

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIAL IMPACT RESULTING FROM THE
ABSENCE OF MARRIED QUARTERS IN THE NAMIBIAN DEFENCE FORCE**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN
SECURITY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES 2011**

OF

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES**

BY

**JEREMIA NDEULIKUFA MWANDINGI
May 2011**

Main Supervisor: Dr. Rigmar Osterkamp: School for Political Studies,
University of Munich.....

Co-supervisor: Prof. J. Buitendach (UNAM/HSS).....

ABSTRACT

The study suggests an analyses/investigation on the problem of the social impact arising from the absence of married quarters affecting married soldiers in the Namibian Defence Force. A case of the Namibian Defence Force has been used. Findings in most literature led to mobility as a major cause of social impact affecting married soldiers' social life in Namibian Defence Force. This study has probed the married and single soldiers' (male and female) interest in married quarters. The research question is: What are social impacts resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force having on married soldiers and their families? The study pursued the main objective of investigating the relationship of personal interests and married quarters' demand in the Namibian Defence Force. The opinion is widespread than an absence of married quarters contributes to frustration, separation, alcohol abuse and contracting of HIV/AIDS and other related diseases. The significance of the study is that findings and recommendations may provide new and insight full information about the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force. It was suggested that the social impact affecting married soldiers arising from the absence of married quarters are widespread in the Namibian Defence Force according to soldiers and separately by commanders. These phenomena could only be realized if the Ministry of Defence/the Namibian Defence Force commissions a study to assess the cost of a step-wise implementation of married-quarter policy in the Namibian Defence Force.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Subject	Page	
Abstract	ii	
Table of contents	iii	
List of abbreviations	vii	
Definition of terms	x	
List of table	xii	
Declaration		xv
Dedication	xvi	
Acknowledgements	xvii	
CHAPTER 1: RATIONALE OF THE STUDY AND OVERVIEW	1	
1.1 Introduction	1	
1.2 Background	2	
1.2.1 Establishment of the Ministry of Defence	6	
1.2.2 Mandate, Vision and Mission of the Ministry of Defence	7	
1.2.3 Establishment of the Namibian Defence Force	7	
1.3 Married quarters before and after independence	9	
1.4 Social organization and family structure	12	
1.4.1 Ovahimba family structure	15	
1.4.2 The Zulu family structure	16	
1.5 The statement of the problem	19	
1.6 The research question	20	
1.7 Objective of the study	20	
1.8 Significance and limitation of the study	21	
1.8.1 Significance of the study	21	
1.8.2 Limitation of the study	22	
1.9 Chapter outline	23	
1.9.1 Chapter 1: Rationale of the study and overview	23	
1.9.2 Chapter 2: Literature review	23	
1.9.3 Chapter 3: Methodology and research design		23

1.9.4	Chapter 4: Results of the study	24	
1.9.5	Chapter 5: Discussions, conclusion and recommendations	24	
1.10	Conclusion	24	
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW		25	
2.1	Introduction	25	
2.2	Issue areas relating to the Defence Forces on social impact		26
2.2.1	Social impact	26	
2.2.2	Alcohol Abuse	30	
2.2.3	HIV/AIDS Pandemic	32	
2.2.4	The Defence Economics	48	
2.2.5	Defence Relativity	50	
2.2.6	Gender Issues	51	
2.3	Costs and Benefits of Married quarters	52	
2.4	Housing in terms of the NDF Personnel Policy (1994)	54	
2.5	Theoretical and Conceptual Framework	56	
2.6	Conclusion	58	
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN			59
3.1	Introduction	59	
3.2	Research Design	60	
3.3	Research Context	62	
3.4	Questionnaires Format	63	
3.5	Choice of Population and Samples	63	
3.6	Sampling Approaches, Size and Techniques	65	
3.6.1	Sampling Approaches	65	
3.6.2	Sampling Size	66	
3.6.3	Sampling Techniques	66	
3.7	The Pilot Study	68	
3.8	Test for Validity and Reliability	68	
3.9	Research Instruments and Data Collection Procedures		69
3.9.1	Face-to-face interviews	70	
3.9.2	Interviews	70	
3.9.2	Focus Group Discussions	71	
3.10	Data Analysis Techniques	72	
3.11	Potential Data Collection Errors		73
3.12	Ethical Considerations	74	
3.13	Conclusion	75	

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND FINDINGS OF THE STUDY	77
4.1 Introduction	77
4.2 Part A: Personal information by respondents	77
4.3 Perceptions	84
4.4 Part B: Information and behaviours about others by commanders	103
4.4.1 Information about married soldiers by commanders	103
4.5 Conclusion	106
CHAPTER 5: DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	108
5.1 Introduction	108
5.2 Discussions	108
5.2.1 The difference between married quarters and community housing	109
5.2.2 Who should be responsible for married quarters in the NDF?	110
5.2.3 The social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters affecting married soldiers in the NDF	112
5.3 Conclusion	113
5.4 Recommendations	115
6. References	117
6.1 Internet source references	124
6.2 Legislations	126

LIST OF ABRIVIATIONS

AFHQ	Air Force Headquarters
AHQ	Army Headquarters
ARVT	Anti-retroviral treatment
BM	Burgersake en Mankrag (Inland and Civic Affairs)
Brig Gen	Brigadier General
Capt	Captain
CDF	Chief of the Defence Force
C-in-C	Commander-in-Chief
Col	Colonel
COS	Chief of staff
Coy Cmdr	Company Commander
Coy S/Maj	Company Sergeant Major
DD	Detached duty
DHQ	Defence Head Quarter
DKPO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
Dr	Doctor
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
FIS	Financial Institution Service

Gen	General
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
H	high
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired
HRM	Human Resources Management
	Immune Deficiency Syndrome
L	low
LAC	Legal Assistance Centre
Lt Col	Lieutenant Colonel
Lt Gen	Lieutenant General
Lt	Lieutenant
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
M	moderate
M/s	married soldiers
Maj	Major
MASSS	Master of Art Degree in Security and Strategic Studies
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MILOB	Military Observers
MQs	Married quarters
NDF	Namibian Defence Force

NDF/GAS	Namibian Defence Force Group Assurance Scheme
NHQ	Navy Headquarters
NDP 2	Second National Development Plan
NDP 3	Third National Development Plan
NEPAD	New Economic African Partnership for African Development
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PEP	post-exposure prophylaxis
PEPFAR	US President Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PLAN	Peoples' Liberation Army of Namibia (SWAPO Military Wing)
Pln Cmdr	Platoon Commander
RSA	Republic of South Africa
STI	Sexual transmitted infection
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SANDF	South African National Defence Force
SPF	Strategic Planning Framework
SWAPO	South West Africa Peoples' Organisation
SWATF	South West Africa Territorial Forces
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAM	University of Namibia

UNAM/PGSC	University of Namibia Postgraduate Studies Committee
USA	United State of America
Vh	very high
VI	very low
WHO	World Health Organisation
ZAM	Zambia
ZDF	Zimbabwean Defence Force
ZIM	Zimbabwe

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Absenteeism	Frequent absence from work without good reasons
Absence	non-existence
Absence of married quarters	Non-existence of military family housing; or the non-existence of military family lodging
Army	An Army (from Latin ‘armata” act of arming via Old French army), in the broadest sense, is the land-based armed forces of a nation.
Battalion	A battalion is a military Unit of about 500-800 men usually consisting of between two to three companies commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel
Brigade	A brigade is a military unit composed of two to five regiments or battalions commanded by a Brigadier/Brigadier General.
Brigadier General	A Brigadier General is the lowest General Officer sitting between the rank of Colonel and Major General.
Barracks	A temporary accommodation for soldiers for a certain period of time
Cantonment	installation, base
Commissioned officers	A military officer conferred /warranted with a rank
Denialism	Denial, denialist
Family	A group consisting of parents and their children, or a group of people related by blood or marriage
Married quarters	military family housing, or military family lodgings controlled by the government

Non-family member	people who are not related by blood or marriage
Non-commissioned officers	a military officer appointed from lower ranks rather than holding a commission
Perceptions	How different people look at things or Perceive them.
Privates soldier	a soldier with the lowest rank in the military.
Polygamy	The practice of having more than one wife at the same time.
Polyandry	The practice of having more than one husband at same time or husbands are brothers.
Soldier-comrades	A companion who shares one's activities or is a fellow member of an organization, comrades in-arms, fellow soldiers.
Non-permanent members	Not a permanent member of the force, he or she is temporary employed.
Dispensation	exemption from a rule or usual requirements, a political system prevailing at a particular time
Married quarters	military family housing or military family lodgings
Married soldier	married soldiers in this thesis includes only non-commissioned officers and private soldiers excluding commissioned officers
Social impact	the power to move feelings or influence thinking.
Rear	bring up and care for off-springs/children

LIST OF TABLES

Table Number		Page
Table 3.5.1	Targeted population.	64
Table 4.2.1	Number of respondents per service.	81
Table4.2.2	Number of respondents per gender.	82
Table 4.2.3	Number of respondents by ranks	83
Table 4.3.1	Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers having difficult to find a partner.	85
Table 4.3.2	Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers living with their families in MQ and married soldiers who live with their families near the work place.	87
Table 4.3.3	Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers renting with their families near the work place and married soldiers renting without their families at/near the work place .	88
Table 4.3.4	Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers who visiting their families at the work place and married soldiers who were visited by their families at the work place .	90
xiii		
Table 4.3.5	Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers of their main occupation during evenings .	91
Table 4.3.6	Health of married soldiers who stay with wives/husbands near the work place and health of married soldiers who stay without their families near the work place.	93
Table 4.3.7	Savings by married soldiers with wives/husbands	

	near the work place and savings by married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.	95
Table 4.3.8	Disputes by married soldiers with wives/husbands near the work place and dispute by married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.	96
Table 4.3.9	Learning by married soldiers with wives/husbands near the work place and learning with married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.	98
Table 4.3.10	Sport by married soldiers with wives/husbands near the work place and sport with married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.	99
Table 4.3.11	Sheens by married soldiers with wives/husbands near the work place and shabeens with married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place	101

xiv

Table 4.3.12	Prostitution by married soldiers with wives/husbands near the work place and prostitution by married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.	102
APPENDICES		128
Appendix 1:	A letter to NDF from UNAM for the facilitation of field research by MA-SSS Degree students.	128
Appendix 2:	Questionnaire married quarters	129

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned Jeremiah Ndeulikufa Mwandingi, do hereby declare that the work contained in this thesis is the true reflection of my own research, for the purpose of obtaining my degree in Master of Arts in Security and Strategic Studies, and has never been submitted for a degree in any other institution of higher learning.

No part hereof may be reproduced, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by any means (e.g., electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the prior written permission or the University of Namibia in that behalf.

I, Jeremiah Ndeulikufa Mwandingi, grant the University of Namibia the right to reproduce this thesis in whole or in part, in any manner or format, which the University of Namibia may deem fit, for any person or institution requiring it for study and research; providing that The University of Namibia shall waive this right if the whole thesis has been or is being published in a manner satisfactory to the University.

.....

Date:.....

