association?

.....
.....

18. If no, why not?

.....
.....
.....

19. Are you satisfied with the type of services provided by this association?

.....
.....

20. Do you and your family produce the goods that you sell?

.....
.....
.....

21. If No, where do you purchase your goods?

- (a) From producers
- (b) Single shopkeeper
- (c) Big store

22. How are your prices compared to that of your competitors?

.....
.....
.....

23. What time do you usually report and leave street vending work?

.....
.....

Free entry and competition

24. What are the facilitating factors that lead to street vending?

.....
.....
.....
.....

25. What are constraints factors to business growth?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

26. How secure is your trading post?

- a) Various bribes that you have to make
- b) Various obligations you have to respect
- c) Others

27. Do you pay taxes for your business? If yes, how much do you pay?

.....

.....

.....

28. How much do spend to purchase your goods?

.....

.....

29. What is the average loss to stock of merchandise?

.....

.....

Socio economic challenges

30. What are family based challenges to this business?

.....

.....

.....

31. Where did you get start up capital for your business?

- a) From the saving schemes
- b) Family income
- c) Loans

32. How is the loan payments structured?

.....

.....

33. What is your interest charge for your business loan?

.....

.....

.....

34. What support measures do you receive for street vending?

.....

.....

.....

.....

35. Are you involved in the formulation of city by laws or regulations?

.....
.....
.....

36. Who runs the business when you're absent or sick?

.....
.....
.....

37. How do the municipality officials treat you after they have confiscated your goods?

.....
.....
.....
.....

38. What security challenges do you face for this business?

.....
.....
.....
.....

39. What are the potential sources of stock loss? Theft etc

.....
.....
.....
.....

Needs, organizations and support

40. What do you think should be done to help the women street vendors?

.....
.....

41What are the additional questions would like to raise?

.....
.....
.....

Policies

42. What are the barriers or obstacles encountered due to policies and regulatory framework or any other reasons when starting up this type business?

.....
.....
.....
.....

43. Have the law enforcement been helpful in your interacting with them?

.....
.....
.....

44. What is the city of Johannesburg attitude towards street vending?

.....
.....
.....

45. Are you aware of the Johannesburg city street vendor's policies?

- a) Yes
- b) No

46. If yes, are you happy with these policies?

.....
.....
.....

Others

47. Do you get any support from the street vendor associations, municipality official who would help you improve your working conditions?

- a) Yes
- b) No

48. If yes, what kind of support do you get from them?

.....
.....
.....

Your participation in this study is much appreciated and I thank you for your cooperation and the time you have made available

Appendix 2:

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

The challenges of women working as street vendors experience

I am conducting this research towards the completion of my masters of Public and Development Management at Wits Business School the purpose of this research is to establish information about the challenges women working as street vendors experience and suggest recommendations on how authorities can assist in finding ways of addressing the plight of women especially in the urban environment.

I request your participation in this study by allowing me to interview you in order to complete the attached questionnaire. It is anticipated that the interviews will take approximately 40-50 minutes.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and should you choose to participate you can withdraw at anytime. Your response will be handled confidentially, and will not be shared with any other person.

You will be asked a number of questions both structured and open ended relating to this type of business. Note this is not an exam there are no right or wrong answers. Please give your thought and feel as openly as possible. Also note that we are interested in Both Bad and Good aspects that you may wish to express.

Your participation in this study is much appreciated and I thank you for your cooperation and the time you have made available.

Kyompaire patience

MMP&DM 2004-2005

Research supervisor; Professor Thomas Mogale

For the municipality officials and street vendors members of association

Policies and by laws

1. Is there street vending policy in the city of Johannesburg?
 - a) Yes

b) No

2. If yes, what are these street vending policies in the city of Johannesburg?

.....
.....

3. What are the key street stake holders?

.....
.....

4. What is the most violated street by- laws in the city of Johannesburg?

.....
.....

5. How are the streets vendors conceived and implemented in the city of Johannesburg?

.....
.....
.....

Social economic challenges

7. As the city of Johannesburg how do you intend to assist the street vendors as their executing their business?

.....
.....

8. How are the street vendors treated after their goods have been confiscated?

.....
.....
.....

9. Do you provide approved sites and license to the street vendors?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

10. If yes, how much do the street vendors pay for these sites and license?

.....
.....

Interventions which are put in place

10. What interventions are put in place by the city of Johannesburg which is appropriate in improving street vending?

.....
.....
.....

10. What do you view as changes which are taking place in the inner city of Johannesburg by the street vendors?

.....
.....
.....

11. What problems do you think street vendors are currently facing?

.....
.....
.....

Needs and support

12. What do you think should be done to help the street vendors by the Johannesburg municipality?

.....
.....
.....

Street vendor's organizations

13. What are some of your problems and challenges?

.....
.....
.....

14. How do you deal with the municipality officials?

.....
.....
.....

15. What assistance do give the members in the organiSation?

.....
.....
.....

16. What difficulties do you face in working together?

.....
.....
.....

LIST OF INTERVIEWS

FOUR OFFICAILS FROM JOHANNESBURG MUNICIPALITY

1. Economic development officer: Johannesburg 2030

2. Metro trading company: general manager
3. Metro trading company: marketing officer
4. Central Johannesburg partnership; the manager

TWO STREET VENDORS ASSOCIATIONS

The Johannesburg street vendors associations:

1. Chairperson of Hillbrow association
2. Chairperson of Yeoville association

EIGHT WOMEN STREET VENDOR

The women street vendors in the inner city of Johannesburg

- 2 Doornfontien
- 2 Yeoville
- 2 Hillbrow
- 2 Joubert park, (CBD) Central Business District