

# **MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY**



## **FACULTY OF ARTS**

### **DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PEACE CLUBS AS A PEACE BUILDING STRATEGY, THE CASE OF MATOBO (WARD 10): 2008 - 2013**

Submitted by

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**Declaration**

I Nokukhanya Ngwenya registration number R114613J declares that, this research project is a result of my work and all other sources are acknowledged. It has never been submitted anywhere before for any degree purposes or examinations in any other university. It is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Honours Degree in Development Studies, in the faculty of Arts at Midlands State University

## **APPROVAL FORM**

The undersigned certify that they have supervised the student Nokukhanya Ngwenya  
Dissertation entitled. An assessment of the effectiveness of peace clubs as a Peace Building  
strategy. A case of Matobo District ward 10. It is submitted in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements of Bachelor of Arts in Development studies.

Supervisor.....

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## **Abstract**

*This study is a qualitative research conducted in Matobo ward 10. It aims to explore if peace clubs are an effective strategy for Peace Building. Violence is prevalent in many communities leaving traumatic experiences which have perpetuated hatred and dysfunctional communities. Information obtained through interviews and questionnaires is the basis of the narration of the findings of this research. The results of the study revealed that although peace clubs are relevant in Peace Building peace has remained an elusive goal. The area under study is politically polarized, economically crippled with high unemployment and drought prevalent which makes it a food relief case. Peace clubs also fail because the NGO which facilitate them imposed them to the community hence they are not inclusive as they only encompass youths. The researcher therefore recommends Peace Building strategies like peace clubs to be inclusive and have a grassroots approach so as to establish the needs of the people as far as peace is concerned.*

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**Dedication**

I would like to dedicate this piece of work to my son Wesley Unathi. Shine bright like a star.

## **Acronyms**

DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ECLF	Ecumenical Church Leaders Forum
GCPS	Germany Civil Peace Service
GNU	Government of National Unity
GPA	Global Political Agreement
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICJ	International Court of Justice
IGPS	Income Generating Projects
MDC	Movement for Democratic Change
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SADC	Southern African Development community
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
YTT	Youths for Today and Tomorrow
ZANU PF	Zimbabwe African National Union People`s Front
ZESN	Zimbabwe Election Support Network
ZAPU	Zimbabwe African People`s Union

## **Chapter one: Introduction**

This qualitative research aims to assess the strength of peace clubs in Peace Building basing on the peace clubs in Matobo ward 10. Interviews were conducted and questionnaires administered to the members of peace clubs, non-peace club members and stakeholders within the community understudy to obtain information necessary for this study. The findings revealed that peace clubs are essential for Peace Building but however less effective due to the political environment and economic hardships among others which undermines their set objectives. Recommendations are outlined basing on the researcher's opinions and scholarly literature to enhance the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building. The rest of the chapter looks at the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives, research questions, justification of the study, significance of the study, assumptions, delimitations of the study and the limitations as well as the chapter summary.

### **1.1 Background information of the study**

Peace Building has been realized as a foundation for sustainable development for a very long time ago. According to Galtung (1970) Peace Building involves promotion of systems that would create sustainable peace. A number of strategies have been used in building peace in the world with peace clubs being one of the significant Peace Building tools. Peace clubs were implemented in line of conflict prevention, resolution and management to make the world a more peaceful place. Caritas International Report (2002 ) states that Peace Building is a process that facilitates the establishment of durable peace and tries to prevent the recurrence of violence by addressing root causes and effects of conflict through reconciliation, institution building and political as well as economic transformation.

Peace has remained an elusive goal globally since time immemorial. The world has been threatened by numerous wars from the French revolutions, the Napoleon wars, World Wars and the African massive wars of DRC as well as civil wars. The causes of conflicts are diverse as noted by Collier (2003). Most of the conflicts emanate either from objective circumstances like political and economic instability and from beliefs like struggle for resources, racism, ethnicity, religion and many more.

In Africa, Peace Building is essential as the African countries are mostly involved in conflict and civil wars like the Boko Haram threats in Nigeria, the recent Xenophobic attacks in South Africa to mention a few. Struggle over scarce resource, governance, economic difficulties and ethnicity are the major causes of conflicts in the continent. Thus the United Nations, the regional multilateral institutions and the civil society are striving to build peace.

In Zimbabwe conflicts have become common since independence in 1980 where the economy collapsed dismally after adopting the Economical Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAPs). The nation from then faced difficulties of food shortage which was worsened by the seizure of white farms, unemployment rate increased as industries closed down and the Zimbabwean dollar lost its value. The post-independence conflicts began with the Gukurahundi genocide whereby approximately 20 000 people were slaughtered in Matabeleland and Midlands. The genocide was largely based on ethnicity as the victim's crime was to speak the same language with Joshua Nkomo who was suspected to be the leader of dissidents. Some of the survivors were raped, tortured and their homes were set in fire.

Although the brutality was ended by a peaceful Unity Accord of 1987, gaps between social structures in the country have remained as the story is passed from one generation to another. It

is in light of this that efforts were made by civil society and churches to foster reconciliation and healing to the traumatized survivors. Thus the CCJP published the first document about Gugurahundi titled: Breaking the Silence, Building True Peace. The document gave a narration of the horrific incidents of the massacres and outlined how truth telling can help in reconciliation, (Breaking the silence: 1997).

As the years progressed, the economic hardships worsened yet tensions continued to an extent that the opposition party Movement for Democratic Change was formed and became popular. The opposition party proved to be strong as it managed to influence the rejection of the constitution in 2000. In June 2000 a wave of violence was experienced as the suspected supporters of the MDC were tortured, abducted and some murdered. According to Mukonori, (2012) the politically motivated violence during the run up of parliamentary elections was confused with land occupations which escalated the conflicts.

The 2008 harmonized election campaigns were characterized by political violence whereby the suspected supporters of the opposition party were forced to abandon their party and support the ZANU PF ruling party. Violence reached its climax during the period after the March election results and the re-run in June 2008. There was massive violence, murders, destruction of business, assaults and abductions. Matabeleland was one of the major targets due to its majority share in the opposition party.

The events after the runoff led to the formation of the Government of National Unity which was a regional effort to build peace by SADC. The GNU was a power sharing agreement between ZANU PF, MDC- Tsvangirai and MDC-Mutambara was signed in September 2008. The power shared government brought about socio-economic stability in the country.

However, although violence was finally ended by the GNU fear of relapse of conflicts remained. In Matobo precisely, hatred and disunity in the community remained which undermined development activities. Minor conflicts continued to occur wherever people of the two factions met for a development activity or during food relief hand outs.

It is against this background that conflicts have remained common in the district. Peace Building initiatives have thus been put in place to prevent and manage the conflicts hence pave way for development. Peace clubs were thus established as a grassroots strategy in several wards of Matobo by civil society YTT so as to transform the formerly aggressive individuals into peaceful human beings that can enhance development.

Due to marginalization by the government in power the district suffers from lack of resources and lack of jobs leading to mass emigration. During the 2008 election campaigns ZANU PF took advantage of the devastated people in the district mostly youths to be perpetrators of violence in exchange of money. People of the same tribe victimised each other, donor aid was politicised leading to anger, and bitterness and hatred even after the violence had stopped. The peace clubs were then established to bring together people of different political affiliations for the purpose of peaceful conflict resolution, trauma healing, reconciliation as well as livelihood projects for the sake of development. The research therefore attempts to assess the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building basing on Matobo Ward 10.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Conflicts are prevalent in many communities in Africa due to various reasons like struggle for resources, ethnicity, poor governance and economic hardships. Although Collier, (2003)

summaries that conflicts are caused by greed rather than grievance he states that 73 percent of the countries that have experienced or are in conflicts are the poorest. Zimbabwe has experienced numerous conflicts since its independency in 1980 which have been exacerbated by the establishment of the opposition party MDC. Thus Matobo district has experienced post independency political conflicts like the Gugurahundi genocide whereby Bhalagwe camp which was within the district was the most notorious camp where inhuman incidents occurred causing trauma to those who witnessed the brutality and anger to those who lost their loved ones (CCJP 1997).

