

Chapter 3

Methodological procedures and techniques

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, an exposition of the methodological procedures and techniques used in the research pertaining to the role that child sexual abuse plays in the involvement in prostitution, is discussed. A description of the procedures used in the gathering of the respondent's information as well as the techniques used for the analysis of the pertaining data, will also be over viewed.

3.2 Methodological accountability

According to Hagan (1982:10), methodology encompasses the collection of accurate data and facts pertaining to criminal actions. While theory postulates as to why the occurrence has happened, methodology in turn is concerned with what is. Thus, a reasonable certainty of the result can be achieved through a systematic mastery of the facts, principles and laws pertaining to the phenomenon. Precision of measurement, control and the prediction of the outcomes direct the research. By following the traditional scientific methods of defining the problem, gathering the data and presenting the findings, researcher was able to explain the phenomenon at hand while inquiring into the cause and effect relationship, in order to interpret the unknown and predict future trends and outcomes (Johnson, 1981:1-2).

The **Child Sexual Abuse Counter-Active Model** (see Figure 2.1) was designed to diagrammatically represent the relationship between child sexual abuse and the role it plays in the involvement in prostitution. According to van der Westhuizen (1982:203) a model should be simplistic in nature yet reflective of the realistic world, in order to explain a complex phenomena. The **Child Sexual Abuse Counter-Active Model**, indeed postulates a representation conducive to this view in that the experience of the respondent, as well as the role played in either the furthering or prevention of the sexual abuse by significant institutions, and the societal reaction to the victim's response to the aforementioned factors, is represented in a manner reflective to the explanation of the phenomenon.

According to Huysamen (1993:23), research within the social and behavioural sciences is seldom dependent upon only one variable which can be attributed to as the causative factor of any given human action. Thus one such cause may have stipulated effects on some individuals while on others no such effect may be apparent. The results, therefore may be viewed as derivatives from interaction between various causes. In order to attain a better understanding of the role that child sexual abuse can play in the involvement in prostitution, a qualitative approach was thus followed, as the presence or absence of the above mentioned variables in question is seen as conducive to explaining the phenomenon (van der Westhuizen, 1982:31).

Bailey (1987:45), is of the opinion that a qualitative approach is particularly appropriate for studies that are explanatory in nature as the emphasis is placed on the acquisition of insight and an improvement in the understanding of the relevant phenomenon. Hagan (1982:9) further postulates that the qualitative approach can be seen as an observational approach, emphasising an understanding of the reality under investigation, thereby allowing for an encompassing immersion by the researcher into the subject matter, whereby sensitising concepts can be investigated, which in turn will enhance a better understanding and explanation of the subject at hand.

Mouton and Marais (1990:254) emphasise the use of interviews in qualitative research in order to ascribe meaning to the respondent's experiences. Huysamen (1993:255) furthermore explains that this method of data collecting gives the researcher the opportunity to probe the intensity of an individual's feelings regarding a given phenomenon while determining the intricacies of the interpretation of the definition and how it relates to other aspects of the respondent's social being. Researcher thus made use of in-depth interviews in order to formulate findings based on the personal experiences of respondents, pertaining to child sexual abuse and the relevant causality of them becoming prostitutes.

3.3 Procedures

Procedures, refer to the steps followed when conducting the research process. According to Johnson (1981:18-19) a selection of more than one procedure of data collection can reduce research error and assist the researcher with respect to precision and sophistication of the data gathered. Researcher has therefore made use of literature studies, historical methods as well as observation and interviewing procedures; herewith each one is discussed.

3.3.1 Literature study

Unobtrusive measures, or non-reactive methods of gathering data, refers to those methods whereby information is obtained without direct contact with an individual, but through contact with existing data pertaining to them (Hagan, 1982:138). Lofland (1971:91) postulates that existing research is of importance to a researcher as all information relevant to a study should be critically evaluated in order to ensure a comprehensive explanation of the phenomenon at hand. A literature study, thus allows for a search on all available data pertaining to a hypothesis and thereby concedes to an integration between theory and reality.