Jeremiah Ndeulikufa Mwandingi

xvi

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated and credited to my beloved wife Fikifeipo, my children Ndeutala, Peingelao, Kaendangongo, Ndilenga, my namesake Ndeulikufa, my last born Kombadayedu and my two grand children Ndamonongheda and Temeipo, for bearing my absence from home especially during the “trying time” when I went through a challenge of the research process to make this study a reality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank God the Almighty for giving me knowledge, health, courage and patience to think, write and produce this thesis. I wish to thank the Lecturers and Staff of the Faculty of Economics and Management Science, mostly Dr Blaauw for making this work possible by their technical, material, morale and emotional support. Similarly, I wish to thank most sincerely my supervisor Dr Rigmor Osterkamp for his patience, generosity; encouraging disposition and wise supervision that made it possible for me to complete this work. His guidance will remain a source of inspiration for the rest of my life.

I also wish to express my profound gratitude to my parents Tate Erastus Haitota Mwandingi and meme Letisia Ndeikongela Shapwa who afforded me the opportunity to

be educated. I wish also to thank all my friends for their assistance and support they rendered in proofreading and in the choice of suitable computer software for data analysis and interpretation.

I would also like to express my unreserved profound gratitude to the Chief of the Defence Force Lieutenant General Martin Shali for having released me from duty to accomplish this study. I would like also further to thank the Ministry of Defence through Mr Petrus Shivute (the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence) for financial

xviii

support to make this study a reality, my Commander, Major General Martin K. Pinehas, the Air Force Commander, and all Air Force Staff in rendering their unwavering support during this hard time.

Finally, I wish to thank my dearest wife Fikifeipo Claudia Mwandangi for all her love, encouragement and assistance, especially in the long dark times which I had to make my way through. You have been an instrumental and a wonderful team, and I am proud to have been with you in this difficult moment.

God Bless you All!

CHAPTER 1

RATIONALE OF THE STUDY AND OVERVIEW

1.1 INTRODUCTION

One noticed problem at the establishment of the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) is the absence of married quarters in NDF. Married soldiers were recruited or inducted in the NDF, but there was no provision for married quarters to accommodate their families. One compares this situation with that of before independence, where men were recruited from the rural areas to work in factories and mines, but the law prevents them from bringing their families with them (Habitat International Coalition, 1996). The researcher

has undertaken this study to look into the social circumstances that affect married soldiers in the Namibian Defence Force (NDF). The aim of the study was to analyse the social impact to which married soldiers are exposed in so far as they do not live together with their family. The aim was to ask the opinion of married soldiers about their housing/accommodation in the NDF. The objective was investigating the perceptions that married soldiers in the NDF are not treated fairly and equally to their counter-parts in other ministries/ civil community. Other claims are that married soldiers are not

2

enjoying socio-economic benefits, privileges and rights that are enjoyed by majority of married people in society; include the perceptions that NDF deploys married soldiers far away from their families. Therefore, the social impact affecting married soldiers in the NDF posed by the absence of married quarters was the key focal point of this study.

1.2 BACKGROUND

The background deals with the establishment of the Ministry of Defence (MOD); the establishment of the Namibian Defence Force (NDF); the social organization and family structure followed by the problem statement, the research question, and objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study, chapters outline and conclusion.

The Government of the Republic of Namibia is committed to democracy, respect of human rights, peace and security. Cooperation is an indispensable condition to achieving and sustaining its socio-economic developmental goals. The Ministry of Defence (MOD),

as a government institution, is committed to implementing the expectation and support of the government and civil society; it has the NDF as a professional force and an indispensable partner in war and peacetime support. Like all defence and security organisations in the modern world, the MOD is faced with a number of strategic challenges. Some challenges are of internal origin and controllable to a large extent, others are externally driven with various levels of risks to be monitored and managed. In

3

its Strategic Plan, it was stated that one of the internal challenges is the effect of the social impact that the absence of married quarters has on the NDF married soldiers, their families and service delivery. External challenges faced include stresses, HIV/AIDS separation from their families and accumulation frustration.

The Plan has further indicated that MOD will only fulfil these commitments if it takes the welfare of its staff into consideration (MOD Strategic Plan 2008-2012). The welfare of MOD/NDF staff is a critical requirement for a motivated, highly responsive and efficient force. The effect of the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters is optimal and need urgent review to align it with the responsibility and trust assigned to and expected from the defence force.

Traditionally, married quarters were not included in the discussion of organizational prevention of combat stress or any other aspect of military readiness. The military family was simply not considered as part of combat readiness. According to Burman, Meredith,

Sherborne, Valdez and Vernez, combat readiness is known as a combination of a soldier's willingness and ability to do his job and cope in peace time and during combat, and the defence department's ability to retain trained service members during peacetime (1984). In USA among units that actually face the enemy on the battle field (combat and combat support units) it was unusual to find married soldiers in ranks of an

4

ordinary soldier. Wives were primarily associated with high ranking service men (who have generally adequate pay and good support groups), who had the time and experience to have adjusted to military life. It was stated that officers in the olden days were regarded as permanent members of the force and were entitled to family quarters; privates (ordinary soldiers) were excluded from living in married quarters. Privates were regarded as non-permanent members of defence forces. They were not entitled to live in married quarters (Burman et al, 1994). The NDF might also look into the question of giving married quarters as a priority to officer as permanent members of the force and introduce a turn-over procedures to ordinary/private soldiers as non-permanent members of the force.

Military family previously was dominated by commissioned officers (Offrs) and non-commissioned officers (NCOs); privates were not considered (Military Family Resource Centre, 1984). Privates use to stay in barracks. Barracks were meant for temporary accommodation for soldiers. The researcher is a commissioned officer and cannot deny

or agree the aforesaid information, till those affected had refuted it. After independence the new dispensation has introduced ‘the Bills of Rights’ as enshrined in Chapter Three (3) of the Namibian Constitution. The Constitution provides dignity, liberty and equality of all people including the married soldiers in the NDF (Article 8 and 10, Namibian Constitution). Article 14 of the Namibian Constitution provided that men and women of

5

full age, without any limitation due to race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, religion, creed or social or economic status shall have the right to marry and found a family.

The principles of state policy on the other hand ensure that every citizen has the right to fair and reasonable access to public facilities and service in accordance with the law (Article 95 (e), Namibian Constitution, 1990, p.52). Article 95 (i) further guarantees that workers will be paid a living wage adequate for the maintenance of a decent standard of living and the enjoyment of social and cultural opportunities. Three hundred (300) soldiers interviewed had also stated that it is not human for one to be separated from his/her families. There is also speculation that married soldiers used to travel very long distances when visiting their families and taxi fares are very expensive. They cannot visit their families as they want to, because of high taxi fare and risks of car accidents to their lives. Respondents had also stated that they do not enjoy their social and cultural opportunities, because they are separated from their families.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in Namibia, in its Strategic Planning Framework (SPF; 2008) document, has introduced government-wide approved strategic plan formulation process. A strategic plan formulation process is a plan where each and every ministry has to put up a plan complimenting Vision 2030. The Ministry of Defence was not an exception. The researcher has identified this project when he was a

6

participant at a Strategic Planning Workshop held by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) Namibia, at Waterberg in February 2008. Understanding the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters affecting married soldiers in the NDF were one of the Ministry of Defence's strategic objectives. Before going into detail of the research topic the researcher has looked into the question how the MOD and the NDF has been established.

1.2.1 Establishment of the Ministry of Defence (MOD)

The MOD is established by the Namibian Constitution (Act 1 of 1990). Article 32 (3) (i) (bb) of the Namibian Constitution (1990), empowers the President to establish the Ministry of Defence. The minister is charged with the responsibility of laying down terms and conditions of service for personnel who join the NDF as prescribed by the Public Service Act (Act 13 of 1995) and the Defence Act (Act 1 of 2002). The main purpose of the MOD includes formulating and implementing defence policies for the

government, providing a central operational and administrative Defence Headquarters (DHQ), overseeing the financial affairs and accountability of staff welfare and the procurement of equipments (p. 26). The MOD has been given a wide discretionary power to propose or suggest policies which presents the welfare of its employees. The MOD has a mandate, vision and mission to carry out its responsibility properly.

1.2.2 Mandate, Vision and the Mission of the Ministry of Defence (MOD)

The Ministry of Defence's mandate is derived from several high level sources such as the Namibian Constitution (Article 33(3), the Defence Act (Act 1 of 2002), and the Executive Order of the President as Head of State and Commander-in- Chief of the Namibian Defence Force (Articles 27(1) and 118 to 120 of the Namibian Constitution 1990). The MOD mandate is: "To establish the headquarters for the Namibian Defence Force, to oversee and maintain the financial accountability and welfare of the Force and to procure its equipment." The vision is: "To have adequate national defence capacity and capability to guarantee Namibia's territorial integrity, national interests, and render effective peacetime support operations." The mission is: "To operate and maintain an effective, professional and highly mobile national defence force that will safeguard Namibia's territory, inhabitants and national interests." This highest order shows how important the NDF is, and how respected is this defence force in the eyes of the national grand strategy.

1.2.3 Establishment of the Namibian Defence Force (NDF)

The Namibian Defence Force is established in terms of Article 118 of the Namibian Constitution. Its purpose is to defend the territorial integrity and national interest of

8

Namibia (Namibian Constitution, 1990, Article 118, p. 59). The NDF is under command of the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF). The Chief of the Defence Force is established by Article 119 and appointed by the President in terms of Article 32(4) (c) (aa) of the Namibian Constitution. The CDF is empowered by the constitution to make provision for the balanced structuring of the defence force. He or she shall also have the power to make suitable appointments to the defence force. The CDF shall cause charges of indiscipline among members of the defence force to be investigated and prosecuted, and to ensure the efficient administration of the defence force (p. 68). The CDF has a full discretionary power over the defence force, and the MOD could have proposed a policy on married quarters. Furthermore, the Defence Act 1 of 2002 and the General Regulations of 2005 to the Defence Act did not make any provisions for married quarters. In addition, section 54 (a) and (b) of NDF Personnel Policy (1994) provides that the NDF members might buy their own houses available up to 100% through the Government Housing Scheme program, but this process is different from married quarters in question. The force consists of three services (the Army, the Air Force and

the Navy). According to the Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012, the Army is consisting of 14,262 soldiers, the Air Force 900 and the Navy 878. These three services have the strength of about 16,040 soldiers. Services are commanded by

three (3) Service Chiefs (Chief of the Army, Chief the Air Force and Chief of the Navy). The NDF is formed up by the former adversaries from the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) and the South West Africa Territorial Forces (SWATF). PLAN was the armed wing of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) founded on the 26 August 1966, and the South West Africa Territorial Forces (SWATF) was established by the former South Africa apartheid regime on the 28 January 1976, established for the then South West Africa (Namibia) Territory before independence.

1.3 MARRIED QUARTERS IN NAMIBIA BEFORE AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE

According to Webster's New World Dictionary (1995) married quarters are military family housing or lodgings; built in the base perimeter. Married quarters are part and parcel of the cantonment (installation, base) in all aspect. They use to be distributed in terms of ranks and the size of the family. They use to include kindergartens, clinics,

shopping malls, recreational facilities, churches and primary schools and sometimes up to a university level.