The region has been labeled as opposed to the ruling party ZANU PF due to its majority share in the opposition MDC faction. The period of 2008 witnessed an increase of state sponsored violence in Matobo which led to community polarization and divisions amongst villagers undermining peaceful relations. Community development is hardly achieved due to lack of cooperation, sabotage of businesses of those known to be aligned to the opposition party and donor aid is politicized. Although the government through the organ of National Healing and Reconciliation (ONHR) and civil society criminalize violence, conflicts have remained popular because the people consider violence as a means to obtain their wants. The study therefore explores the effectiveness of peace clubs as a strategy for Peace Building.

### **1.3 Purpose of the study**

The research aims to assess how effective are peace clubs as a tool of Peace Building basing on Matobo ward 10.

### **1.4 Objectives of the study**

1. To examine role played by peace clubs in Peace Building.

2. To outline Peace Building activities under taken by peace clubs.
3. To assess the impact of peace clubs in Peace Building.

### **1.5 Research questions**

1. How have peace clubs contributed to Peace Building?
2. What sort of activities do peace clubs undertake?
3. Are peace clubs effective in peace building?
4. What challenges do peace clubs face in Peace Building?

### **1.6 Hypothesis**

Peace clubs are considered a crucial tool for Peace Building which can prevent lapsing or relapse of conflicts in communities. However, this research has obtained that they are not effective enough if the political and economic environments are not stable.

### **1.7 Assumptions of the study**

- Peace Clubs may worsen conflicts in communities.
- Peace Clubs are not vital for Peace Building

### **1.8 Justification of the Study**

Peace Building initiative has been a global agenda since time immemorial as the world has been threatened by countless wars. Peace Building strategies like the peace treaties and settlements to settle the conflicts as well as diplomacy are weapons of peace which have been employed in a bid to achieve peace. As Galtung (1975) postulates that Peace Building is a process creating self-



supporting structures that remove causes of wars and offer alternatives to war institutions where wars might occur. To achieve this, then it entails that Peace Building process requires a number of actors like the Multilateral Institutions, the regional groupings like SADC, the policy makers within National governments, civil society and communities at large.

Evidence shows that peace building initiatives like the League of Nations 1919-1946 was able to maintain universal peace in the first years although it later failed. The Marshal Plan or European Recovery Program (ERP) 1948 transformed nations which had been involved in war into peaceful states. The plan was successful as eighteen European states which benefited from it as their Gross National Products (GNP) increased by 15-25 percent (Newton 1983). Thus shows that there is a nexus between peace and development and Peace Building is an important measure to prevent the lapsing and relapsing of conflicts and enhancing violent people into productive human beings.

Peace Clubs as a strategy for peace building could be adopted by civil society and to prevent and solve conflicts like the 2008 conflicts in Zimbabwe. Global groupings like the SADC might attempt to prevent and solve conflicts in a bid to achieve sustainable development. The policy makers in the local government can also benefit from the study as it aims to reveal the root causes of the violence and the study might be a database that can be used by policy makers to determine the extent of effects of the conflicts so that further conflicts maybe avoided. The research aims to also reveal critical concerns that caused communities to adopt violence means be able to address such problems before conflicts elapse.

### **1.9.1 Scope**

The study explores the relevance of peace clubs in Peace Building and this was done through assessing their effectiveness by looking at the strengths and weaknesses of the concept. The research was carried out in Matobo's ward 10 which is located 114 km South-West of Bulawayo. The ward has a population of 1400 people registered in the councilor's register. There are two peace clubs operational in ward and they were used to represent all peace clubs. One ward was covered which is a proportionate representation of the District. The data was collected through a qualitative research from youths who are members of peace clubs, the community members and stakeholders within the community.

### **1.9.2 Limitations**

The researcher carries this study using her resources which are constrained. The ward is wide and has geographical constraints like rivers and mountains which made it difficult to access the peace clubs as the researcher was forced to walk long distances. The peace clubs are composed of people affiliated to different political parties and so wrong information might have been obtained due to fear of intimidation. In addition, some people may purposefully give wrong information as the research may be thought to be a fault finding exercise and respondents feel they may be victimized in future. Some members of the community may refuse to answer any questions due to their social standing in communities and just the fear of being victimized. The researcher was made to also use secondary data from predecessors so as to concretise the findings.

## **Chapter conclusion**

The chapter gave a background of the research whereby Peace Clubs are assessed to find out if they fulfil their role in peace building. The statement of the problem was discussed where it was noted that although Peace Building efforts have been put forward in Zimbabwe peace has not been obtained. Political polarization, intimidation and hatred continue which still undermines peace. The objectives of the study, the assumptions, delimitations and limitations of the study were also outlined. All this was done in order to lay a concrete foundation for the study in order to ascertain the challenges beforehand and try to minimize their effects on the results of the study. The next chapter is solely meant to review literature of scholars regarding Peace Building and reviewing the theoretical framework for the study.

## **CHAPTER TWO: Literature Review**

### **2.0 Introduction**

In this chapter, relevant literature is reviewed to enhance research study. This involves the documentation of a comprehensive review and analysis of published and non-published work from secondary sources of data in the areas of specific interest to the research. It also reviews the concept of peace clubs outlining the situations where they have been used as a strategy for Peace Building. Leedy, (1989) records that; literature review is concerned with the analysis of material written by other authors that are related to one's research topic. This includes material from the past, contemporary and other researchers. The attribution theoretical framework and conceptualisation will be discussed. Finally, the link between peace and development will be also discussed.

### **2.1 Theoretical Framework: attribution/ compatible theory.**

The study is based on the attribution theory grounded in the work of Sillar and Heidaer(1958). The theory states that people make sense of their world by assigning qualities and situations based on what is relevant to them. Attributions are explanations of what people have for the cause of certain events. It always tries to find blame worthiness in any given society. The theory proposes that people always assign responsibility for the occurrences of situations. In that case when a conflict occurs someone should be found responsible for it.

The theory notes that people usually attribute positive consequences to themselves and negative to others. This is due to that nobody wants to take the blame for a negative situation. In societies it is therefore difficult to trace the perpetrators of conflicts due to that reason.

This theory is applicable in the study as people have always attributed the perpetrators of violence to others. The prevalence of conflicts in the area under study has been attributed to be a ZANU PF strategy to win elections by civil society and the community. Although this is largely true, it is exaggerated to certain extents. The conflicts have occurred despite that the political environment has stabilized for example those occurring during food relief do not really bear a political background.

## **2.2 Conceptualization**

### **2.2.1 Peace building.**

There is contradiction regarding the origins of the concept of Peace Building as scholars differ when the concept came into existence. Although the world has been challenged by many conflicts and wars like the French revolutionary wars of 1879, the Napoleon wars, the world wars, as well as the wars in DRC, the concept of peace building was not common. The origins of Peace Building in peace studies are said to have been forty years ago when Johan Galtung (1975) coined it in his first writings “Three Approaches to peace”. He defines Peace Building as the removal of structures that may cause conflicts in order to create sustainable peace. He also posited that root causes of conflicts must be addressed and indigenous capacities to manage peace and solve conflicts must be established. Peace Building is a process that permits durable peace and that involves addressing social, economic and political sources of conflicts.

Later the concept of Peace Building was elaborated by another scholar in the field of peace, John P, Lederach (1997) who defines Peace Building as more than post conflict accord and reconstruction but instead it is conflict transformation that involves three stages. He propounded

the framework for Peace Building and it has been a baseline for many NGOs, Civil Society and individual organizations in the field of peace.