With respect to this view, the work of Finkelhor (1979) played an invaluable role explaining the effects child sexual abuse holds for the victim. Finkelhor's extensive research ranges from nursery school children to adolescents, thus covering the diverse spectrum of ages, not represented as extensively in South African literature. Robertson (1989) however contributed a valuable overview of child sexual abuse within the South African context, diversifying from definitions of relevant concepts to the types of abusers, initial and long term effects of child sexual abuse as well as possible preventative measures to restrict future sexual abuse from occurring. Numerous authors diversified, giving specific attention to the dynamics involved in child sexual abuse. Lazenby (1996) extensively researched the reasons behind the dark figures surrounding sexual abuse, while a South African, Schurink (1998), piloted studies such as the one commenced in Ivory Park in order to attain a better understanding of the possible causes of sexual abuse and thus identify possible preventative strategies which played a contributory role towards this researchers study.

Researcher, studied the following theories as possible contributors to the explanation of the role that child sexual abuse plays in the involvement in prostitution: Freud's Psycho Analytical Theory (see paragraph 2.4.1), Hirschi's Social Bond Theory (see paragraph 2.4.2) and Lemert's Labelling Theory (see paragraph 2.4.3). After extensive research into numerous literature pieces pertaining to Freud, especially Hjelle and Ziegler (1976), Conklin (1981), Curran and Renzetti (1994) and Kaplan, Sadock and Grebb (1994), researcher concluded that the Electra Complex in particular would serve as a basis for explaining how child sexual abuse during this developmental stage could influence the girl's choice to become involved in prostitution. Likewise Conklin (1981) and Curran and Renzetti (1994) were instrumental in explaining the interaction between individuals as well as groups, which often leads to primary or even secondary labelling once abused. To further explain how this abuse could be perceptualised, Hirschi's book *Causes of Delinquency* (1969) served as a source book for explaining the role social bonds have in preventing the abuse from becoming a causative factor in the choice to enter into prostitution.

Contributory to the methodological structure of the research were the works of Huysamen (1993), Hagan (1982) and Johnson (1981). The setting out of, and explanations pertaining to the research procedures and techniques were deemed as invaluable contributions made by each researcher. References and explanations pertaining in particular to the sampling procedures and the setting up of an interview schedule as set out by Huysamen proved to be beneficial and vital in ensuring reliability.

3.3.2 The Historical Procedure.

Comprehensive usage is made of the historical procedure (see Chapter 2). Prostitution is not only a modern occurrence but has its roots deeply seated in man's earliest history. The historical procedure is therefore of importance in highlighting the control and regulation, as well as the religious and ideological shifts surrounding this profession. Possible causes of the entrance into prostitution can thus be highlighted through a comprehensive study of the history, thus incorporating within this procedure a descriptive aspect which makes allowance for an in depth study.

The oldest written recollection of prostitution appears within the Old Testament of the Bible. The Life Application Bible's New International version was thus of integral importance as a source book in order to comprehensively explore the attitudes of society towards prostitution as well as the possible causes attributed to the individuals choice to enter into it.

Bullough's (1964) source book served to be invaluable in the exposition of the Greek's attitude and conceptions regarding prostitution. Likewise, Sanger's (1913) viewpoints on the Roman's moralistic attitude towards this trade served to give a supplementary viewpoint. Within the South African context only in 1868 was an attempt made to regulate prostitution. De Bruyn (1996) documents the

development of the legislation stretching from the Colonial rule into the early 1990's, thus being viewed as a vital source by researcher.

3.3.3 Interviewing Procedure

Use was made of the interviewing procedure in the under mentioned study. According to Bailey (1987:174) the use of interviews is an important method of data collection, especially within qualitative studies as it correlates directly with the study of experiences and emotions from within an inter-subjective frame of reference.

Huysamen (1993:151) accredits this procedure of data accumulation with the following advantages:

- The most apparent advantage is that the interviewer maintains complete control over the interview situation. It is thus ensured that all questions are answered, misunderstandings are cleared up and corrected and any misconceptions are clarified. Should the respondent appear apprehensive, the interviewer can win over their trust by building up a rapport thus ensuring high quality responses.

- Spontaneous reactions and non-verbal behaviour can be observed which Huysamen (1993) describes as an important source of information.

- Sensitive questions of a personal nature can be set in a tactful manner and thus obliterate any offensiveness which respondents may experience.

Through the use of an interview schedule a diverse amount of information can be accumulated with greater uniformity of data analysis thereby ensuring validity and reliability of information.