Before independence the South African Defence Force (SADF) did not provide/built married quarters for married soldiers to assist married soldiers and their families to stay

10

together. It was also stated that there was something called married soldiers' family accommodation/married quarters (Anonymous ex-SWATF member, 2009). An anonymous ex-SWATF is a former member of the South West Africa Territorial Force, before independence. Places such as Oamites, Suiderhof, Grootfontein, Oluno, Rundu, Katima Mulilo and Oshakati military bases had government houses of which each and every government employee can rent or be accommodated. These houses were under the control of the Minister of Civic Affairs and Manpower (Burgersake and Mankrag (BM)). Although there was discrimination in the old dispensation, the previous government had bought land from municipality near military bases. The aim of buying land was made to assist black married soldiers to build their own dwellings/sack-houses near military bases, to stay with their families. White married soldiers, mostly commanders had standard accommodation. Black married soldiers had substandard accommodation (an Anonymous ex-SWATF). PLAN combatants did not have married quarters because they did not have permanent facilities/bases apart from refugee camps (ex-PLAN combatant, 2009).

In terms of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for 2011/2012 to 2013/2014 the current housing arrangement is to improve and maintain existing infrastructure at 20% by 2013/14. Thirty percent of housing arrangement is through Government Housing Scheme where individuals arrange with bank institution and the government

11

subsiding them (NDF Personnel policy, 2004). It was also stated in the MTEF (2011/2012) that the MOD will also construct storage facilities, bangers and hangers, health care facilities, develop training areas, and develop staff social facilities, conduct feasibility studies on acquisition of land and to construct a jetty for naval vessels, but it is silent on married quarters. Developing staff social facilities is not married quarters per se but may be spot fields.

Before independence, battalions were tactically established. The deployments of soldiers were according to the regions they came from. The current Government found the set up of battalions in regions as a Bantustan forces arrangement, or might turn in regional army. It was thought that it will be seen as a political motivation based on ethical grounds (ex-SWATF, 2009). In contrast, the aim was to solve married soldiers' family problem and provide good deployment of soldiers in the country and help married soldiers to stay together with their family. Married quarters had given good time to

married soldiers to rear their children and solve family problems under a common home; and cases of stresses, diseases, frustration, disagreements between spouses, absenteeism and other related indiscipline cases were few before independence (ex-SWATF, 2009). After independence when the Namibian Defence Force took over the responsibility of defence; the NDF did not take the question of married quarters into consideration. There are perceptions that married soldiers are deployed just like single soldiers; and there

12

were no arrangements made for someone to organise his or her family; families were left in disorder and destitute. There is no housing arrangement currently for married soldiers in NDF (Chief Staff Human Resources, 2009).

This situation might be shaped stresses and frustrations among married soldiers in the NDF socially. In contrast, some respondents mostly commanders argued that one should also think that whatever the Ministry of Defence do, it will never be able to satisfy the needs of married soldiers. Married soldiers should not become liabilities of the MOD when they finally retire; and that NDF should not, therefore, become an unaffordable burden to the Government. The researcher had also looked in the question social organisation and family structure.

1.4 SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND FAMILY STRUCTURE

According to Craig (2004) the Western concept 'family' is defined as a husband, wife and children who grow up and leave their parents to start a family of their own (p-12). Some understanding of the changing traditional family structure is necessary for the interpretation of the results of the analysis that follow. (Schapera 1950, p.141). This is known as a nuclear family. Craig further states that the concept 'family' from the African perspective includes the extended family of two or more generations. He goes

on to say that they may live together in a single compound (p.10). In Namibia, mostly blacks unlike white communities are in favour of extended family. In the military one is not expected to stay in married quarters with a large family looking into costs and discipline in bases. Murray and Collin (1981) define family as 'a basic social institution or unit that constitutes communities and nations'.

Martin J. A. Rosen. L. N., Sparacino, L., Blackwell Online (2009), made it clear that like society at large, the defence forces or military services also have a wide variety of family types, including dual-career families, single-parent families, and family where the wife is the military member and the husband is a civilian dependent and verse versa. Despite this variety, the career component of the military, especially in the army, air force and navy, is still composed almost exclusively of stable, two-parent families (Segal and Harris, 1993). Today, there are more military family members in defence forces who,

come from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, and they represent a wide variety of family types; including single parents, dual career military couples, and family with eldercare responsibilities (Segal and Harris).

McLanahan, Wedemeyer, & Adelberg argue that a single-family or a non-traditional family consists of a parent, who may or may not have been married with one or more children (1981). Single and divorced families were also included in this project. Single

14

family in the NDF might be caused by the death of one parent or either by war or natural death/illness, while divorced family in the NDF might be caused by separation of couples due to deployment or involvement in extra marital affairs by one of the spouse. By contrast married quarters are generally meant for married soldiers, but in today's world of HIV/AIDS pandemic, every soldier with a family must be considered.

O. Donovan, O. Hodgins, M., Mc Kenne, V. and Keller, C. (1997) are of the view that the role of the family as a caring unit has been the subject of much discussion and debate in recent years due mainly to changes in the work patterns and the role of women in society. In Ireland the strong tradition of family care is evident both in policy statements and from surveys that seek to establish the popularity of different forms of care provision. Public opinion and policies are obviously inter-related, and policy tends to influence opinions and attitudes. Care in the home, whether for small children, dependent older people or people with disabilities of whatever age, has become an issue

of concern in recent years. Potential careers are more and more, both by necessity or choice, working and outside home has a contributory factor. According to O Donovan, O et al, contributory factors are career choice, spiraling housing costs, and a social welfare of daily costs that does not provide adequate incentives and support to people to stay at home to care for children or other dependants (1997).

15

Williams (1989) also noted that the reality of family life, despite its problems, provides the best solution to the human predicament of wanting close sustaining relationships, a degree of autonomy, a context in which children can be brought up, and framework within which individual growth can occur (p. 9). Moreover, William maintains that children brought up with just one parent are more likely to have behavioral problems. The researcher concurred with William on one hand, but differs on the other because there are some one-parent families who are rich, who live a better life than some nuclear families.

In addition Murray & Collin (1981) indentify African family regimes. They maintained that many African families practice polygamy. Polygamy is when a family consists of one man with more than one wife and their children. Yes, Namibia is also an African country, but it is rare to find a soldier married through a polygamous established regime.

But in case of NDF one is not expected to keep plentiful land because of the conditions of service of the military establishments. There are some African tribes like Ovahimba in northern Namibia who are still practicing polygamy and the Zulu of South Africa.

1.4.1 Ovahimba Family Structure

The Ovahimba are an ethnic group of about 20,000 to 50,000 people (Peter Pickford et al, 1990) living in northern Namibia, in the Kunene region (formerly Kaokoland).

16

Recently they have built two villages in Kamanjab which have become tourist destinations. They are mostly a nomadic, pastoral people, closely related to the Herero, and speak Otjihimba, a dialect of the Herero language in Namibia. The Ovahimba married regime is mostly polygamy. Members of an extended family typically dwell in a homestead, "a small, circular hamlet of huts and work shelters" that surrounds "an *okuruwo* (ancestral fire) and a central livestock enclosure (Crandall, 2000, p. 18)." One can conclude that will it be possible to accommodate an Ovahimba family in the base.

1.4.2 The Zulu Family Structure

The Zulu family structure depends on the relationship between various family members and others of the clans and the tribes established hundred years ago. The bringing up of children is the duty of the wife and children are taught from an early to respect elders and never speak unless spoken to. This is a complete lack of familiarity between father and son. The wives are subservient to the husbands, bringing them their food before

retiring to their own quarters. The husband will eat his fill and leave the rest of the remainder of his family (Durban Website Designer, 2010).

The Zulu practice a polygamy regime. The practice of having several wives indicates a man's social standing, wealth and virility. The first wife will initiate the acquisition of further wives as they are a help around the house. She, along with grandmother exerts a powerful influence in the family. Each wife has her own hut located in order of standing

17

from the husband's hut; she also has her own field, herd and looks only for her immediate family.

In comparison, Craig (2004, 12) concurred by having more than one wife, the Nyimba people of Nepal and India, in the foothills of Himalaya, practice fraternal polyandry. Polyandrous occur when the husbands are brothers or wives are sisters married by one husband or marrying one wife. In Namibia people might practice this kind of marriage but it is uncommon. Polyandry is regarded as indecent practice in the Namibian society. It is in contrast with the morale and traditions of many Namibians.

Another marriage regime is the same sex marriages. In Namibia majority of the people are Christian oriented, and the country's laws do not make provision for same sex marriages. Chapter 3 of the Namibian Constitution guarantees freedom to everybody, but in contrast Article 22 of the same Constitution provides limitations. This does not mean that couples of the same sex cannot stay together, but it is limited by legitimacies. Therefore, extended family, polyandry, polygamy and same sex marriages were not considered in this study.

Lobola is the practice of paying the future father-in-law with cattle for a wife. If the wife is deficient in any way, the father-in-law is expected to make replacement available or refund some or all of the cattle. The cattle are used to recompense the father-in-law for the expenses of her upbringing and the loss of her services (Durban Website Designer,

2009). This practice is equal to the Ovawambo people at northern Namibia. These are some of the customs and tradition that the NDF married soldiers would like to teach their children.

Focus group discussions make it clear that there are numerous welfare challenges facing accommodations for NDF married soldiers. These include low salaries, broken families, stresses, absenteeism, and alcohol abuse. Married soldiers in the NDF that call their family to come and visit them have stated that renting accommodation is very high. It correct to argue that married soldiers' financial sources will only be awarded mainly towards accommodations, if they chose to be with their families near their work place. The focus group has also stated that the situation has forced them to erect shack- houses. The question to be answered is what impact does this have on the social welfare of those involved. We should agree, in that regard that the majority of soldiers in developing countries live in substandard accommodation. Substandard accommodations have an adverse impact on one's health, family and the organisation.

Associated with this problem is that consumers are not getting the best service they expected from ND. The CDF (2009) has also argued that the absence of married quarters is a security threat nationally, regionally and internationally.

1.5 THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

At this stage it is not clear whether married soldiers in the NDF feel like soldiers of their own country or they are mercenaries. It is not clear whether their social problems surrounding married quarters will be recorded as an issue in NDF. The question of whether the MOD/NDF to propose a policy to built married quarters for married soldiers still needs an answer. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to analyse the social impact of married soldiers' quarters ('married quarters') and their absence on the society generally and on the Namibian Defence Force specifically. The opinion is widespread than an absence of married quarters contributes to frustrations, separation, alcohol abuse and HIV/AIDS and other related disease. These views are supported by the early literature. There are also perceptions by married soldiers in the MOD/NDF that since the inception of the NDF, their welfare was not taken care of. The Chief of Defence Force (CDF) Namibia (2008) had also raised a serious concern at the CDF Annual Strategic Conference held in Windhoek in 2007; about the causing of the alarming alcohol abuse, the possibility of HIV/AIDS infection in the force, lot of detached duty and transfer

applications, and the going down of discipline in the Force. The study intended to probe both commanders and soldiers, on how the absence of married quarters affect married soldiers, their families and service delivery and their interests in married quarters in the NDF.