The decade of 2000 saw the concept of Peace Building being assimilated in the United Nations (UN) agenda. In 1992, the then UN Secretary General, Ghali Boutros Boutros in his Agenda for Peace report marked the first global initiative towards peace building and not much was done until the 2000s. He defined Peace Building as identifying structures that will solidify peace and avoid relapse of conflicts.

In the year 2000 the Brahimi report or the Report of the panel on UN Peace Operations defined Peace Building as peace activities undertaken on the far side of conflicts but instead are activities that lay foundations for peace and provide tools for building those foundations, which is something more than just the absence of a war. In 2003, Review of Technical Co-operation in the United Nations, Kofi Annan the then Secretary General called for action plan in which UN could devise strategies for countries that have been affected by conflicts to build peace. This saw the establishment of a UN Peace Building Commission with an objective of building a more secure world.

In 2005, the commitment for Peace Building was noted as the General assembly and the Security Council established three pillars for Peace Building; the Peace building Commission, Peace building Fund and Peace building Support Office. These wings were created to help countries emerging from war to solve challenges and prevent relapse into conflicts as well as the mobilization of donors to sustain conflicts. In 2008, the UN Peace Keeping Capstone Doctrine defined Peace building as strengthening national capacities for conflict management and laying foundations for durable peace. According to the doctrine, Peace Building involves mobilizing

various measures aimed at reducing the risk of relapse of violence. Multilateral Institutions and individual donors are also players in the field of Peace Building and they generalize the concept of Peace Building as civilian crisis management, conflict prevention and management.

Barnnet et al, (2007) observe that the term Peace Building has been defined differently by various scholars. Also there are different views on what needs to be done in order to build peace and whether the process of Peace Building must be prior to a conflict or post conflict. This is largely because there is thinking that absence of peace does not automatically mean armed conflicts but may also mean human insecurity like poverty, poor service delivery, hunger and many more. To solidify that, the School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University stipulate that peace building involves activities that resolve conflicts which include trauma healing, reconciliation, development and good leadership.

The United Nations Peace Building Support Office denotes that Peace Building process should include strategies and activities aimed at reducing chances of violence to lapse or relapse. This argument supports the Brahimi report of 2000 that states that Peace Building involves activities that are far aside of conflicts to resemble foundations of conflicts because peace is not just the absence of war. The United Nations Action Plan for Peace Building encourages international states and the civil society to establish measures that will address the root causes of conflicts like human insecurity which is referred to as the trigger of conflicts (Bautros Bautros 1992). This idea agrees with Ledarech's view that Peace Building should involve all classes of the societies that is women, children, youth and men in order to address all inequalities which may trigger violence in communities.

In the past Peace Building process and initiative was seen from a state centric perspective hence it was limited to post conflict phase thus the earlier definition of Galtung in 1975 coined that it is the removal of structures that may cause conflicts to relapse (Shinoda 2002). However, a new trend has appeared in the discourse of peace which is a shift from state security to human security. This paradigm shift is of the notion that non state actors are necessary in the Peace Building process to prevent lapsing or relapse of conflicts. Lederach's conceptual framework on Peace Building illustrates that Peace Building involves all levels of the society of which his ideology has been adopted by the UN Development Program. Non state actors like the individuals, local organizations, NGOs, ethnic groupings are regarded as essential in Peace Building which is endorsed by the 'indigenous development theory' proposed by Kazuko Tsurumi (1989).

In summation one may note that Peace Building is not a recent development as far as peace is concerned and it is not restricted to any continent but has been practiced and continues to be practiced globally. Although earlier views of Peace Building were only limited to post war phase (Galtung's definition) and only restricted to state-centric view, in recent years there has been noted shift since the release of the Brahimi Report 2000. Kaldor, (2003) notes that Peace Building must take place from local authorities where conflicts have their root causes underlying hence non state actors are essential in the process of Peace Building which is a pre-conflict and post-conflict phase process. It is therefore in light of this that the scholar intends to investigate effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building as peace clubs are a grassroots strategy for peace building initiated by civil society in Zimbabwe.



### **2.3 The Comprehensive Peace Building Framework: John P. Lederach**

A major scholar of peace studies, Lederach, (1996) posited that Peace Building has three components that when harnessed will result in sustainable peace. The framework portrays that Peace Building requires approaches and actors.

*1. Peace Building must be taken simultaneously in all level of society.*

He suggest that a top down approach to Peace Building must be employed focusing on all level of society not only concentrating in the high level politicians. He argues that conflicts are like an eco-system which is dynamic and inter related so much that if one group of the society is isolated concrete peace cannot be achieved.

*2. Short term goals and long term visions must be linked.*

Lederach, (1996) postulates that a comprehensive approach is the one that has the ability to link both activities that meet short term needs hence build broader vision. The component suggest that societies should be conflict responsive not conflict driven so that they can maximize the potential to respond to immediate need.

*3. Critical issues must find response*

Lastly, he states that reconciliation is vital in the process of Peace Building where by it is a means of ending undesired things as well as finding solutions to problems. It also includes redefining violent relationships into constructive patterns.

#### ***Components of the Comprehensive Peace Building Framework***

*Level 1*

The approaches at all three levels play an important role (Maiese 2003). The top players in the Peace Building field comprises of top leadership which may include military, religious and political leaders who are the elite of the community. Their role is critical in Peace Building as it includes high level negotiations, and disarmament through diplomatic mediation. The elite are most likely to achieve their goal as they are most respected and because of their status, they will strive to meet their requirements to fulfill the expectations of the public.

### *Level 2*

The middle level is made up of respected leaders of the ethnic or religious groups, academics and humanitarian leaders (NGOs). Their role is largely the problem solving workshops in a bid to establish relationships and skills necessary for the Peace Building process. Once Peace Building information has been disseminated in the workshops and training peace can be sustained as the public would be aware of the need for peace and its benefits.

### *Level 3*

Lastly, at the bottom are the grassroots leaders which may include local NGOs, the local developers and the general local people. This grassroots approach brings together the enemies at a village level whereby post conflict workshops are carried out for reconciliation and psychological healing.

## **2.4 Indicators of Peace Building**

- Co-operation amongst previously fighting people.
- Absence of conflicts in the society
- Livelihoods projects

- Successful advocacy on peace.
- Peace dialogues sessions

## **2.5 Peace Clubs**

Peace clubs can be defined as associations composed of people with different political views designed to create harmony through reconciliation and healing in order to achieve community development. The concept of peace clubs is a new phenomenon which has been adopted as a grassroots peace building strategy around the world. Peace clubs are considered an effective method of providing positive behaviour models hence promote a sense of belonging and security (International Centre for non-violence World Press).

The goal of the peace clubs is to create opportunities for the people to blossom into peaceful beings. As Galtung, (1976) notes that Peace Building can be enforced through establishing structures that can be reservoirs for conflict prevention, peace clubs are a method of grouping community divided people into ambassadors of peace. They are strategies for non-violent activities, (Joan 2012) and they foster a culture of peace through mediation, instillation of positive communication skills as well as encouraging development. As noted by Lederach (2002), Peace Building involves engaging grassroots which are local people and local NGOs in the Peace Building activities peace clubs are usually a community based strategy for peace building. The concept of peace clubs as a Peace Building strategy has been referred to as ‘peace building from below’ by Hiroshi Oda (2007).