Bailey (1987:175) points out the following disadvantages, however researcher is of the opinion that these disadvantages can be solved as follows:

Bailey (1987:175) is of the opinion that interviewing is an expensive method of data accumulation as there are often costs associated with the training of interviewers and the high fees they request as payment before research can commence. Researcher addressed this problem by not making use of field workers and by personally conducting all the interviews.

The costs involved in travel were cut, by arranging more than one interview that was in the same vicinity on the same day, thus limiting unnecessary journeys.

According to Bailey (1987:176) personal interviews cannot always guarantee anonymity as compared to a postal survey. Researcher overcame this problem by explaining the importance of this study to respondents and ensuring them of the fact that all the information gathered would solely be used for research purposes.

To prevent respondents from delivering what they would deem an appropriate response to a question, they were informed that no answers were viewed as being correct or incorrect and that it was their personal opinions and experiences that were of importance.

3.3.4 Observation

According to Huysamen (1993:144) observation, the method whereby data is accumulated by studying the behaviour of others, is still viewed as a primary procedure for measuring non-verbal behaviour. An advantage of this procedure is that data can be collected whilst at the same time the accompanying behaviour can be evaluated. This is of importance as the answering of the questionnaire is viewed as a secondary source of information collection, as the researcher can be misled by falsified answers. Pretorius (1984:93) agrees that observation of non-verbal behaviour is a means of accumulating first hand information as there are no restrictions between the observer and the respondent after a rapport has been established.

In this study, it became evident during the pilot study, that certain respondents felt uncomfortable regarding questions pertaining to sensitive issues, especially those questions pertaining to the experiences of child sexual abuse (see Annexure A). This unease became apparent through observing the respondents' body language, when certain questions were posed. Researcher thus had to build up a rapport with the respondents before asking these questions. The observation of non-verbal behaviour can be apparent in several different forms such as facial expressions, posture and voice tone. Huysamen (1993:177) however points out that the researcher's observations must be documented, speedily and accurately, a requirement to which this research did comply.

3.4 Techniques

Techniques are instruments or aids that are used in the production of the research process. According to Johnson (1981:2), techniques thus refer to those methods that enable the researcher to define a problem, gather data pertaining to it, test the hypotheses and finally present the findings. The following techniques were used in the research: the interview schedule, sampling, pilot study and techniques for analysing, calculating and interpreting data.

3.4.1 The interview schedule

In this study use was made of an interview schedule to obtain data. Huysamen (1993:132) states that this technique is especially appropriate for attaining research information about respondent's opinions, perceptions and beliefs. This measuring instrument is used when personal interviews are conducted with the respondents. The interviewer first establishes validity by reading the questions to a pilot study and noting all the responses. This in turn results in the necessary adjustments being then made by the researcher. In contrast, respondents could fill in the questionnaires themselves, however this was not an option as researcher took into consideration the diversity evident in biographical features amongst the respondents, in particular home language and level of education (Bailey, 1987:106). The choice to personally conduct the interviews would allow for researcher to surpass any misconceptions relating to the questionnaire as they could personally be clarified and explained by the researcher, thus not prejudicing possible respondents based on language proficiency.

3.4.1.1 Relevance of the interview schedule

Bailey (1987:108) accentuates the importance of respondents experiencing the interview schedule as fair and justified. According to researcher, relevance, is thus a key element in the construction of the interview schedule and should thus fulfill certain prerequisites.

Firstly, the interview schedule should be relevant with respect to the aims as set out by the study. The main aim of this study was to determine the role that child sexual abuse plays in a girl's choice to become involved in prostitution. With this in the fore, the value of such a finding with reference to creating a greater awareness towards the negative effects of child sexual abuse and thus a possibility of diminishing the vulnerability of girls who have been abused to enter into prostitution, was posed to respondents and it was thus not a problem to acquire their co-operation as they believed their contributions would be of value.

Secondly, the questions posed must be relevant so as to ensure that all aims could be reached. It was thus necessary to persuade all respondents that every question, especially those of a sensitive nature were essential in order to realise the aims of the study. According to Hagan (1982:83) discretion should be cast by the researcher and sensitive questions should be posed at a later stage once the respondents have developed trust towards the interviewer. In this study, a question of such sensitivity was experienced when respondents were asked if they had ever been sexually abused (see Question 22 in Annexure A). The relevance of this question can be directly linked to whether this respondent experienced any negatives effects which could be directly attributed to the abuse and whether it influenced their choice to enter into prostitution.