20

1.6 RESEARCH QUESTION

The question to be analyzed is: What are social impacts resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force having on married soldiers and their families?

1.7 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of the study is to:

- Increase the knowledge about the attitude of soldiers concerning the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force.
- Increase the factual knowledge about the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters by facts and figures raised by the empirical study.

- And influence policy makers to consider alternative policies to introduce the establishment of married quarters in the NDF.

1.8 SIGNIFICANCE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY.

1.8.1 Significance of the study

The rationale of this study was, therefore, to establish understanding whether married soldiers in the NDF have intention to live in married quarters. This understanding is useful to the Minister of Defence and other stakeholders to realize that the absence of married quarters in the NDF posed a serious impact on married soldiers, their families and service delivery. It was suggested that married soldiers in NDF feel like mercenaries rather than soldiers of their own country, and as a consequence the MOD/NDF take no responsibility of their surrounding including building married quarters for them. These phenomena could be the causes of various social problems such as separations, alcohol abuse, frustrations, indiscipline and possibly the contraction of HIV/AIDS.

Therefore, this study fills the knowledge gap on the nature of the social impact affecting married soldiers in the NDF resulting from the absence of married quarters, in order to contribute to policy and capacity development. The findings and recommendations of this study seek to inform a comprehensive insight about the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters have on the health, and other social welfare in the

Namibian Defence Force. As an attempt to influence existing policy frameworks, the study analyzed the social impact and socioeconomic conditions affecting married soldiers in the NDF.

1.8.2 Limitations

The study encountered a number of constraints during the research process.

There were administrative constraints for the approval of the proposal by Postgraduate Study Committee of the University of Namibia and the workload of the supervisors. Another constraint is finding record of married soldiers at the MOD. The MOD does not have any record of the number of married soldiers, no record of the number of alcohol abuse cases by married soldiers, no record of the number of married soldiers absent due to the absence of married quarters, number of detached duties, transfers, resignations or discharges of married soldiers from NDF at the office of the Chief of Staff Personnel (COS Pers.)/Director of Human Resources (DHR) at MOD. There is no record of married soldiers kept in the Ministry of Defence files, apart from married certificates.

This omission might easily contribute to failure of satisfying the needs of the social welfare of married soldiers in NDF.

1.9 CHAPTERS OUTLINE

This chapter outline forms the concluding remarks of Chapter 1. The proposed outlines of chapters in the research project are as follows:

1.9.1 Chapter 1: Rationale and overview

Chapter 1 includes the introductory orientation, background and a discussion of the reasons for selecting the particular research area. The statement of the research problem, the research question, the objectives of the study, significance, limitations and chapters outline are included in chapter one.

1.9.2 Chapter 2: Literature review

In Chapter 2 authoritative and relevant literature on the research problem was reviewed and discussed. The results in Chapter 4 were viewed against the literature study to relate it to the existing theoretical models and frameworks and come to a conclusion concerning the research problem. Correlations and explanations between the research findings and comparisons were highlighted.

1.9.3 Chapter 3: Methodology and research design

In Chapter 3 the research process is described in detail in terms of the proposed methodology. The proposed data collection and interpretation methods are outlined and justified.

1.9.4 Chapter 4: Results of the study.

Data analysis, presentation, and discussion of the data obtained and analyzed in the study are found in Chapter 4. Results are provided and presented in figures and tables. They are followed by discussions on the interpretations and analysis.

1.9.5 Chapter 5: Findings, conclusions and recommendation

The findings, conclusions and recommendations of the study were presented in this Chapter.

1.10 CONCLUSION

Chapter 1 has discussed the rationale and overview of the social impact affecting married soldiers in the NDF resulting from the absence of married quarters; and other related concepts. The Chapter has also touched on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of Namibia, which provided the rights and privileges of married soldiers and their families followed by the background of the study. The background includes the establishment of the MOD, the mandate of the MOD, the

establishment of the NDF, the statement of the problem, research question, objective of the study, significance of the study, methodological overview, limitation of the study and chapters outline were discussed. Craig, Williams and others have also offered their perspectives on the social organization and family structure in different culture and marriage regimes. Chapter 2 will discuss the literature review on the study.

25

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses and analyses the writings of other authors on social impact affecting peoples' well-being. Literature review formed part of the secondary data collection process. The main concern of this chapter is to provide a conceptual framework to the study from the literature reviewed. The purpose is to find information from previous authors and military historians, books, journals and internet information printed, that have bearing on the social effect for people's well being. The bulk of the knowledge did not only provide the conceptual and theoretical construction of this project, but also assist to discover the existing gap that needs to be filled. Six issue areas relating to the Defence Force on the social impact that formed the literature review will

be discussed. In conclusion areas upon which the study is founded will be summarized and presented.

2.2 ISSUE AREAS RELATING TO THE DEFENCE FORCE ON SOCIAL IMPACT

Six issue areas related to the Defence Force used during the literature review in supporting the study was:

2.2.1 Social impact

2.2.2 Drunkenness

2.2.3 HIV/AIDS Pandemic

2.2.4 Defence Economics

2.2.5 Defence Relativity

2.2.6 Gender Issues

2.2.1 Social Impact

Latane and Darleys' (2009) study on social impact was a metatheory that attempts to characterize how the many ways in which individual affect each other are subject to the

constraint of time and space, and specifically, how impact is moderated by the strength, immediacy and number of other people in the social environment. Immediacy is a group structure or a pattern of immediacies between group members, or a physical distance between individuals and specific spatial location. It provides a useful framework for

27

understanding how person is affected by his or her environment. Latane and Darley (2009) demonstrated that people are likely to help someone in an emergency if there are other people around. Latane has also investigated the phenomenon of social loafing, which maintains that in a group of people each one contributes less than he or she would contribute alone. Latane combined much of his research into a new theory called the theory of social impact.

Latane's research on social impact included several principles. First, the more people present, the more influence they will have on each individual. In other words, the more important the people are to the individual, the more influence they will have on him or her. Second, the theory of social impact states that while the impact of others on the individual increase as the number of people increases, the rate of increase in impact grows less as each new individual is added. In other words this means that, if you are giving a presentation to three people and a fourth one join the group, this is significant than if you were giving presentation to person and one more joined. Third, each individual can influence others; but the more people are present, the less influence any

one individual will have. Social psychologists are just beginning to research on the study of social impact (Jackson, 1987, as cited in Latane, 2009). In support of Latane's research of social impact the bellow areas has also been dealt with.

Historically, military families were not included in the discussion of organizational prevention of combat stress casualties or any aspects of military readiness. The military family was simply not considered as part of military combat readiness (Military Family Demographics, 1992). Readiness is defined as a combination of the soldier's willingness and ability to do his job and cope in peacetime and during combat. Family life affects a service member's military performance during peacetime and during combat. Family plays a major role in defence forces' retention of personnel, and also affects the service member's well-being (Military Resources Centre, 1984, Burnam, M.A., Meredith L. S., Sherbourne C.D., Valdez R.B., and Vernez G., 1992).

Military life factors arise, especially the attitude and behaviours of small unit leaders, who have a tremendous effect on soldier well-being and, in turn, on the well-being of soldiers' family. When leadership and morale in the unit suffer, the problem is often transferred to home and family. Defence policies made at services, brigade, and battalion levels affect the soldiers in one way or another. But the day-to-day coping and adjustment of the typical soldier and his/her family are determined by the attitudes and

behaviours of their company commanders, platoon commanders, company sergeant majors, platoon sergeants and section commanders. This is one of the reasons why small unit leadership is such a critical dimension of military discipline and combat readiness (Military Resource Centre, 1984).

There is a common belief among military family advocates that family life in the military is more stressful than civilian family life. The assertion is based on factors like frequent prolonged or unannounced absence; long and often irregular duty hours with a corresponding inability to share domestic and child care responsibilities; frequent family moves; legal constraints and requirements of military services; and stresses associated with military training and possibility of reassignment to combat zone (Sergal M. W. and Harris J.J. (1993). Sergal and Harris further maintained that reassignment and relocations may have a negative impact on the military family member's personal well-being, employment, and career opportunities.

The researcher has also supported these beliefs because these beliefs are the real situation affecting the NDF married soldiers on the ground. In the U.S.A., Army wives viewed their lives as more stressful than their civilian counterparts (Lewis P. M. 1985). This situation applies also to the NDF married soldiers' wives. In other words respondents held that the NDF wives suffer greater psychological stresses than comparing them with civilian wives, in the sense that their male counterparts are always

vulnerable to relocation/transfer from one duty station to another. Across a typical military career, families face a variety of life-cycle issues. These issues include marriage, birth of children, rising and educating children, moving households, career decisions of civilian spouses, and so forth. These impact means that military leaders

must be able to manage soldiers experiencing family difficulties and at the same time to ensure that the unit's mission is accomplished (Lewis P. M., 1985). Family disturbance is also caused by drinking.

2.2.2 Alcohol Abuse

Family disturbance has frequently been cited as a factor to drinking problems. Early theories about the development of drinking problems suggest that problem drinkers come from families who were in conflicts, or who had undergone disruption. Whatever the cause, family problems tend to build up when one family member is drinking heavily (Williams, 1989, p. 17-18). It is pointed out that people drink to relieve a stressful situation or to forget personal problems. Some drink to ease the tensions of an unhappy home life, or to relieve stress in jobs (Anderson, P., Wallace P. and Jones H., 1988, p.11). The length and variety of these lists, incomplete as they are, illustrate that alcohol is perceived to serve a wide variety of functions. In the NDF, it is likely the reason why many married soldiers are affected by drinking symptoms of this nature. The drinker, his

or her family, relatives, non-family members and his soldier-comrades are at risk. Social harms are always related to alcohol abuse.

There are two aspects of alcohol such as related disabilities producing social harms

31

relating to intoxication and regular heavy consumption. Social problems related to intoxications are: family arguments and domestic violence, child neglect or abuse, absenteeism from work, public aggression, sexual deviant acts and unwanted pregnancies. Those related to heavy drinking are such as family problems and homelessness, divorce, work difficulties and unemployment, financial difficulties and debts. These factors destroy and break families' relationships (Anderson, Wallace, and Jones, 1988, p.20). The Namibian Defence Force family members are not excluded from these risks due to their assignments and the absence of family quarters.

There are also psychological harms of alcohol, depending on whether they relate to intoxication or to regular heavy drinking. Related intoxication or regular heavy drinking can cause severe depression, anxiety, suicide, attempted suicide, gambling, changes in personality, and misuse of other drug related substances. In contrast, although alcohol is frequently used to relieve unpleasant feelings, it can also cause physical harm such as brain damage, infertility, impotence and impairment of sexual performance, dysfunction of central nervous system, breast cancer, accidents and trauma, blood pressure and

strokes (Anderson, Wallace and Jones, p. 24). Alcohol related problems are high risk to soldiers or armed personnel in whatever circumstances and the NDF is not an exception. HIV/AIDS pandemic will follow next.