The Brahimi report, (2000) refined the definition of Peace Building that it is more than just the absence of war but human security. It is in light of this that peace clubs are not only as reservoirs for peace where by peaceful dialogues are held but also include livelihoods development

activities. Although the earlier generalisation of the concept of Peace Building by the UN was only limited to peace negotiations, disarmament and rehabilitation, the guiding principles approved in 2008 released by the UN Peace Keeping Capstone Doctrine marked the realisation that Peace Building goes far beyond conflict resolution. The principles of the doctrine outline that Peace Building should involve a wide range of activities that strengthen societal capacities to reduce the risk of lapsing of conflicts. The root causes of conflicts from this point of view include underlying problems like poverty, lack of human rights, poor service delivery, inequalities, and ethnicity (Kaufman et al 2000).

To fulfil the agenda for peace clubs there are various activities carried out in peace clubs. In most cases peace clubs establish structures for Income Generating Projects (IGPs) as a way of improving livelihoods and addressing poverty which is a trigger of conflicts in communities. The peace clubs also close gaps between different societal groups like marginalised (females) as they are also encompassed in the Peace Building and development activities. However, not only IGPs are activities carried out in the peace clubs, Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) issues are tackled as diseases are threats to humans, dialogues on different issues that affect people on daily basis are carried out, community responsibility activities are also done in peace clubs. The peace clubs are therefore a hub for harmony where people can relate together despite their different political, religious views to address the underlying root causes of conflicts from a community level hence adhere development.

In most communities the concept of peace clubs as a Peace Building strategy is pioneered by NGOs and it is becoming a popular concept in the field of peace. Numerous peace clubs have been established in different countries to different age groups of communities but little has been said pertaining to their success or failure. In 1999 World Vision introduced peace clubs in

Kosovo to communities which were affected by the Serbian war of 1988 to 1999. The main objective of the peace clubs was to establish peaceful relations, trauma healing and reconciliation to the victims of the conflicts through dialogues in communities.

Furthermore, in Nigeria peace clubs were established by the Peace Initiative Network (PIN) in 2004 to schools and universities. These clubs which have approximately 8,000 members in four regions of Nigeria (Kano, Gombe Plateau and Kaduna) have the objective of promoting unity, encourage cooperation amongst people with different backgrounds, promote peace and harmony as well humanitarian services. The peace club's agenda is to remove all structures that have potential of triggering lapsing or relapse of conflicts which are in line with the UN Brahimi Report (2002) which claims that peace is more than just the absence of war.

Sports and peace awareness dialogues are activities carried out in the peace clubs to transform violence affected people into productive human beings that enhance development in communities. It is noted that there has been evidence of behaviour change amongst the youths who are participants in the peace clubs as there is teamwork, religious tolerance and harmony ([www.peace initiative network.org](http://www.peaceinitiative.network.org)). Noting the impact of the peace clubs, the National Executive Secretary of the National Commission of Nigeria approved the request by Universal Peace Federation (UPF) in 2014 to establish peace clubs in all colleges and introducing peace studies in Nigerian school syllabuses.

In South Africa the concept of peace clubs is also becoming popular in communities implemented by different Peace Building focused organizations. Peace clubs have been noted as a strategy for non-violence activities (Joan 2012) following the violent attacks of xenophobia in 2008. In KwaZulu-Natal, Petermaritzburg, and Port Elizabeth peace clubs have been

established by NGOs advocating for peace like the International Centre for Non-violence. The objectives of the peace clubs are to instill a culture of peace through mediation and reconciliation to promote peaceful approach to conflict resolution and create durable peace. Peace dialogues, sports and peace studies are carried out in the peace clubs for different age groups to provide positive behavior models and create human security,([http://www.peaceclubs in southafrica](http://www.peaceclubs.in.southafrica))

In the Zimbabwean context, Peace Building initiatives have become common as a necessity for development. The country has faced a number of conflicts which has led to economic erosion and human suffering. In Mutoko, Evangelical Fellowship Zimbabwe (EFZ) introduced peace clubs to the community which was affected by the 2008 political violence,([www.EFZ.org](http://www.EFZ.org)). The political violence created enormity amongst the community whereby donor aid was politicized hence those affiliated to the ZANU PF ruling party benefited at the expense of those affiliated to other parties. Although the GNU was created in 2009 political polarization remained which affected the development of the community. Peace clubs were then set as to instill peaceful relations in the community in order to achieve development.

The Heal Zimbabwe Trust (HZT) has also established community peace clubs that are used as a tool for conflict transformation into harmony. The peace clubs have been set up in Birchenough Bridge in Buhera. Economic activities like livelihoods projects are also part of peace clubs activities to instill peaceful co-existence, ([www.healzimbabwe.co.zw](http://www.healzimbabwe.co.zw)). The Southern Institute of Peace-building and Development also has set peace clubs to carry out Peace Building activities through entrepreneurship activities, peace education and research.

In Matobo the peace clubs concept was established by YTT in realization that political divergence is an underlying root cause of violence and human insecurity in the community

especially after the 2008 election campaign violence. As Boutros, (2012) notes that Peace Building initiatives should be tailored towards people's needs , the organization set peace clubs which act as reservoirs for peace composed of people with different views to lay foundation for development. Apart from Peace Building workshops and dialogues, livelihoods projects are carried out equip members of peace clubs with disposable income while they work together in tranquility. YTT established peace clubs in the seven wards of the district consisting of the youths which was seen as a marginalized group of the society yet they perpetrate or are victims of violence. The community is underdeveloped, donor aid is politicized, there is high emigration and polarization yet in 2008 violence reached its climax. It is in light of this background that Matobo district was chosen to assess the effectiveness of the peace clubs as a tool for peace building.

## **2.6 The nexus between peace and development**

Peace is widely defined as concord, harmony and tranquility (Rummel1990). It is more than the absence of war for it is not only bombs and bullets that kill people but there are structures of violence like food insecurity, poverty, malnutrition and diseases that kill people, (Galtung 1976). Peace is therefore a harmonious condition in a society whereby political, social and economic needs of a society are addressed.

Development is defined as the economic, social and political freedoms in a society that allow economic growth and expansion which can be measured by national input and output GNP and GDP, ( Sen 1999). Generally, development is a process that raises people's standards of living whereby they achieve their set goals and enhancing civil liberties of the society.

It is of paramount importance to consider that peace and development are interlinked and cannot be separated. However, there is argument regarding the nature of the relationship between peace and development. Dumas, (2006) observes that the Liberalists note that development encourage peace because people in developed societies cannot start conflicts because they fear destruction of their assets. On the other hand the dependency theorists argue that peace encourages development hence the absence of peace means absence of development.

According to Sen, (1999) the relationship between peace and development is straight forward, peace is a means for development. Peace establishes conditions that remove obstacles for development. Dumas, (2006) notes that development and peace is a virtuous circle, economic development help build peace. He observes that around 120 wars have been fought after the end of World War 2 killing approximately 20 million people and the majority of them were fought in the developing countries. His observation denotes that developed societies are peaceful which therefore affirms that peace and development is interlinked.

Peace is an essential condition for advancement of development and as such conflict prevention and the consolidation of peace require coordinated, sustained and integrated efforts. This point notes the fact that peace and development are inseparable. In this regard the concept of peace clubs is a vehicle driving towards a goal to bring about peace. The absence of peace demonstrates a state of conflicts, struggles, violence and disintegration as well as social injustices among community members. If people are in conflict against each other it means that they are divided thereby creating a possibility of relapse into more conflicts.

In this regard the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops conceptualized development as the new word for word peace. Peace therefore cannot be seen simply as the absence of war but it



must be built daily to strive towards a more perfect justice among human beings. This proves that it is unthinkable to consider peace in the lines of absence of war and conflict while millions of people die from starvation, diseases and poverty. According to UKAID Report (2010 p.39) , peace and development should be from the bottom up, beginning at the grass roots, involving everyone in the process of building a satisfactory quality of life which is what peace clubs seek to achieve. It is argued that development should involve those suffering because of inadequate food security, water, sanitation, housing, decision making and action and this can only be achieved if there is peace. This point to the fact that the main thrust of peace clubs is to bring about peace and development. If it brings peace then development becomes inevitable since the two are closely linked.