The pilot study (see par.3.4.3) played a contributory role in this respect as researcher was made aware, by observing the body language of the respondent, that those who had been sexually abused reacted by showing uneasiness when questioned regarding the nature of the abuse. Researcher thus rectified this feeling of uneasiness by placing questions pertaining to child sexual abuse later in the interview schedule.

Thirdly, of importance is the relevance of the interview schedule with regard to individual respondents such as the aim directed at evaluating individual's experiences of child sexual abuse with respect to initial and long term effects it may have had on them. Thus Questions 32-55 (see Annexure A) was posed in such a manner that child sexual abuse victims could answer to the possible effects experienced even if they had been previously unaware that a reaction was as a result of the abuse. In this manner, the questions were made relevant to all child sexual abuse victims whether they were aware of all the possible effects or not. Huysamen (1993:134) also points out that the level of language proficiency of the respondents must be taken into consideration at all times as their levels of comprehension may differ and thus the avoidance of too many multiple word choices and technical terms can contribute to respondents better understanding the questions.

3.4.1.2 Divisions within the research schedule

The research schedule was divided into the following, culminating in the fulfillment of the following aims:

To acquire **personal biographical information** such as age, home language, race, marital status and educational qualifications, pertaining to the respondents, in order to devise a profile reflective of the constituted sample.

To test the **Child Sexual Abuse Counter-Active Model** (see Figure 2.1) as a theoretical basis for the study. Thus the questions were directed at the experiences of child sexual abuse and the role it plays in the involvement in prostitution as well as the role of significant institutions in contributing or counter-acting the choice to become involved in prostitution. Lastly the effects that labelling has on the choice of becoming involved in prostitution were also tested.

Thus, with the aforementioned in mind, the interview schedule was devised as follows:

- **Biographical background information**, pertaining to the respondent (Questions 1-5).
- **Prostitution** (Questions 6-13). These questions pertain to the prostitutes association, if any, with the criminal justice system. Questions pertaining to the role played by components of the justice system as well as others in applying a label to the respondent, and the respondent's reaction to these labels was also examined.
- **Sexual abuse** (Questions 14-23). These questions focussed firstly on the abuser and the onset of the sexual abuse. The extent to which the abuse affected the victim was investigated through a sequence of possible reactions, either initial and/or long term, in nature. The role played by significant institutions in prohibiting the abuse from continuing is also explored, as well as the reasons behind the lack of disclosure of the abuse.

3.4.1.3 Question construction

A variety of both open-ended as well as close-ended questions were used in order to acquire data pertaining to the role child sexual abuse can play in the involvement in prostitution. According to Huysamen (1994:129), open-ended questions have the following advantages :

- Open-ended questions allow the respondents to express themselves without restriction being placed on possible pre-determined answers. Thus the formulation of their opinions is not restricted to a few alternatives.
- A qualitative approach is ensured in that each respondent is given the opportunity to express her own opinion related to the subject at hand.

However, disadvantageous to the open-ended line of questioning is that respondents require a better ability to express themselves as open-ended questions require a higher level of education on the part of respondents. Once responses are obtained, it is more difficult to compare respondents answers than would be the case in closed-ended questions.

According to Bailey (1994 :120), close-ended questioning hold the following advantages :

- It facilitates the comparison that needs to be made between final statistics.
- It is time effective, in that answers can be immediately coded and analysed directly from the questionnaire.
- Questions require responses which are not set at the higher order of understanding, thus making them easier to answer than open-ended questions.
- Although, not as thorough as open-ended questions, closed-ended questioning ensures a restriction in the gathering of irrelevant information.

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Close-ended questions are easier to answer, thus relevant to the posing of sensitive questions where merely a choice needs to be made by the respondent.

Disadvantageous to close-ended questioning, is the superficiality with which they function as the choices given may not always reflect the opinion of the respondent (Huysamen, 1995:129).

With reference to both the advantages as well as the disadvantages that each type of question holds, researcher decided to make use of both, posing sensitive questions and those that offer too much diversity as close-ended questions and those justifying core issues for the researcher, as open-ended questions.

3.4.1.4 Reliability of information

The validity of the study is dependent on the effectiveness with which the answers are responded to, thus if there is indeed a relationship between the variables present in the research hypothesis, the research and statistical methods used, should reflect this relationship, in other words statistically valid conclusions can be made (Huysamen, 1995:31). To ensure reliability in responses, control questions were built into the questionnaire.