2.2.3 HIV/AIDS Pandemic

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS, 2011) has predicted outcomes for the region to the year 2025. These range from a plateau and eventual decline in deaths beginning around 2012 to a catastrophic continual growth in the death rate with potentially 90 million cases of infection. Without the kind of health care and medicines (such as antiretroviral) that are available in developed countries, large numbers of people in Africa will develop full-blown AIDS. This will likely cause a collapse of economies and societies. In an article titled "Death Stalks A Continent", Johanna McGeary (2001) attempts to describe the severity of the issue. "Society's fittest, not its frailest, are the ones who die—adults spirited away, leaving the old and the children behind. You cannot define risk groups: everyone who is sexually active is at risk. Babies too, [are] unwittingly infected by mothers. Barely a single family remains untouched. Most do not know how or when they caught the virus, many never know they have it, many who do know don't tell anyone as they lie dying".

HIV/AIDS is the largest threat to human beings on earth in general and Africa in particular. It is the most deadly disease that kills human beings at a slow pace. As HIV/AIDS is a perceived threat to human beings; the researcher had decided to talk little about its effect on NDF members. The researcher will only discuss this as a social threat

to NDF members in particular and the region in general, but he is not describing the results in figures. Panosh Doshier (1986) defines AIDS as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. This refers to the last fatal stages of the HIV infection called “full-blown AIDS”, a disease caused by a new and deadly virus HIV, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. There is no cure but life prolonging treatments available (‘anti-retroviral treatment’ (ARV)) to prevent the multiplication of the virus.

Medical scientists had tried to find a cure, but what they came up with is prolonging the life of an infected person. They introduced ARV treatment. The ARV treatment helps to prolong the life and health of HIV/AIDS infected persons. Recent theories have linked the origin of AIDS to West Africa. Past theories included linking the disease to the consumption of monkey meat in Cameroon or sexual activity with monkeys, but these theories have been met with disdain amongst Africans because this is not normal practice in African countries. The current theories revolve around the idea that colonial horrors of mid-20th-century Africa allowed the virus to jump from chimpanzees to

humans and become established in human populations around 1930 (NPR, 2011). It is highly probable that this is where the disease originated since early cases of it have been traced back to colonial Africa in the rubber plantations.

Historically, although many governments in sub-Saharan Africa denied that there was a

34

problem for years, they have now begun to work toward solutions. Health spending in Africa has never been adequate, either before or after independence (UNAIDS, 2008). The health care systems inherited from colonial powers were oriented toward curative treatment rather than preventative programs (BBC News, 2004). Strong prevention programs are the cornerstone of effective national responses to AIDS, and the required changes in the health sector have presented huge challenges. A tiny minority of scientists dispute the theory that HIV causes AIDS, and some have suggested various non-infectious explanations (BBC News, 2004)?

These studies have gained a certain amount of popularity on the internet (UNAIDS, 2006). The vast majority of scientists, however, agree that the evidence that HIV causes AIDS is abundant and conclusive (UNAIDS supra). The global response to HIV and AIDS has improved considerably in recent years. Funding comes from many sources, the largest of which are the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and

the US initiative known as PEPFAR (UNAIDS 2011). The following factors are believed to be the cause and spread of HIV/AIDS.

Several factors contribute to the spread of HIV such as social factors. For one, a stigma is attached to admitting to HIV infection and to using condoms. Many beliefs surround condom use such as the idea that condoms stifle the traditional power of the man in his

35

community (McGeary, Johanna, 2001). Major African political leaders (political factors) have denied the link between HIV and AIDS, favoring alternate theories (Susan Hunter, 2003). The scientific community considers the evidence that HIV causes AIDS to be conclusive and reject AIDS-denialist claims as pseudoscience based on conspiracy theories, faulty reasoning, cherry picking, and misrepresentation of mainly outdated scientific data. Despite its lack of scientific acceptance, AIDS denialism has had a significant political impact, especially in South Africa under the former presidency of Thabo Mbeki. Many medical suspicions are also attached to the use of condoms, such as the ideas that a conspiracy wants to limit the growth of the African population.

Lack of money (economic factors) is an obvious challenge, although a great deal of aid is distributed throughout developing countries with high HIV/AIDS rates. For African countries with advanced medical facilities, patents on many drugs have hindered the ability to make low cost alternatives (Susan Hunter, 2003). VaxGen, a California

company, has come up with the most advanced vaccine called AIDSVAX, but this has only been found effective in the Asian and black populations, thus (Hunter, 2003 and (Washington, 2003) funding for further research for this has been lacking since money can't be obtained from poor African governments(Hunter, 2003 and (Washington, 2003).

Natural disasters and conflict are also major challenges, as the resulting economic problems people face can drive many young women and girls into patterns of sex work in order to ensure their livelihood or that of their family, or else to obtain safe passage, food, shelter or other resources (Samuels, Fiona, 2009). Emergencies can also lead to new patterns of sex work, for instance, in Mozambique the influx of humanitarian workers and transporters, such as truck drivers, can cause sex workers to move to the area. In northern Kenya, for instance, drought has led to a decrease in clients for sex workers, and the result is sex workers are less able to resist clients' refusal to wear condoms (Susan Hunter, 2003 and (Washington, 2003). It can also happen here in Namibia.

African countries are also still fighting against the unfair practices in the international pharmaceutical industry (Meier, Benjamin Mason, 2002). Medical experimentation occurs in Africa on many medications, but once approved, access to the drug is difficult. Drug companies are often concerned with making a return on the money they invested

on the research and obtain patents that keep the prices of the medications high. Patents on medications have prevented access to medications as well as the growth in research for more affordable alternatives. These pharmaceuticals insist that drugs should be purchased through them (Meier, Benjamin Mason, 2002). South African scientists in a combined effort with American scientists from Gilead recently came up with an AIDS

37

gel that is 40% effective in women as announced in a study conducted at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa. This is a groundbreaking drug and will soon be made available to Africans and people abroad. The South African government has indicated its willingness to make it widely available (South Africa-The Good News.co.za., 2010 and Fox, Maggie, 2010).

AIDS is a powerful enemy facing Africa's armed forces. Mobility, age group and opportunities for casual sex by military personnel are believed to make soldiers an especially high-risk group. The number of AIDS-related deaths reported by armed forces throughout the continent seems to confirm this assumption. But the military also has the weapons to win the war against HIV/AIDS: armed forces have the advantage of highly structured, disciplined environments, in which personnel can be mobilized to participate in HIV prevention and testing campaigns, and be closely monitored for treatment. The MOD has also started the prevention and testing campaign on HIV/AIDS. The NDF has already started with campaigns in accordance with USAIDS programmes. Figures for

HIV infection rates in NDF/militaries are may be difficult to pin down – or they either don't exist or governments cite concerns about national security and do not make them public.

According to UNAIDS, “During peacetime, STI (sexually transmitted infection) rates among armed forces are generally two to five times higher than in comparable civilian populations; in times of conflicts, they can be more than 50 times higher.” These figures are partly based on an international survey in the early 1990s, which found alarming HIV prevalence rates in some African militaries, but researchers have suggested that they do not reflect the current reality. Whiteside et al, 2006). The practice of testing potential recruits for HIV means prevalence among young soldiers should be low. In the absence of effective prevention program, prevalence appears to rise among older soldiers, particularly those involved in peacekeeping operations or conflicts. Differences in the demographic makeup of armies, their deployment patterns and the nature of the epidemic make it difficult to generalize, however. (Whiteside et al).

The South African National Defence Force, one of the few African militaries to release prevalence figures, said HIV infection rates among its personnel were only slightly higher than among the general population. This is nothing to boast about, considering

that adult prevalence in most SADC countries is between about 15 and 30 percent. Clearly, HIV/AIDS poses a major problem to many African armed forces. Africa's armed forces are considered at high risk from HIV/AIDS. A complex web of factors explains this assumption. Most military personnel are single men aged between 15 and 24 – one of the most sexually active and therefore high-risk groups (Whiteside et al).

39

They are often posted far from wives or girlfriends for a protracted period of time. Boredom or peer pressure may create an appetite for casual or commercial sex. Military culture and training encourage machismo, courage and a willingness to take risks, values that may lead soldiers to participate in risky sex. Alcohol or drugs taken to relieve boredom or tension further increase that likelihood. Money and status also play a role. With a regular income, soldiers are often comparatively well off compared to people in surrounding communities.

The status conferred by a uniform might provide greater opportunities for casual sex. The chance of infection through wounds or contaminated blood is higher during conflict. Young recruits – both male and female - are vulnerable to sexual violence and exploitation by their superiors. Child soldiers - a grim reality in many African countries - are particularly susceptible to abuse, and the existence of high risk homosexual activity is rarely addressed by African militaries and men who have sex with men are not targeted in HIV education campaigns (Whiteside et al, 2009).

HIV/AIDS can also be spread through UN Peacekeeping operations. One-third of the soldiers under UN command are stationed in Africa. Without interventions, peacekeepers from high-prevalence countries pose a threat to communities they are stationed in, while peacekeepers sent to high prevalence countries may be at high risk of

40

infection. Peacekeepers tend to have significantly more disposable income than local populations and the low-intensity nature of their operations means they often have time other hands, and may become drivers of the local sex market. The culturally diverse makeup of peacekeeping missions and the regular rotation of personnel present challenges to awareness activities. The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has adopted a number of HIV/AIDS policies. Soldiers are not required to undergo HIV testing before deployment, but a medical exam excludes individuals displaying active symptoms of infection. All peacekeeping missions have either an HIV/AIDS policy adviser or, for smaller missions, an AIDS focal point responsible for developing awareness and prevention programme. UNAIDS has developed an HIV/AIDS awareness card, available in 15 languages, which it distributes to all peacekeeping personnel. DPKO also ensures the availability of condoms and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kits in case of needle-stick injury or rape.

Namibia is part of international community and it also took part in UN peacekeeping missions (The Constitution of Namibia Article 96 (b) – (c), 1990). The NDF contributes to international peace within the framework of UN peacekeeping missions, including Cambodia in 1993, Angola in the middle 1990s and Liberia from 2004 to 2007. NDF deployed contingents to these countries at the strength of an infantry Battalion, except for the Cambodia operation to which it deployed an infantry company. Namibia is still

41

providing Military Observers (MILOB) and staff officers for UN missions in southern Sudan, Darfur, Chad, Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire (The Namibian, April 25, 2010). Therefore NDF members are also vulnerable to HIV/AIDS in this regard.

HIV/AIDS in Namibia is a critical public health issue. The prevalence of HIV in Namibia is among the highest in the world. Since 1996, HIV has been the leading cause of death in the country. Close to 17 per cent of the country's children under the age of 18 are orphaned by at least one parent – mostly due to HIV (National Planning Commission, 2003). Consequently, life expectancy has declined since independence from 61 years (in 1991) to 49 years in 2001. In Namibia, HIV is mainly spread through heterosexual sex, driven by high rates of multiple and concurrent partnerships, transactional sex and child abuse, misconceptions in the general population about the risk of contracting HIV, low and inconsistent condom use, low rates of male circumcision, high rates of alcohol abuse, a high rate of mobility and migration, and a

decline in marital and cohabiting unions. Of greatest concern to many are the AIDS orphans and vulnerable children left behind in the trails of this disease.