## **2.7 Challenges of Peace Building**

Although Peace Building has been prioritized by the United Nations, the multilateral institutions, governments, NGOs and the individual organizations, peace has remained an elusive goal in the world over. By the end of 2004 the UN had deployed over 64000 military and civilian personnel in 21 peace keeping missions around the world but not all of these efforts were fruitful. In 2005 the then Secretary of United Nations Kofi Annan in his report ‘In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for all’ he endorsed that Peace Building should involve internal and external peace players. The failures of Peace Building missions in Cort d’Ivoire, Haiti, Iraq and Liberia reveal the factors that make Peace Building difficult and these include:

- Lack of ability of states to provide security- this has been evidenced in Afghanistan whereby demilitarization, demobilization and reintegration have failed within societies because the government has no ability to protect its citizens.
- Lack of functional law within societies- the absence of legal administrative structures in communities challenges Peace Building goals. Liberia is a vivid example where Peace Building has failed due to lack of rule of law and the presence of corruption within societies.
- Lack of local population participation- as Lederach, (1996) highlights that Peace Building should also involve the grassroots who are the victims of violence. Most UN and regional organizations peace building activities are minimal in approach. In the same way UN and regional organizations do not consider unique issues of individual countries which make it difficult to remove structures that have potential for triggering conflicts.

### **Chapter conclusion**

The chapter focused on the review of literature. This was meant to create an in-depth understanding of relevant diction that would be used in the research. A comprehensive overview of the theoretical framework and its justification was done. The chapter also conceptualised peace building and listed the indicators of peace building as well as discussing the conceptual framework guiding the study. The link between peace and development was also discussed analysing different scholarly literature. Peace clubs were justified mentioning their relevance where they have been established as Peace Building tools. This was meant to create an understanding of the research from the researcher's point of investigation. The next chapter will look at the research methods that shall be employed in the research.

## **CHAPTER THREE: Research Methodology**

### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter outlines the qualitative research methodology used to carry out the study. It discusses the size which is 20 participants from two peace clubs which are Bhalagwe and Makhasa. The sampling design and sampling procedures are also outlined. The research instruments for data collection and methods employed to maintain validity and reliability of the data are described. The tools for data gathering are purposive interviews and questionnaires. Finally, the chapter highlights the ethical considerations to be considered in carrying out the research.

### **3.1 Methodology**

Research methodology is a strategy that shows how the research will be conducted (Howell 2013). It outlines the methods that would be used to carry out the research. This research uses the qualitative research method because it more suitable for the study which is politically sensitive and needs details. Qualitative research method provides valuable data that can be obtained through reading respondent's emotions and personal characteristics. The researcher was able to obtain detailed valuable data as the respondents had room to express themselves hence questions were clarified where necessary.

### **3.2 Research Design**

A research design refers to a plan of how a researcher intends conducting the research (Babbie and Mouton, 2008). Tuckerman, (1978) states that a research design may be defined as a list of specifications and procedures for conducting and controlling a research project. The study used a

Case study research design hence ward 10 of Matobo district was used to represent other areas. Matobo ward 10 was chosen because it has experienced various conflicts therefore it is a representation of all areas which have been hit by conflicts. The researcher greatly chose a case study research design over others so as to have a depth understanding of the impact of peace clubs in Peace Building. The researcher managed to spend enough time on the area under study and that was less in terms of financial costs as the case study will represent all other wards which have implemented Peace Clubs as Peace Building tools.

### **3.3 Population and Sample Size**

#### **3.3.1 Study Population**

McMillan, (2003) notes that study population are elements, individuals or objects that form specific criteria which people intend to generalize research result. The study population consisted of members of Peace Clubs and other general members of the community who have taken part in the Peace Building programs although they are not members of peace clubs. The stake holders within the community understudy were also part of the study population so as to validate the study.

#### **3.3.2 Sample size**

According to Evans etal (2000) sample size is the number of annotations in a sample. The research studies two peace clubs which have 30 peace clubs members each. The researcher randomly selected twelve participants from both peace clubs. The peace club members referred the researcher to four non peace club members who were deemed valuable for the study as they have attended the peace clubs activities like dialogues. The selected participants were given

questionnaires of which all of them were completed and returned to the researcher. Four participants were scheduled to be interviewed and 3 interviews were carried out. Therefore, 20 respondents participated in the research.

### **3.3.3 Sampling Design**

A sampling design is a framework or road map that represents the survey population and it includes determining sample size, grouping of target units on the frame and classifying selected units in a bid to obtain depth information (Gary, 2008). In this regard twenty participants were selected for the study. The sample was composed of key informants who are stakeholders in the community, the peace club members and other members of the community who have witnessed peace building programmes carried out by peace clubs.

### **3.3.4. Sampling Procedure**

The study used different sampling procedures to conduct the research and these are snowballing and purposive sampling in assessing the effectiveness of Peace clubs in peace building. These sampling methods enabled the researcher to get various views from sample concerning the matter under study.

Snowballing sampling was used to gather information from the members of the Peace Clubs (PCs) and other community members who were affected by the 2008 harmonized elections violence. Denscombe, (1998) notes that snowballing is an effective sampling technique for building up a reasonable-sized sample. It is the process of references from one person to the next and its advantage is that it accumulates numbers quickly when one person nominates the other. The researcher was referred by peace club members to other informants who had

knowledge of peace clubs. This made it easier for the researcher to obtain information from referees rather approaching a person who would not have information. This enabled the researcher to gather information regarding the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building.

Purposive sampling was used in the selection of stakeholders who participated in the Peace Building process from district level. Purposive sampling enabled the researcher to select the government officials like the District Administrator (DA) and Ministry of Youth official, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) representatives and general community members. Denscombe, (1998) notes that the advantage of purposive sampling is that it allows researcher to identify people or events in which there is good grounds for believing will be critical for the research. This technique also allowed the researcher to judge information obtained in order to answer the research questions.

### **3.3.5 Justification of the sampling method.**

Snowballing and purposive sampling simplifies data collection and has more advantages than disadvantages (Kalsbeek 1998). Purposive sampling narrowed down the research to specific variables rather than general issues so as to obtain in depth information hence it is time and cost effective.

## **3.4 Data Gathering Methods**

The researcher used questionnaires and interviews to gather information for the research.

### **3.4.1 Interviews**

The word interview is defined as purposeful conversation in which one person asks questions (interviewer) another answers them (respondent), (Frey and Oishi 1995). The researcher used

structured and unstructured interviews to gather information from the sampled population. Unlike a questionnaire, the interviews allowed the researcher to collect tangible data as the questions were asked in a way that the interviewee comprehended. Jensen, (1991) alludes that interviews are useful as they can lead to other data collection methodologies such as observation and experiments. The researcher took advantage of that shall there be a need to employ more methodologies in order to gather more information. The researcher intended to interview four key informants but managed to carry out three. The scholar engaged in interviews with the Ministry of Youth Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment official, the councillor for ward 10 and the YTT programs officer. The interviews therefore enabled the researcher to conduct face to face dialogues about the subject understudy. The YTT programmes officer provided the researcher with valid detailed information because the organisation has carried out its evaluation on the peace clubs.

#### **3.4.1.1 Advantages of Interviews**

McQuerrey, (2004) notes that interviews are good data gathering techniques as they have advantages of open ended discussion whereby complete feedback is obtainable as primary questions can lead the discussion. Interviews also allow for assessment and reading of emotions and this was important since the subject understudy is political and they high possibilities of emotional response. According to Fery and Oishi, (1995) interviews allow guided questioning and clarification of points to the respondent. This enabled the researcher to gather detailed information for the research. Some key informants needed explanation of certain questions and that was done by the researcher.