The following questions can be seen as representative of the aforementioned method : Questions 6-8 refer to the individuals involvement with the institutes concerned with the Criminal justice system. Should a yes response be given to any of these questions an explanation is warranted and should a no response be forthcoming Questions 9 and 10 seek to determine other's reactions to the respondent's choices as well as the effect these responses have on the individual.

With reference to the reliability of the respondent's reaction to child sexual abuse, Question 14, initially only required a response as to whether the respondent had ever been sexually abused. Question 19 questioned "which of the following initial effects did you experience?" While question 20 required an answer as to "Which

of the following were experienced a year after the initial abuse?" thus ensuring that corresponding data was captured.

3.4.2 Sampling procedure

Sampling refers to the process whereby data is obtained from a smaller, representative sample of the population in order to better explain the phenomenon at hand (Huysamen, 1995:37). Van der Westhuizen (1982:42-43) analytically defines a sample as encompassing the following two prerequisites:

- the numerical diminishing of the sample must be representative of the universum
- the sample must be a justifiable representative part of the universum as a whole.

Thus, instead of directly studying entire populations, surveys make provision for the collection of necessary evidence pertaining to the study, which is made up out of a sample of people selected from the population. The intention is thereby to infer that the findings drawn from the sample will be reflective of the population as a whole (Jupp, 1989 :37)

This research sample consisted of 20 respondents. According to Lofland (1971:91) when making use of in depth interviews, 20-50 respondents is typically viewed as being sufficient. As researcher decided to follow a qualitative approach, the choice to use 20 respondents was justified. Researcher made use of snowball sampling, which is comparable to a rolling snowball that grows larger. Individuals who are approached to participate in the study, act as informants and identify other members from the same population for inclusion in the sample. The latter then initiates further contact by identifying further relevant individuals and so the effect of a rolling snowball growing in magnitude, leads to the identification of new respondents (Hagan, 1982:62).

As no predetermined list of possible respondents exists, a known prostitute was identified through a colleague of the researcher and served as the first respondent, whereby then acted as an informer for a further respondent.

3.4.3 Pilot study

Hagan (1982:72) defines a pilot study, or pretest as a reconnaissance operation or exploratory test, involving respondents similar to the group that will be studied, whilst testing the instruments that are to be used. Johnson (1981:128) includes the ability of the pretest to indicate any errors that may affect the main study and thus procure improvements before the final sampling occurs. Thus, the pilot study enables the researcher to objectively test the research methods, against the researcher's research hypothesis. Huysamen (1994:197) further points out the necessity of a pilot study in that subjects are not always readily available or even willing to participate. The feasibility of the proposed project can thereby be determined through the use of a pilot study as possible flaws in the measurement procedures and the operationalisation of the variables can be detected.

An interview schedule was expedited during the period 1 November 2000 to 7 November 2000 where interviews were conducted with three street walker prostitutes, identified using snowball sampling and which constituted 15 percent of the final sample. These interviews as well as others were conducted in a predetermined, fully equipped office area that offered security, whilst the environment confidentiality of the respondent and a private, quiet workspace. Researcher decided to incorporate these three respondents in the final sample as they complied with all the prerequisites pertaining to maintaining the reliability and validity of the sample, and delivered valuable contributions with respect to reaching the aims set by the researcher.

The interviews offered the researcher the opportunity to test her theoretical model, whilst critically analysing the interview schedule. From the pilot study, the following valuable information surmounted:

3.4.3.1 Section A: Biographical information of respondents

With reference to questions pertaining to the biographical background information of the respondents (see Questions 1-6 in Annexure A) the following problems were highlighted:

- The question pertaining to the respondents current marital status (see Question 5 in Annexure A) initially gave the choice of: married, unmarried, divorced or widowed. During the pilot study the interviewer realized that unmarried people could be living together and that unmarried people, though still legally married were no longer living together or even seeing each other and could thus be described as being estranged. Researcher thus added these two possible alternatives.