The world has been reeled on 11th September 2001 as the United States (US) fell victim to the worst terrorist attack in history, killing over 3000 people; yet in Africa HIV/AIDS is sweeping through the continent killing an estimated 6000 people a day. Most people

42

remain mute Heineken (2001). Far from being a war stopper as some anticipated, the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS leaves states unable to curb social and political unrest, protect state sovereignty and defend national interests (Peter, 2000, pp.1). This is a reflection on the potential impact HIV/AIDS pose for peace, stability and regional security in South African Development Communities (SADC). Heineken has stated that in sub-Saharan Africa where the main mode of transmission is heterosexual contact, more than 25 million adults and children were living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2000. This represents 70% of global infections and more than one tenth of the adult population aged 15-49 infected with HIV/AIDS in the region, most of who will die in the next ten years Heineken (2001). Heineken was predicted these assumptions in 2000 and we do not know now if these assumptions have been materialized (Gellman, 2000) Countries worst affected are all clustered in the southern cone of Africa. In at least seven countries in the region, one in five adults aged between 15-48 years are infected with HIV/AIDS. At the end of 1999 Botswana had an estimated HIV/AIDS infection rate of

36%, followed by Zimbabwe 25%, Swaziland 25%, Lesotho 24%, Zambia, Namibia and South Africa 20%, Malawi 16%, Mozambique 13%. With some 4.7 million infected, South Africa has the largest number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world (Sandra Thurman, 2000).

Heineken (2001) is of the opinion that unlike terrorism, HIV/AIDS deaths are seldom

43

spectacular. He further states that yet it is the greatest threat to humankind, as the disease slowly erodes the social fabric of society, and weakens the national economy. It makes it difficult for the state to respond to the social challenges and political instabilities that this disease poses. Armed forces are crucial part of any state security, but are often worst affected by HIV/AIDS; as it directly affects their operational effectiveness. When armed forces (NDF no exception) face high infection rates, it renders them less capability of coping with the internal disruption this disease causes, as well as with less ability to provide humanitarian and peace support to those in need (Heineken, 2001). Every illness has a family component. The impact of the ill health falls not just on the individual who bears symptoms, but also on those who live with the sick person and who attend to his or her needs. Illnesses are particularly stressful for families (Williams 1989, p. 21). In the NDF not all families are stressed by illness or symptoms of HIV/AIDS, but also by the loneliness.

Conditions of political instability and disease reinforce each other and provide a lethal mix which might undermines human, national and international security. It was stated that, in cases where both parents and family support structures crumble, millions of young people are left in destitute. Sometimes many are taken out of school to tend to their sick parents, brothers or sisters, or to look for work to support the family. This further undermines the knowledge and skill base of those youngsters (Alban, A., and

Guinness, L., 2000, pp. 2). Therefore, at the level of individual households, such as NDF family members, a single member with HIV/AIDS might threaten family income and food security in the house. HIV/AIDS infection asks for national government to shift their priorities from other socio-economic and development issues affecting their nations to health issues (UN Report, 1999). In other words, can the NDF shift some of its priorities to concentrate on health support programmes such as building married quarters for married soldiers?

In 2008, Namibia had an HIV prevalence rate of 17.8% in adults ages 15 to 49, which is lower than 19.9% in 2006 (National Demographic Health Survey, 2006). However, the figure is still quite distressing. The peak occurred in 2002 (National Planning commission, 2003), when Namibia's prevalence hit 22%. The most recent survey (MOHSS and USAIDS, 2009) further indicates that HIV prevalence is highest at 27% in the 30-34 year-old age group and is at its lowest (5.1%) among women aged 15-19

years. In response to this information, the Namibian Ministry of Health and Social Services recommended that prevention measures be intensified, that HIV/AIDS components be main-streamed into all development projects, that more Namibians are encourage to use voluntary counselling and testing services, and that antiretroviral treatment be expanded to all parts of the country, especially the rural areas (MOHSS: Measure Evaluation & USAID, 2009).

Data compiled by the Ministry of Health and Social Services show that AIDS became the leading cause of death in Namibia in 1996. It is estimated that AIDS accounts for at least half of all deaths among individuals' ages 15 to 49. However, there is great variation in HIV prevalence rates from region to region in Namibia. Infection rates also differ by gender, with UNAIDS estimating that women account for 58 percent of all treatment Namibia is the second most sparsely populated country in the world. Providing comprehensive HIV/AIDS services to the mostly rural population requires a fully decentralized, community-based approach with strong policies and leadership from the central level.

Insufficient numbers of skilled technical personnel and limited managerial capacity at all levels have exacerbated the challenges of decentralization, and access to services remains limited for those living in sparsely populated areas. As the country with one of the highest levels of income disparity in the world, poverty and household nutrition pose

major challenges (Country Profile: Namibia. U.S. Department of State, 2008). Yet, by the end of 2007, some 52,000 people in Namibia were receiving anti-retroviral therapy to combat the HIV virus (WHO, 2009). At the same time, mother-to-child transmission has also fallen dramatically – starting from just two hospitals in 2002 (MOHSS, 2002). This is one of Namibia’s greatest success stories of modern times. The NDF was not specifically mentioned in the abovementioned statistics by the Ministry of Health and

46

Social Services due to security reason.

The Chief of the Namibian Defence Force (CDF) (2008) talks about HIV/AIDS when he was addressing the free public lecture at the Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre, in July 19, 2008, in Windhoek. This public lecture was about the policy of mandatory HIV testing for recruits in the Namibian Defence Force and other uniformed authorities. The CDF stated that a crisis to the government occurs where the NDF has become enfeebled and unable to curb the unrest and instability within its setups. As a sector of society, the NDF is at high risk of infection and transmission of HIV/AIDS because of the age groups it employs and the circumstances under which they are deployed. Most of the soldiers are young and sexually active. They are mostly deployed for a lengthy period away from home. They are subject to peer pressure prone to risk taking, and often exposed to opportunities of casual sex and sex workers. Other implications are bachelor

conditions, alcohol abuse, and regular pay might be contributing factors in propagating infection among NDF members (Legal Assistance Centre's (LAC) (2008).

The CDF further stated that the number of infected soldiers is unknown. Voluntary testing was conducted but it could not give the total number of infected soldiers. There is no policy in place that compels NDF members to declare their HIV status. It was estimated that it is about 5% compared to 19% in adult population at large. This is still

47

high. The CDF also points out that his assessment was based on the treatment the NDF is providing and money spent on the provision of ARV treatments (anti-retroviral) and the death rates. Moreover, the implication of such high infection rates in society, and specifically on the NDF members has an influence directly on the operational capacity and capability of NDF service delivery. Furthermore, HIV/AIDS affect all processes involved in ensuring combat readiness, namely force preparation and employment (New Era, Friday, September 5, 2008). Lastly, the CDF held that the aim of the NDF is to have a professional, well-trained and well-equipped defence force that the people of Namibia can be proud of. He continued that the NDF needs to establish new infrastructures to replace the old ones and try to improve the living conditions of soldiers. Finally, the CDF has stated that by year 2030 (Vision 2030) the MOD hopes that the NDF will be modernised. Next to follow is the defence economics.

2.2.4 DEFENCE ECONOMICS

Ken & Param (2000) argue that the theory of motivational studies simply recognises the link between what people do in order to acquire possessions they want and avoid possession they do not want their organisation to have. They draw the theories of motivation in the essence of the traditional view of people at work that can best be appreciated by a brief look at work. Respondents are of the view that promotions are

48

also one of the burning issues in the NDF. Some respondent contented that promotions can assist with salary increment, but nevertheless, that is not the concern in the NDF in regard of married soldiers. Respondents at M'pacha base had stated that what do you thing about an ordinary soldiers staying away from his family for 15 to 19 years. It is a disaster. But one has also to think about the spending of the defence forces in general. In relation to the subject at hand, Ken & Param forget the high cost involved in the fulfilment of everyone's needs especially transport and renting costs. Adam Smith (as cited by Katoch, 2006) was one of the first economists to consider the implications of defence expenditures for society and to attempt to derive a framework by which such expenditures could be legitimate. Smith wrote that the first duty of the sovereign is to protect the society from violence and invasion of other states by means of a military force. The expense both of preparing the military force in time of peace, and of employing it in times of war, is very different in the different states of society and in the

different periods of improvement (p. 23-30). In other words, Smith is talking about the welfare of soldiers. Military expenditures are costly; states must sacrifice to understand the welfare of its soldiers during peacetime (p.23 -40).

The MOD budget regarding NDF in terms NDP 3 and V2030 is distributed according to MTEF 2010/2011 to 2013/2014 are as follows: 2010/2011 the MOD will receive an amount of N\$3,014,774,000, 2011/2012 is estimated at N\$3,126,363,000, 2012/2013 is

49

estimated at N\$ 3,261,513,000 and 2013/2014 is N\$4.149, 044,000 respectively. This budget is further distributed in accordance with services (Army, Air Force and the Navy) into MTEF as follows: The Army 2010/2011 will currently receive an amount of N\$1,145,796,000.00, 2011/2012 an estimated amount of N\$ 1, 197, 100, 000.00, 2012/2013 an estimated amount of N\$ 1,213, 529, 000.00 and in 2013/2014 an estimated amount of N\$ 1, 328, 829, 000.00. The Air Force in 2010/2011 will receive an amount of N\$154, 412, 000.00, in 2011/2012 an estimated amount of N\$184, 300, 000.00, in 2012/2013 an estimated amount of N\$209, 000, 000.00 and in 2013/2014 an estimated amount of N\$ 306, 500, 000.00 and the Navy will receive N\$ 140, 369, 000.00 in 2010/2011, in 2011/2012 an estimated amount of N\$ 150, 300, 000.00, in 2012/2013 an amount of N\$183, 510, 000.00 respectively.

This is a clear indication that the Namibian government is also committed in spending a lot of money in the defence force for public good. The third largest share of the Budget is allocated to the Ministry of Defence, which is set to receive N\$3,014 billion – an increase of 16 per cent on its budget last year. Its share of the total budget is 10.4 per cent (MTEF, 1 April, 2011- 31 March 2012). This estimated budget includes only the renovation of existing infrastructures and other relevant issues but it does not anywhere include married quarters. Finally, the public wanted to see and understand the necessity

50

of military spending for peace and stability including the housing of married soldiers and their families. Defence relativity will follow.

2.2.5 DEFENCE RELATIVITY

Brian (2006) is of the view that a nation's military ability to defeat a defence threat is relative to the structure; the morale and fighting ability of its soldiers; its ability to sustain the force; the quantity and effectiveness of its weapon and its devotion to the principles of war. To reach year 2030, as the Chief of the Defence Force have said above, the NDF needs to revise its deployment to try to and find a solution to the question of married quarters. He further held that a national strategy is essential, if we are committed to the welfare of our soldiers, for maintaining peace and stability in the

country. The government of Namibia has put some policy framework in place and one of these policy frameworks is vision 2030.