### **3.4.1.2 Disadvantages of Interviews**

Although interviews have advantages they also have their limitations. Breakwell et al, (1995) allude that interviews rely on the respondent being willing to give accurate information. Information obtained maybe bias due to the respondents fear, nervousness, embarrassment and loss of memory or lack of knowledge. Interviews are also time consuming, and expensive data collection tools (Jacobson 2008). The researcher had to beg to interview some informants who made excuses of being too busy hence one interview was not carried out.

### **3.4.2 Questionnaires**

Questionnaires are questions designed to collect data from various individuals. Questionnaires were used on randomly selected Peace Club members and other members of the community who were affected by the 2008 harmonized elections violence. Sixteen participants were used for data collected through questionnaires to obtain information suitable for the research. The participants were both males and females between 15 years and above. The researcher communicated with the two peace clubs leaders and arranged for convenient times to meet them. The researcher therefore made use of peace clubs meeting (Makhasa peace club) and targeted the Bhalagwe peace club members at their poultry project where the respondents were given questionnaires to complete and the researcher collected them after the meeting. The members of the peace clubs nominated the non-peace clubs members who were suitable for the study. This was advantageous as the researcher managed to take back all the issued questionnaires. All those who participated volunteered to do so, they were not obliged.



### **3.4.2.1 Advantages of Questionnaires**

Questionnaires are effective data collection tools and they were opted for because of their advantages. Questionnaires are cheap to use, they can cover sparsely populated individuals (telephonically or postal), they reduce chances of bias because same questions are asked to different respondents, (Fin and Jacobson 2008). The questionnaires were issued during peace clubs meeting and the researcher managed to get them all back despite that they were many.

### **3.4.2.2 Disadvantages of Questionnaires**

However, questionnaires have their limitations which include low response as respondents may not complete the questionnaire, there is no room for additional details, lack of contact with the respondents the researcher might never know who completed the questionnaire and questionnaires limit the sample to people who can read and write only ,(Thompson 1996). However, the researcher overcame this by distributing questionnaires in a meeting and waited as they were completed hence all questionnaires were returned to the researcher.

## **3.5 Data Validity and Reliability**

Seliger and Shohamy (1989), note that generally validity is an indication of how sound one's research is. It specifically applies to both the design and the methods of one's research. Validity in data collection means that the research findings truly represent the phenomenon the researcher is claiming to measure and thus make the claims solid.

Joppe, (2000) defines reliability as the extent to which results are consistent over time hence the results can be reproduced under similar methodology. Consistent results are determined by the research instrument which is reliable. Seliger and Shohammy (1989) observe that the validation

and reliability of the research may be affected by certain factors like time for data collection and size of population amongst others hence the scholar took responsibility to control such factors in order produce a good research. To ensure the validity and reliability of the research, the scholar used pre-tested questionnaires as well as asking a series of questions. Qualitative research methodology was used to collect data and the scholar then analyzed the data collected.

### **3.6 Ethical considerations**

Ethical considerations are a set of moral principles that are widely accepted. The research conducted is public therefore it was ethically conducted and socially responsible to ensure validity of the results. The researcher's ethical consideration included protection of participants from any kind of harm, upholding the principle of participation that is voluntary, and confidentiality of information obtained.

#### **3.6.1 Voluntary Participation and Informed Consent**

The researcher ensured agreement of participants that participation is voluntary and there shall be no financial benefits. The rights of participants were observed hence the participants were given explanation that the research is for study purposes and that the participants will not be criminalized for withdrawing shall they feel like. All those who participated volunteered to so.

#### **3.6.2 No Harm to the Participants**

Babbie, (2008) articulates that any research that might be conducted runs a risk of injuring other people somehow. The issue of peace building is politically sensitive especially in an area like Matobo where there is political polarization amongst villagers. The researcher interviewed respondents in a protected manner and that which was done by one on one interview sessions.

### **3.6.3 Confidentiality**

The researcher assured respondents the confidentiality of information so that the respondents would open up and hence protect their identity. The information which was obtained was treated with confidentiality and no names will be disclosed.

### **Chapter conclusion**

Chapter 3 highlighted the research methodology that was used to guide the field work of the research. Qualitative method was used to carry out the research as it was regarded suitable by the scholar. Justification for the research methodologies and the reason for the adoption of the case study design for the study were also highlighted. The research was carried through the use of interviews and questionnaires. The sample size was 20 participants and 19 responses were obtained. The chapter laid a direction to be used by the research to investigate effectiveness of Peace Clubs as a peace building strategy. The next chapter analyses the data collected, presents it and interprets the findings of the research.

## **Chapter four: Data Presentation, Interpretation, Discussion and Analysis**

### **4.0 Introduction**

This chapter focuses on data presentation, discussion and analysis of the research findings. The process entails, organising data and summarising it in tables. The information will be analysed and linked to the research objectives.

### **4.1 Research objectives**

- To examine role played by peace clubs in peace building.
- To outline peace building activities under taken by peace clubs.
- To assess the impact of peace clubs in peace building.

### **4.2 Response rate and demographic analysis**

The researcher used two peace clubs which are Makhasa and Bhalagwe to gather information. Sixteen questionnaires were given to peace club members and non-peace club members so as to validate information. All the questionnaires were returned fully completed. Interviews with four stake holders were set for the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2015. Three interviews were successful with YTT programmes officer, the Councillor for Matobo's ward 10, the Ministry of Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment officer. One stakeholder was not available for the interview as he stated to be busy somewhere. The interviews gave detailed information concerning peace in the district and the relevance of peace clubs.

Demographically the area understudy has more females than males due to lack of employment within the area that has forced males to migrate to urban areas and to neighbouring countries in

search of employment. Therefore the majority of the respondents were females. The peace clubs are also female dominated due to their higher proportion in the district.

The researcher designed a table below to illustrate the target population by category and response rate. The researcher targeted 20 participants and 19 responded through questionnaires and interviews.

**Figure1. Table of response rate**

Participants	Target population	Number of positive responses	Number of negative Responses
Peace Club Members	12	12	0
Non Peace Club Members	4	4	0
Stakeholders	4	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>

*Table designed by the researcher.*

The research was conducted from participants from the ages 15years and above. The majority of the participants were youths (15-30 years). This was due to that the peace clubs are associations for youths. Youths were made ambassadors in the district because they were perpetrators of violence in the 2008 harmonised elections campaigns. Peace clubs therefore aim to transform them to be productive members of the community. The researcher illustrated the age groups of respondents on a table below.

**Figure2. Age groups of participants**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
15yrs-35yrs	15
36yrs- 50yrs	3
50yrs+	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>

Table designed by researcher.

#### **4.3Role played by peace clubs in Peace Building**

- To create opportunities of people to blossom into productive members of the community.
- They are structures for conflict prevention and conflict resolution.
- Organs that promote unity, cooperation and harmony through mediation and trauma healing.
- To reduce or eliminate prevalence of conflicts through advocacy on peace.

The study obtained that peace clubs aim to achieve their set objectives which are mentioned above through various activities which sports, dialogues, IGPs to mention a few. The table below was designed by the researcher to present the activities undertaken by peace clubs in peace building and their effectiveness in peace building.

#### 4.4 Activities undertaken by peace clubs and their impact

**Figure 3. Rating of peace clubs activities in Peace Building.**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Sports	55%	45%
Income Generating Projects (IGPs)	40%	60%
Peace Dialogues	30%	70%
Information dissemination	45%	55%
Community Responsibility	30%	70%

*Table designed by researcher.*

The research aims to assess the impact of peace clubs activities in Peace Building. All the participants mentioned that peace clubs the two peace clubs studied undertake various activities which are sports, peace dialogues, community responsibility, and peace building workshops, Income Generating Projects and information dissemination on peace. Peace clubs have existed since 2008 after with a mandate of preventing relapse of conflicts.