3.4.3.2 Section B: Prostitution

This section, dealing with the prostitutes extent of involvement in the justice system as well as the effects that significant institutions and individuals play on their choice to remain within prostitution, brought about the following alterations:

- Initially Questions 7-12 were posed as single questions requiring a response as to whether the respondent had ever been convicted for prostitution. During the pretest, respondents elaborated that they had been arrested and set free, and even appeared in court but the case had been withdrawn, and were thus not convicted of a crime. In order to better understand the extent of the respondents involvement with the justice system, questions were posed directed at arrest, court appearances and guilt, each as a separate entity.

3.4.3.3 Section C: Sexual abuse

The following changes were made in this section:

- Researcher realized that open-ended questions pertaining to the initial and long term effects of child sexual abuse posed to be too diverse and due to the possibility of a lapse in time since the last incidence of abuse answers such as "I do not know" prevailed. With reference to Questions 32-55 (see Annexure A), it was thus decided to pose this question as a close ended option. Setting definite options allowed for the respondents to answer the questions more meaningfully. As the possibility arose that respondents would not fully recall the effects of the child sexual abuse, the change to a close ended question made the answering of this section easier.

During the pilot study, researcher came to the conclusion that prostitutes who had been victims of child sexual abuse showed a need to express themselves regarding their experiences via the interview. Their open expressions regarding their sexual abuse during their childhood years proved to supply valuable information for the research project.

3.4.5 Techniques for analysis and interpreting data

Coding the data, involves the assignment of numerical values to responses. Information gathered by the research instrument, must be followed up by the analysis and interpretation of the prevalent data. Analysis, according to Jupp (1989:58) refers to the investigation of the research whereby the hypotheses are tested and systematic and deliberate comparisons and differences between variants are made apparent. This is known as data analysis, and the method which the researcher made use of.

Interpretation, refers to the orderly organisation of the data, in an implicit and persuasive manner in order to better understand and explain the phenomenon at hand (Hagan, 1982 :306). As researcher made use of 20 in depth interviews, which were conducted personally, duly after completion the questionnaire was sent for coding. After the data was analysed percentages were used to indicate propensity. Graphs and diagrammatic representations were made of these

tendencies as, according to van der Westhuizen (1982:160-161) these representations serve not only as a clear indication of current trends, but also serve as guidelines for further studies.

The interview schedules, once completed, were sent for computer coding. This statistical analysis of the data pertaining to the study, was undertaken by a statistician from the Department of Statistics at the University of Pretoria. Use was made of graphic representations of the analysed data, as according to Huysamen (1993:216) it not only gives the opportunity to visually represent the results achieved, but also simultaneously sums up the findings in an organized and precise manner.

A variety of statistical software packages pertaining to the analysis of research in the Social Sciences are available. These include the Bio-medical Data Processing System (BMDP) and the Statistical Analysis System (SAS). For the purpose of this study the SAS was used as it was viewed as the most appropriate in lieu of the nature of the data accumulated and as it is highly reliable with respect to the results delivered. The regular analysis procedures that were used in the SAS were the composition of frequency tables for representation of all the categorical variables and information. The tables indicated the frequency as well as the percentages of respondents pertaining to that variable. Cumulative frequency and cumulative percentages were also available when required.

Correspondence data, was also used, which shows how factors interact with each other by making use of a graphical display. This graphical display groups together the factors which have an effect on each other. In each of the correspondence analyses the percentage of the raw data retained in the graphical display are given. This could also be viewed as an indicator as to how good the analysis of the available data is. With respect to the analysis completed, the percentage was higher than 80 percent, thus indicating that the analysis could be regarded as a valid representation of the real situation.

3.5 The profile of the research subjects

The biographical characteristics of the respondents are schematically illustrated below using pie diagrams, wherein all numerical values have been rounded off to the closest whole number. As a rationale of how the data was interpreted the following served as a guideline:

Data reflected as being representative of 40 percent or below, of the variable in question, was viewed by researcher as **not being supporting** in nature. Findings between 40 and 60 percent were interpreted as being **in support** of the supposition that was made, whilst findings above 60 percent, were viewed as **fully supporting** in the interpretation pertaining to the data .

Thus dependent upon the percentage reflected, the findings were interpreted as being either fully supporting, supporting or not supporting, with respect to the interpretation of the data as pertaining to this study.