Namibia Vision 2030 is a Policy Framework for long-term National Development, which presents a clear view of where Namibia is, where it wants to go, and over what time frame. It is a vision that will make deliberate efforts to improve the quality of life of our people. It is designed as a broad, unifying vision which would serve to guide the country's five-year national development plans, from NDP 2 through to NDP 7. At the

same time, it provides direction to Government authorities, the private sector, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society. Therefore, Namibia Vision 2030 will create policy synergies, which will effectively link long-term perspectives to short-term planning.

2.2.6 GENDER ISSUES

Melissa (2007) argues that attitudes towards the role of women in the military require the reconciliation of two conflicting beliefs such as, those towards the roles and rights of women and those towards the military. Their roles imply beliefs that women are the caretakers and nurtures of the family. The impact of women pregnancy on the roles of the military is another factor. In the case of the NDF pregnant women are taken care of,

because they used to be given light duties before and even after delivery. The only problem is during deployment. It was observed that a husband can be deployed far from home and wife has no time to look after the children, instead the children stay at home under the guides of a house-keeper. Travelling cost is too expensive, municipality rental becomes high and one is paying the house-keeper and children's daily needs. In this way the family is broken apart. This is an indication that women in the NDF suffer due to the high cost of renting and paying of the house-keepers to look after their babies when the mother are gone to work. According to respondents, husbands in the NDF have a little

52

time to care about these responsibilities.

Meredith (2004) is of the view, that the absences of married quarters pose a major social impact on the commander's tactical planning. The fact being that some married soldiers will be on detached duties, some were transferred and others might be in maternity leaves. The Married Persons' Equality Act (1996) provides for equality between men and women but there is limitation in terms of natural conditions. Commanders will only carry out their responsibility properly, if they have enough men on their strength, but sometimes their planning was hindered by family problems of married soldiers. Another important point raised by Meredith is that married couples should stay together as a unit. In other words married soldiers need privacy for their own rights and self-esteem. In conclusion, married couples feel proud whenever they stay together and look after their

children together in a common place. Married soldiers in then NDF need to be assured, that their social welfare is well-looked after for discipline and morale purposes. Next to follow is costs and benefits of married quarters.

2.3 COSTS AND BENEFITS OF MARRIED QUARTERS

Preparing the military force in time of peace, and of employing it in time of war, is very different in states of society. Katoch (as cited in Smith, 2006) argued that a wealthy and

civilised nation must establish and pay for a standing defence force. Smith was of the view that defence is for the common good. Malthus (1930) noted that once the defence is produced, it does not matter whether he or she is paid taxes or not. In comparing Katoch, Smith and others, there are costs associated with a standing defence force to boost its morale. Hartley (2006) on the other hand holds that for a nation to meet its expectations on soldier's well-being, it must meet the expenses of the defence force. The welfare of NDF married soldiers must be introduced by and for the community as a matter of public good; therefore, quarters must not become a problem.

Many families have been broken down due to HIV/AIDS contraction. In other words devastating illnesses such as HIV /AIDS not only brings multiple problems to the family, but brings special social stigma that the family must overcome (Harway ,1996, pp. 6).

The Minister of Defence (2005) when he was justifying the NDF defence spending in the National Assembly, he maintained that the need for new equipment, better infrastructure, and improved training and staff salaries is the major reason for increased funding for the NDF. The Minister further bemoans the poor state of the defence Ministry's infrastructure that is dilapidated. He did not tackle the question on the welfare of married soldiers in the Namibian Defence Force. He mentioned the dilapidation of the Ministry of Defence's infrastructure, but nothing is said about

54

married quarters, as a welfare aspect of his forces.

Harrell et al. (2004) quote President Bush's speech in February 12, 2001, at Fort Stewart, Georgia, when he was acknowledging the importance of caring not just for service members but their entire families. President Bush pledging that "We owe you and your families a decent quality of life. ... Service members deserve a military that treat them and their families with respect". The NDF married soldiers and their families also deserve a decent quality of life as stated above.

2.4 HOUSING IN TERMS OF THE NDF PERSONNEL POLICY (1994)

Section 54 of the NDF Personnel Policy (1994) provides two types of housing scheme. These are (a) Government Housing and (b) the Government Housing Scheme. The Namibian Defence Force fourth (4th) Policy Draft (2006) provides that the aim of Vision 2030 is to transform Namibia from a developing, lower-middle income to a developed, high income country by year 2030. The realization of this vision depends on a number of factors which include global security, international economic performance, and domestic political and economic conditions. This draft policy is silent on the development of infrastructures. Section 25 of the 4th NDF draft Policy (2006) provides for national

values. It recognised the fundamental human rights that include respect for human dignity (Article 8, Namibian Constitution, 1990). Looking to this provisions and the state of married soldiers, one cannot believe that this provisions are followed accordingly. The situation on the ground might be different from those provisions, because the 4th Policy Draft (2006) did not make any provision for married quarters.

According to regulation 57 of NDF General Regulations it was held that when a member is transferred from one headquarters, arms of service, formation or Unit to another within Namibia, the Chief of the Defence Force may, subject to the provision of sub regulation (2) and (3), convey such members and his household and personal effects to such other headquarters, arms of service, formation or Unit at State expenses (NDF

General Regulations No. 189, 2010). The general regulation is silent on married quarters. In Namibia house-building service provision and occupancy are determined by private company (Banks e.g. The First National Bank of Namibia, National Housing Enterprise) and Ministry of Works and Transport (e.g. municipalities). Housing of this kind is different from married quarters. Another type of housing is the government housing scheme.

Government housing scheme is a program set up by the government to assist low and middle income households in the service of the government to buy their private housing.

All NDF members are entitled to buy their own property through the Government Housing Scheme. The process is that, members have to apply to the Directorate of Personnel for a loan through the Government Housing Scheme, as per the NDF Personnel Policy 1994. The member has to enter into a contract with a recognised financial institution. If such loan is approved members make re-payments by means of monthly stop orders (p. 8-13). These two types of housing are different from married quarters because married quarters are government-owned housing meant only to accommodate married soldiers. Married quarters are also different from government housing scheme because married quarters are government-owned accommodation under the control of Unit/ Base Commanders.

2.5 THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORKS

The Namibian Constitution provides that the children shall have the right from birth to a name, and the right to know and be cared for by their parents (Article 15 (1), p 12). The NDF deployment of soldiers neglects this provision. The children of the NDF married soldiers are either reared or cared for by one spouse. In most cases, only mothers who use to look after the children. Article 19 provides that every person shall be entitled to enjoy, practice, profess, maintain and promote any culture, language, tradition and religion (Namibian Constitution, 1990, p.12). This is a question of joint parenting. With

rates of divorce and births outside marriage increasing, providing for children whose parents are not living together is becoming an increasingly important question in policy debates. Sharing the care and upbringing is as important as financial provision. This practice can only materialize if and when the family stays together in a common home (Skevik, 2004). The traumatic effect of long-term separation from parents or primary caregivers was a primary concern of psychologists during the Second World War (Macksoud, 1993, p. 19). Children were only reared by their mother most of the time. They were not given love by their fathers.

The change in the framework of ideas about the nature and extend of contributions that men and women make, or should make, to households, have outrun the social reality.

Article 20(1) provides that all persons shall have the right to education. In addition Article 20 (3) further provides that children shall not be allowed to leave school until they have completed their primary education (the Namibian Constitution, 1990, p. 14). Married soldiers have difficulty to prepare their children not to leave school. Some respondents contend that many of street and vulnerable children are children of the NDF soldiers. The male breadwinner model has been eroded but the social reality is still far from a family comprised of self-sufficient, autonomous individuals. Mothers are more likely to the bulk of caring than their male counterparts, but 'policies are still based on the assumption that men and women are equal, both in labour and in the family (Skevik,

1997, p. 19).

2.6 CONCLUSION

Chapter 2 has dealt with the literature review in which the opinions and idea of other authors on social impact affecting human beings were analysed and investigated. The chapter reviewed six (6) issue areas supporting the subject on social impact affecting the peoples' social welfare. The Namibian Constitution was the most important document in supporting the literature reviews with authoritative legitimacy to the study. The Constitution provides equality between men and women when it comes to child rearing, supported by the Married Persons Equality Act. In conclusion issues related on social

impact that formed the literature review and the prospects for the future of married soldiers in the NDF will be followed by methodology used in the study.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 will discuss the research methodology used in this study. The method used to explore data, is a qualitative research method. The aim of using this research method in this study is to analyze the perceived social impact the absence of married quarters have on NDF married soldiers. Research in this regard means the practical activity whose purpose was to find out things in a systematic way. In other words research is the

process of designing, gathering, analyzing and reporting information to uncover opportunities and reduce the risk of decision-making. This research was neutral, impartial and open to new ideas (Struwig and Stead, 2001, pp. 2-4). Respondents were drawn from the three NDF Services such as the Army, Air Force and the Navy. In selecting the three Services to form the focus of this thesis, is because most of the respondents that are affected by the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters are located there. The research design, research context, questionnaires format, the population, sample and sampling procedure, the pilot study, instruments used for data collection, validity and reliability will be discussed in their chronological order.

60

The conclusions will summarize key features presented in the research methodology. The study was designed and planned as per preliminary plan that took place between November 2009 and revised January 2010 for collecting data and presenting them. In the process the research context and the standard for the selection of respondents and the size of population has changed as the field research developed.

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

The research was designed to gather information by means of an empirical study. The study used the descriptive and exploratory research designs with both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Exploratory and descriptive research designs describe situations

and events. Qualitative research is not easily defined although it has certain features that distinguish it from quantitative research (Struwig and Stead, 2003). It is an interdisciplinary, multi-paradigmatic and multi-method. Qualitative research method employs method such as focus group discussions, interviews, participant observation, content analysis as well as archival sources analysis. The method assisted the researcher to understand the participants' thoughts, feelings and behaviors during the research process.

This research method provides a comprehensive description and investigation of the

environment where the participants live. The research method was used to explore and investigate the perceptions of different participants based on the social impact affecting married soldiers resulting from the absence of married quarters in the NDF.

Tables and figures used in chapter 4 contained numerical data expressed either in absolute numbers or in relative frequencies as an example. The data were obtained from primary and secondary sources constituting the major part of the study. The secondary sources involved the process of literature review that provided the theoretical and conceptual basis of the study as shown in chapter 2. The research was conducted by interviewing commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers as well as privates. The interviews were used to capture the stories provided by the participants. To get the

desired information, the research interviews was relatively unstructured to allow the respondents to present data with open minds and to provide in depth information in a relatively unstructured manner.

The study was exploratory and descriptive in nature. Its emphasis was to analyze the perceived social effect the absence of the married quarters have on NDF married soldiers. Face-to-face interviews were conducted aimed to further exploring the participant's views and opinions on the manner in which the social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters is understood. The interviews were conducted and

guided by open-ended questions in order to encourage participants to share their personal beliefs and opinions without being guided. The data were collected from primary and secondary sources. Primary sources were 300 married NDF soldiers from the Army, Air Force and the Navy. These 300 samples are part of 16,040 NDF strength. The primary sources formed the major aspect of the study. Secondary sources involved the process of literature review which provided the conceptual and theoretical foundation of the study. This includes books, reports, journals, internet and any other publication related to the study at hand.