The results obtained from the participants present that sports have the highest proportion regarding impact on peace building. Peace clubs form football and netball teams whereby they come together for practice conveying a spirit of cooperation and team work necessary for peace building. Competitions are then held against other peace clubs within the ward whereby the public is invited to watch the games. Peace building information is then disseminated to the audience to raise awareness and community sensitization. Information obtained through interviews reflected that sports are the major vital peace building activity as many people in the community participate. However it was noted that sports may be a cause of conflicts in the

community. The Bhalagwe peace club once faced attack by another peace club after winning a tournament to an extent that some peace club members were injured.

Peace clubs also undertake community responsibility which entails the cleaning of hospitals, schools and helping the poor and sick among others. Such activity is done to portray peaceful social cooperation for social development. Although a necessary activity the data obtained showed that this activity has less impact in terms of peace building. Opinions were that there is lack of commitment among peace clubs members because few people participate. It was also noted that in carrying out this activity no information is disseminated to the public. The peace clubs members carry out that activity without involving the people so the public cannot know that the ideal is for peace building. However, although it has very limited impact, the activity portrays a good spirit of teamwork and social cooperation necessary for peace building.

Another activity carried out are IGPs which are done in line with economic empowerment. The peace club members postulated that they all received skills training on different activities which poultry rearing, shoe making, carpentry and beading. The idea for IGPs are for improving the livelihoods of the unemployed peace club members to equip them with disposable income hence which is removal of economic structure that may trigger conflicts.

Although a necessary activity, IGPs were rated as having limited impact. It was noted that some projects are time consuming like poultry hence have little profit for example it takes eight weeks for chickens to mature and one costs \$7 yet one peace club member could be entitled to 5 birds. Market linkages for most products are scarce or unavailable yet the peace clubs are far from the urban centers with nearest growth point Maphisa is almost 30 km away. For that reason most of the products are sold on credit which causes conflicts when trying to recover the debts. The



economic situation on the ground limits the success of these projects as most people in the ward do not have capital to buy the products. In Makhasa peace club it was stated that two peace club members stole money and used it to migrate to South Africa. Therefore, instead of the peace clubs economically empowering people, they have become sources of conflicts that exacerbate hatred hence lead to migration to some extent.

Peace dialogues are also activities essential for peace building. They are carried out during peace clubs meetings and in situations where conflicts arise for example during donor relief aid hand out sessions. The peace clubs members who were trained mediation skills and conflict management use their knowledge to handle conflicts through dialogues.

Peace dialogues were however ranked the least effective due to that some peace clubs meetings are monitored by those affiliated to the ZANU PF party so much that major concerning peace building do not come out. The donor relief sessions are also controlled by the ZANU PF officials who intimidate people causing conflicts to arise. The research obtained that donor relief is largely politicized hence peace clubs are unable to handle such violent situations. It is therefore noted that peace clubs are subject to intimidation which largely limits their impact.

Information dissemination is one of the key peace building activity whereby the peace clubs are reservoirs of peace. Members of peace clubs were trained at the training workshops and have a task of distributing the information of peace to the rest of the society. The information is disseminated by word of mouth, print and digital. The aim is to distribute the information on community development meetings, on social networks and on peace celebrations like the World day of Peace and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence.

However, the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that information dissemination is not effective or successful. The participants cited that the peace club members/ ambassadors of peace are denied opportunities to distribute their information especially in public meetings due to that the most powerful people in the community view them as political mouthpieces of regime change. The tools of distributing the information are also limited to those who can read (fliers), and those who have access to social media (very few people afford gadgets like cellphones due to poverty). Although the majority doubt relevance of information dissemination some respondents pointed out that progress is noted during peace celebrations whereby songs and poetry on peace are performed hence many people attend such concerts.

In summation the researcher noted that although peace clubs have existed since 2008 they have failed to achieve their set objects. Conflicts in particular have remained hence some of the activities they carry out like IGPs have become sources of conflicts yet the major objective of peace clubs is to manage and solve conflicts. An overall analysis reflected that conflicts still occur whenever people of different affiliations meet which has also undermined development aspects in the community. The majority of peace clubs activities are undermined by politicians affiliated to the ZANU PF who sabotage them due to the thinking that peace clubs have regime change agenda.

#### **4.5 Are peace clubs effective in Peace Building?**

The research sort to explore if peace clubs are effective in peace building and the table below was designed by student to show the evaluation of peace clubs by respondents.

**Fig 4. Effectiveness of peace clubs in peace building.**

<b>Reaction</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>percentage</b>
Agree	8	40
Disagree	12	60
Total	20	100

*Table designed by the researcher.*

The findings from the research show that 60% of the participants allude that peace clubs are not effective in peace building. The reasons were that peace clubs face various challenges in their agenda for Peace Building like intimidation, sabotage, lack of sufficient funding to carryout peace building activities. The participants also noted that peace clubs are not sustainable as some members who would have received training withdraw when they migrate to places where they can secure jobs.

Some peace clubs activities may be sources of conflicts for example Makhasa peace club mentioned that two of its members misused the money obtained from the IGPs for their personal gains. When trying to recover the stolen money tension erupted leading to the withdrawal of the members who had failed to replace the money.

Insufficient funding also limits the success of the peace clubs as some activities are not fully executed like information dissemination (not enough print material to distribute). The problem of funds also affects the IGPs as the peace clubs end up engaging in very small scale projects for example in Bhalagwe peace club 10 people in a poultry project of 50 broilers (1:5). Considering time consumed such a project which takes approximately 8 weeks to finish one cycle little profit is earned by individuals leading to withdrawal of some members from the projects.

Peace clubs are also subject to sabotage because they are donor funded like the ones under study were implemented by YTT which is an NGO. They are then viewed as tools of regime change and usually denied opportunities to carry out their activities. The fact that they are a combination of people with different political affiliations is a setback as there is suspicion and fear amongst the members.

The key informants and the non-peace clubs members noted that peace clubs are not vital in peace building. It was highlighted that the peace clubs do not fully carry out their activities hence they are dying a natural death as the trained members pull out over time. According to the informants activities like peace dialogues and information dissemination are not prioritized yet it is the most important. Peace clubs dedicate more time into sport and IGPs and neglect sensitizing the community on the need for peace.

The subject of peace is sensitive and critical in an environment whereby there are numerous political parties. The peace club members mentioned that their great challenge is rejection from the community. Although the community was sensitized prior to the establishment of peace clubs people still fear to associate with peace clubs. In occasions where conflicts arise they are not given room to intervene as they are composed of youths only which are a marginalized group in the community.

### **Chapter conclusion**

This chapter dealt with the analysis and the interpretation of data, which was collected through the questionnaire and interviews. A total of 3 stake holders were interviewed and 12 peace clubs members and 4 non-peace clubs members completed the questionnaires. The result generally reflects that the peace clubs have failed to achieve their goals due to political polarization,

rejection by the community, failure of their Peace Building activities like the IGPs and lack of adequate skills to handle conflict situations. The economic hardships also limit the success of the peace clubs. The next chapter will look at the summary of the findings and make recommendations based on the findings.

## **Chapter Five: Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations**

### **5.0 Introduction**

The previous chapter presented, discussed and made interpretations into the research findings. The preceding chapter outlined that the peace clubs are largely in effective due to political and socio-economic instability in the district. This chapter summarises the research findings of the study and makes recommendations based on the findings.