3.5.1 Age of the respondents

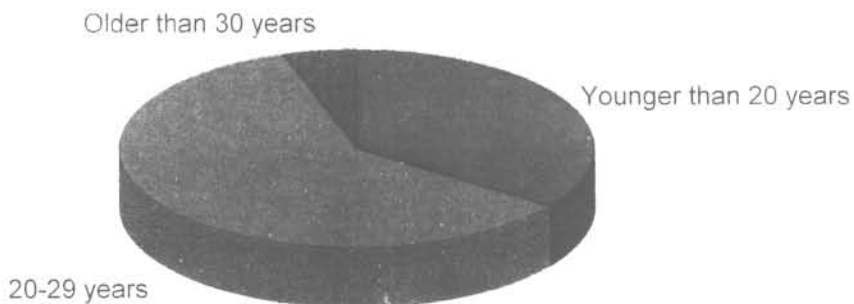


Figure 3.1 Age distribution

It is apparent from Figure 3.1 that the majority of respondents 12, (60 percent) fall within the 20-29 years of age category, while the average age of the respondents was 22 years of age. The age of the respondents were also analysed by different language and race groups in order to get an average age of each specific race and language group. These are represented in the table below.

Race	White	Black	Coloured	Asian
Mean age	23	21	25	20

Table 3.1 Average age of respondents sorted by race

3.5.2 Home language of the respondents

Nine respondents (45 percent) were English mother-tongue speakers, while four (20 percent) spoke Afrikaans as a home language. The other seven respondents (35 percent) indicated other languages as their home language, namely Xhosa and Sotho. Two respondents (10 percent) spoke Xhosa and five respondents (25 percent) indicated Sotho. As researcher is fluent in both English and Afrikaans, the majority of the respondents, 13 (65 percent), spoke these two languages as a primary language, however all respondents could converse in the above two languages, despite them not being a home language.

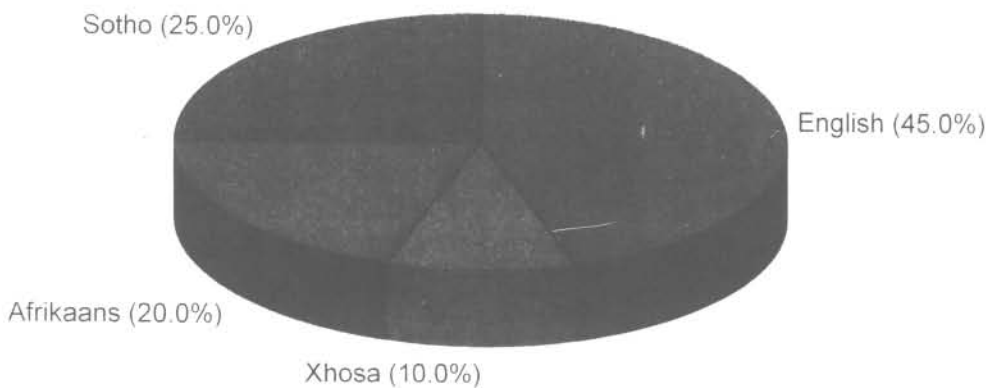


Figure 3.2 Home language of respondents

3.5.3 Respondents' race

Of the 20 respondents interviewed, 11 were black, constituting 55 percent of the sample, while seven were white (35 percent) and one (5 percent) was coloured and one (5 percent) was Asian.

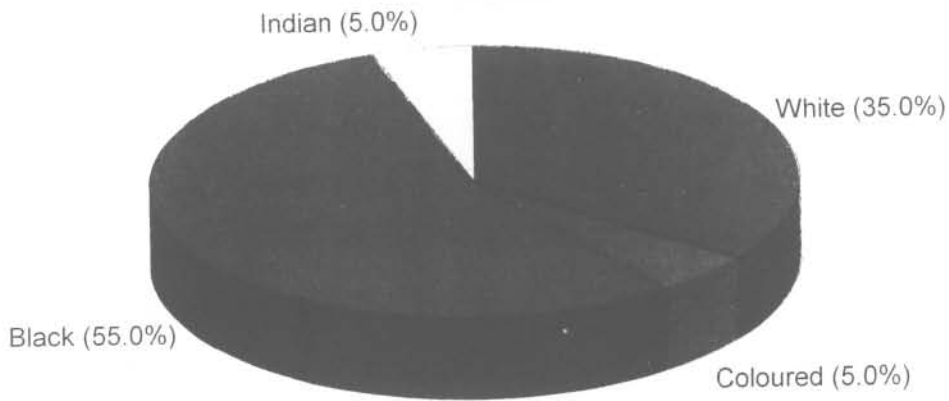


Figure 3.3 Respondents' race

3.5.4 Current marital status

Eleven (55 percent) of the respondents reported not being currently married. Of the five presently married only two (10 percent) were living with their partners while three (15 percent) were estranged from their respective spouses. Only one respondent was divorced, while another one respondent was widowed and the remaining two (10 percent) were cohabiting with their respective partners.