### **5.1 Summary**

The study sought to investigate the effectiveness of peace clubs as a Peace Building strategy based on Matobo's ward 10 as a case study. The qualitative survey was used as the most appropriate as it captured the respondents' perceptions, attitudes and observations. Data was gathered from a sample of 20 participants who were 4 stakeholders, 12 peace clubs members and 4 non-peace clubs members. The sample was randomly and purposively selected. Random sampling was done to obtain information from peace clubs members while purposive sampling, was done for stakeholders who were government official, NGO staff and the councillor. Questionnaires and the interviews were used as the key data collection tools from the selected sample of respondents. The data gathered using these tools enabled the researcher to establish the findings and draw conclusions.

In carrying out the study a number of challenges were encountered. The major constraint was that some respondents were suspicious and were not thus at easy to relay the information required of them by the questions. This was largely due to the nature of the research which is political and sensitive.

## **5.2 Efficiency of peace clubs activities to Peace Building**

The research revealed that although peace clubs undertake various activities which are sports, IGPs, peace dialogues and information dissemination, most of the activities are not efficient. The peace club members lack enough, skill and capital to carry out activities like IGPs which end up causing conflicts and withdrawal of some members. Peace club activities like peace dialogues are undermined by political polarity and face criticism hence they fear victimization making such an activity difficult to undertake.

## **5.3 Challenges of peace clubs**

First and foremost Peace Building is a political sensitive issue especially in an area known to be opposed to the ruling party. Several challenges are obstacles hindering their success.

- Sabotage by some political individuals within the community has made it difficult for some activities to be done. Due to that they are donor funded they are viewed as Western regime change mechanisms.
- Economic hardships and food insecurity due to low rainfalls has made livelihoods projects to fail yet one of their objectives is to equip the members with disposable income. The thinking behind was that most of the perpetrators of violence were used by politicians in exchange of money or other assets.
- Political polarization has remained a set back as there is still fear of victimization among members and in the entire community causing the community to reject their activities.
- Peace clubs are not universal in nature, they are composed of youths yet the perpetrators of violence could be any one in the community. Advocating on peace on the angle of

youths only is difficult as they need permission from their parents to join the clubs hence they face rejection from the community sometimes.

- Little funding from the implementing organisation (YTT) limits the success of the peace clubs. Training for example was done prior to the launch of peace clubs yet most of the members who were trained have migrated or withdrawn from the peace clubs. Lack of funds also hinders the success of livelihoods projects.

#### **5.4 Did peace clubs meet their objectives?**

To a greater extent the peace clubs have failed to fulfil their set objectives. They have failed to improve livelihoods of their members as the behind them is to try and do away with poverty which is deemed a major cause of conflicts. This is due to the failure of their livelihoods projects which become sources of conflict in some instances which undermines their objective of giving the members opportunities to blossom into productive members of the community. The peace clubs are also dying a natural death due to withdrawal of some members who are assets due to that peace clubs have failed to improve their livelihoods.

However, although peace clubs have largely failed a fair assessment reveals that there has been marked improvement seen through cooperation amongst people who have previously tormented each other. The 2013 harmonized elections were held without any form of violence in the community (N. Ndlovu unpublished source ZESN official). The fact that peace clubs have existed since their launch in 2008 until present and a number of livelihoods projects are underway. Peace clubs have managed to host sports tournaments where information on peace is disseminated to a large audience, commemorations like International World day of Peace have been done yearly where messages of peace are sent to multitudes.



## **5.5 Recommendations**

In view of the conclusions drawn from the survey it is recommended that:

- The implementing organisation should combine with the ministries so that clarity is made to the entire community that peace clubs are not partisan and do not have a hidden agenda.
- Peace clubs should carry out projects suitable for the climatic conditions and those that have markets locally or abroad.
- Peace clubs should be universal in approach so that Peace Building is done from all levels of the community which will reduce chances of rejection.
- The implementing organisation YTT should garner sufficient funds so that peace club activities are carried out sufficiently and sustainably.
- Peace clubs should use a top down approach as postulated by Lederach (1996) in his Comprehensive Conceptual framework which states that peace building should start from the top to the bottom. This will enable the most important people in the community like church leaders, politicians to mention a few to be part of the initiative to enable the community to have interest.

## **Chapter conclusion**

The research ought to assess the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building. Matobo District ward 10 was used as a case study due to its exposure to Gugurahundi massacre, lack of employment leading to poverty and the 2008 violent election campaigns where violence in the area reached its climax. The study revealed that although the peace clubs have existed since 2008 till present they largely failed to fulfil their agenda. Livelihoods projects are slowly dying a

natural death due to little funding and misunderstanding amongst members whilst peace advocacy is sabotaged and limited by lack of skill. Conflicts are still occurring in food distribution gatherings and other community gatherings. The study thus recommends that peace clubs should be universal and encompass every member of the society to conquer rejection.

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**APPENDIX A**

**Questionnaire for peace clubs members and non-peace clubs members.**

My name is Nokukhanya Ngwenya. I am a student at Midlands State University, studying for a Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies. This research seeks to investigate the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building in Matobo’s ward 10. The responses to the questions would be treated with a highest degree of confidentiality hence no names would be required. May you kindly respond to the questions that you would be asked.

**Topic: An assessment of the effectiveness of peace clubs as a Peace Building strategy, the case of Matobo ward 10. (2008-2013).**

1. Date .....

2. Gender of Respondent.....

3. Age.....

4. Level of education.....

5. Member of peace club?

Yes	
No	

*Tick where appropriate.*

6. How long have you known peace clubs?

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

7. What sort of activities do peace clubs undertake?

.....

.....

.....

.....

8. Rate impact of each activity out of 10

.....

.....

.....

.....

9. Do peace clubs activities have impact on your life? If yes how?

.....

.....

.....

.....

10. Can you say peace clubs have brought effective changes in your community?

.....

11. If yes, what changes?

.....

.....

.....

.....

12. What challenges to peace clubs encounter in their agenda for Peace Building

.....

.....



.....  
.....  
13. Are peace clubs an effective strategy for Peace Building?

Yes	
No	

*Answer by ticking where appropriate*

14. Are there any other strategies for Peace Building used by state or non-state actors in your District/  
Village?

.....

15. What are your recommendations towards peace building in your district/ village?

.....

.....

.....

**Thank You for Your Contribution**

**APPENDIX B**

**Interview guide for key informants ( YTT staff).**

I am a student at Midlands State University, studying for a Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies. This research seeks to investigate the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building in Matobo’s ward 10. The responses to the questions would be treated with a highest degree of confidentiality hence no names would be required. May you kindly respond to the questions that you would be asked.

**Topic: An assessment of the effectiveness of peace clubs as a peace building strategy, the case of Matobo ward 10. 2008-2013.**

**1. Summarize your organization’s Peace Building in Matobo District**

.....  
.....

**2. How do you assist peace clubs to carry out their activities?**

.....  
.....

**3. What challenges do you face in implementing peace clubs as a Peace Clubs as a strategy in Matobo?**

.....  
.....

**4. Are peace clubs successful in building peace in the District of Matobo**

.....  
.....

**5. What strategies to solve violence in Matobo do you recommend?**

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

**Thank you for your contribution**

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Interview guide for key informants.**

I am a student at Midlands State University, studying for a Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies. This research seeks to investigate the effectiveness of peace clubs in Peace Building in Matobo's ward 10. The responses to the questions would be treated with a highest degree of confidentiality hence no names would be required. May you kindly respond to the questions that you would be asked.

**Topic: An assessment of the effectiveness of peace clubs as a peace building strategy, the case of Matobo ward 10. 2008-2013.**

- 1. How long have peace clubs operated in Matobo District?**
- 2. What sort of activities do peace clubs undertake?**
- 3. How do peace club activities influence Peace Building?**
- 4. Do peace clubs encounter any challenges in their mandate for Peace Building? What are they?**
- 5. What do you suggest peace clubs should do to overcome their shortcomings?**