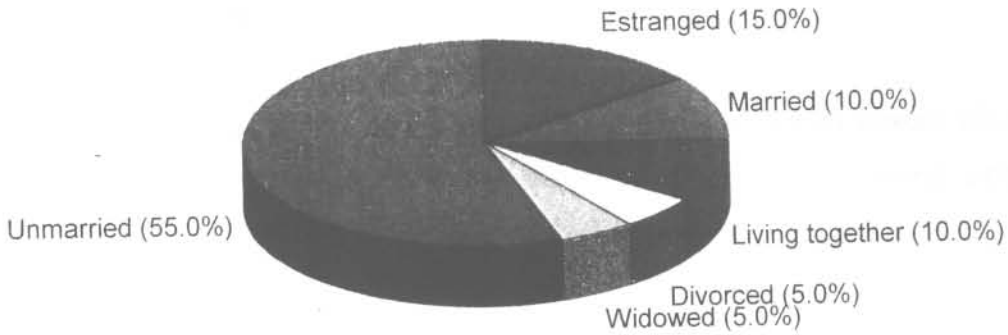
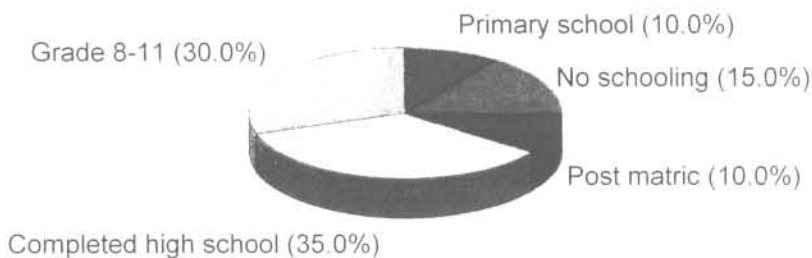


Figure 3.4 Current marital status

3.5.5 Highest Educational Qualifications

Of the respondents interviewed, three (15 percent) had no formal schooling, not even primary school. Two (10 percent) had curtailed their education in the primary school reaching Grade 5 and Grade 6 respectively. A further six respondents (30 percent) failed to complete high school dropping out in Grade 8 (one respondent), Grade 9 (two respondents), and Grade 10 (three respondents) respectively. The remaining respondents who constitute 45 percent of the research group completed Grade 12 of which two (10 percent) completed a post matric diploma.

Figure 3.5 Highest educational qualification



3.5.6 Childhood Sexual Abuse

Researcher wishes to make a correlation between child sexual abuse and the entrance into prostitution. Thus it was important to determine whether those respondents currently involved in prostitution had ever been sexually abused. Of the 20 respondents interviewed 12 (60 percent) reported being sexually abused whilst still a child, while one (5 percent) reported being sexually abused as adults. The remaining seven (35 percent) reported no unwanted sexual activity ever having occurred.

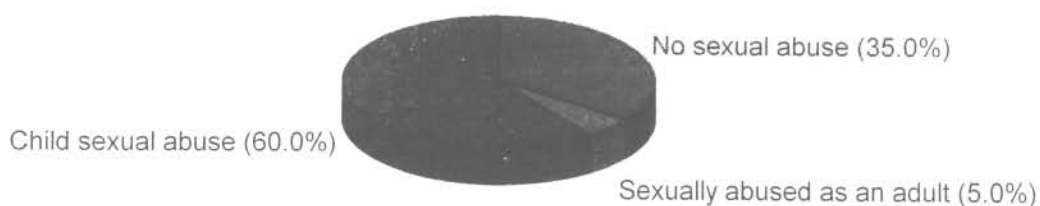


Figure 3.6 Reports of sexual abuse

3.6 Conclusion

Research procedures as well as the profile of the respondents were discussed in Chapter 3. Here with follows the representation, analysis and interpretation of the data gathered as pertaining to the role child sexual abuse plays in the involvement in prostitution.