3.3 THE RESEARCH CONTEXT

The fieldwork started on the October 2009 and concluded on the December 2009, after the approval of the research proposal by the Postgraduate Studies Committee (PGSC) of the University of Namibia. The study was confined to the three NDF services (Army, Air Force and Navy) but during the process it was found out that the three services are too large for the mini thesis, it was better to confine it to the Army. The Army has the most married soldiers. Research data were collected at nine bases (seven Army bases). Seven Army bases are (21 Guard Brigade, Keetmanshoop, Army Headquarters at Grootfontein, Rundu military base, Oshakati, Oluno and Mphaca military base at Katima Mulilo) but later on the researcher decided to include the Air Force Headquarters at

Grootfontein and Navy Headquarters at Walvis Bay respectively.

3.4 QUESTIONNAIRE FORMAT

The purpose of questionnaires was to collect and record primary research data. Questionnaires design comprised of two sections. The questions were closed and open-ended questions. Section A was requesting the biographical data from the respondents. Section B on the other hand was focusing on commanders at different levels of command on their view about others, and on how the perceived social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force affect married soldiers and service delivery. Battalion commanders assisted the researcher by giving

him a chance to explain the research study at the morning parade and thereafter the interviews were conducted. The number of participants in battalions differs depending on the daily routine that day. This process gave the study the validity and reliability of the data obtained.

3.5 CHOICE OF POPULATION AND SAMPLES

The results of an effective study dependents on the representation of the population; however, population definition is far from easy. According to Struwig and Stead (2003)

64

population is the total set of elements of interests being investigated (p.89). The population for this study was the NDF members who are married and single soldiers.

The research population had included commanders and staff officers at different levels of command, non-commissioned officers and privates. The reason for concentrating on the above mentioned sample was that they are in a better position for data collection. Data collected were tabulated and interpreted while others had been expressed in figures and percentages for easy analysis and interpretation. Participants were consulted with regard to the authenticity of the research topic to enhance the dependability of findings and to facilitate the ownership of the process (Terre Blanche and Durrheim, 2002). Table 1 bellow illustrates the targeted population of the research study.

Table 3.5.1: Targeted Samples

Samples				
Rank	Strength	Army	Air Force	Navy
Officers	60	30	20	10
NCO's	100	50	35	15
Privates	140	80	45	15
Overall	300	160	100	40

NOTE: Total samples of married and single members interviewed in the NDF: 300

All of the targeted samples is outlined in the table above. The drawings were taken from the Army, Air Force and Navy. Thirty officers (3.3%) out of 916 officers, 50 non-commissioned officers (0.7%) (NCO's) out of 7176 and 80 privates (1.3%) out of 6170 from the Army, 20 officers (14%) out 145, 35 NCOs (8%) out of 443 and 45 privates (14.4%) out of 312 were from Air Force, while 10 officers (10%) out of 102, 15 NCO's (3%) out of 528 and 15 privates (6%) out of 248 were from the Navy.

3.6 SAMPLING APPROACHES, SIZE AND TECHNIQUES

3.6.1 Sampling approaches

Sampling approaches served to determine whether participants understood the topic and questions whether they found them useful. The qualitative sampling approaches were used to all participants. The sampling method used was non-probability sampling. In non-probability sampling, the probability of any particular member of the population being chosen is unknown (Struwig and Stead, 2003, p.111). The researcher gathered information by means of an empirical and descriptive analysis during the sampling process. The researcher chose for questionnaires, focus group discussions, and face-to-

face interviews during the sampling process. In this study the researcher was interested in the battalion and company commanders, platoon commanders, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, who formed the focal point of this study.

3.6.2 Sampling size

The researcher selected 300 samples out of 16,040 NDF strength. Married soldiers constituted the biggest number of respondents; as they were 180 in total. The researcher selected 60 commissioned officers 30 from the Army, 20 from Air Force and 10 from the Navy; 100 non-commissioned officers 80 from the Army, 35 from Air Force and 15 from the Navy; 140 privates, 80 from the Army, 45 from Air Force and 15 from the Navy. The selection was done through closed and open-ended questions, and interviews. The samples were chosen in terms of ranks, genders and status whether one is married or not, and the aim was to concentrate more on issues of social impact affecting married soldiers in the NDF, their families and service delivery. The reason was to obtain a broader overview of what the social impact the absence of married quarters have on

married soldiers and their families in particular and on NDF service delivery in general. Participants played major role in this study were married couples. A pre-testing (pilot study) procedure was carried out before the sampling size.

3.6.3 Sampling techniques

The researcher used purposeful approaches/techniques in this study. The purposeful sampling tactic is not concerned with random sampling, but provides a sample of

information-rich participants (Struwig and Stead, 2003, p. 122). The research was carried out within NDF Units and Head Quarters. Permission to do research at Unit was obtained from the office of the Permanent Secretary (PS) in conjunction with the UNAM authority (see Appendix 1) and from the CDF and local Unit commanders. Local Unit commanders inform the soldiers at Unit morning parades and respondents were identified there.

The identification was done on a voluntary basis. Respondents were not forced to attend the interviews or focus group discussing sessions. The purpose of the study was explained verbally and in writing and participation was voluntary. Structured and semi-structured interviews were employed. The combination of unstructured and structured face-to- face interviews captured the needed data. Structured interviews assist the researcher to stay focused while semi-unstructured interviews revealed information

which was not expected. Semi-structured interviews included pre-determined questions that were presented to all respondents. Questionnaires were also distributed among participants. After the respondent completed his or her questionnaire, a questionnaire was collected for analysis and interpretation. Research instruments and procedures used to collect data plays an important role during this process.

3.7 THE PILOT STUDY

Pre-testing or a pilot study was done in September 2009 and repeated in October 2009. A pilot study is the normal practice of testing a questionnaire on a small number of respondents to make sure it is understood. According Struwig and Stead (2001), pre-testing gives the researcher the opportunity to correct problems before the formal survey is conducted (p.372).

3.8 TESTS FOR VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

The pilot study was conducted with 50 NDF members at 21 Guard Brigade and Luiperdvalley Military Base. The aim was to determine the validity and reliability whether:

- Every question was fully understood by the respondent.
- The question sequence is logical.
- And the language and wording are clear and easy to understand (Boyce, 2002. p.372).

A pilot study exercise serves to determine if the participants understand the topic and questions. It therefore, will contribute to interview reliability. Careful consideration had

69

been made to language and logic and the sensitivity of the questions (Silverman, 1993). Based on this preliminary analysis, questions were redesigned and adjusted to the purpose of the study. After corrections had been completed to language and logic the questionnaires were tested on the same respondents and no additional changes were deemed necessary.

Validity and reliability in many qualitative researches are measured by triangulation. However, validity and reliability depends greatly on the methodological skills, sensitivity and trustworthiness of the researcher. Tests for validity and reliability are the important elements of any research study. The researcher undertook the test for validity and reliability during the pilot study, which took place at 21 Bde, Suiderhof and Luiperd Valley Military Base.

3.9 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS AND DATA COLLECTION

PROCEDURES

The following proven instruments of data collection in qualitative and descriptive research studies were applied in this project to get the intended results. The instruments used to collect data for this study were:

- Face-to-face interviews (structured and unstructured interviews)

70

- Questionnaires (with closed and open-ended questions)
- Focus group discussions

3.9.1 Face-to face interviews

The face-to-face interviews were conducted in four Units with 15 to 20 respondents per each Unit. The aim is to further explore the participants' views and opinions on the manner in which married soldiers are coping with the social impact affecting them. The interviews were conducted by the researcher himself and guided by open-ended questions, in order to encourage the participants to share their personal opinions and beliefs, without being guided into a certain direction

3.9.2 Interviews

Structured, unstructured and face-to-face interviews were used to collect the data. The researcher held structured interview sessions with participants who needed assistance in completing the questionnaire due to English language problem or illiteracy. Questionnaires were used to guide the interviewees. Participants who could read and write were asked to complete the questionnaire which was collected later by the researcher. The researcher has used two types of questionnaire (A and B) containing

71

open-ended and closed-ended questions.

Structured interview was used to collect data. This method was held with respondents who needed help in completing their questionnaires due to language difficulties. The researcher used questionnaires as interview guides to fill in answers received from respondents.

Unstructured interviews do not use schedules of questions. The presumption is that interviewers do not know all the necessary questions in advance (Berg, 2001. p. 69-70).

An unstructured interview was only used once during this research process with one respondent from Erongo Region HIV/ Aids Coordinating Committee at Rooikop Military Base. This process allows the respondent to express his or her views freely.

3.9.3 Focus group discussions

Focus group discussion is an interview styled for small groups of respondents. It studies the biographies and life structures of group participants (Berg, 2001, p. 111). It is an important instrument of data collection procedure. Focus group discussions were an important instrument of data collection instrument. The procedure was used to obtain information from participants by means of group discussion on the social impact

72

affecting married soldiers resulting from the absence of married quarters at the NDF. The main advantages of focus group interviewing as a qualitative technique are that, it enables the researcher to observe and note the process of interaction among the participants, and to have access to the substantive content of verbally expressed views, opinions, ideas, attitudes and experiences, by implication to fragments of the personal biographies and life structure of the participants.

The focus group discussions gave participants a chance to discuss and exchange views with each other on issues that affect them. This instrument was used in every Unit involving a small number of soldiers. They were informed about the purpose of the study and why the discussion panel was constituted. At the beginning there were tensions and nervousness displayed by few individuals in the group, because the

researcher is a commissioned officer but as the discussion progressed, the tension disappeared and everybody was free to participate. The discussion divulges a number of issues which were applicable to the purpose of the study and the test for validity and reliability.

3.10 DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

Data collected were analyzed descriptively with the special designated Microsoft

73

Windows XP 2007 and Microsoft Excel 2007 Spreadsheet. Data analyses used in this study involved the process of tabulation and examination. All data collected were compared to determine their relevance to each research objective. The end results of this data analysis are shown in Chapter 4 in a tabular format. Documentary analysis was used to assemble responses captured by various instrument of data collection into groups and themes to determine the meaning of participants' view in regard of the social impact affecting married soldiers resulting from the absence of married quarters in NDF.

3.11 POTENTIAL DATA COLLECTION ERRORS

Engaging commanders and their subordinates in a research project can sometimes be a potential problem and was addressed by focusing onto the potential stakeholders.

Married soldiers were not approached as being part of the problem that needs to be solved, but with the attitude that their goals for the future of their families would be acknowledged and that it would be determined how they could collaborate with the researcher in order to meet these goals. For the purpose of the study the following potential data collection errors could be identified:

- Interviewer bias, which can related to personal characteristics of the interviewer (researcher), such as rank category and gender (Neumann, 1997; Peil, 1993).
- Research selectivity effect by implicating the bias of the interviewer or observer

74

with reference to the inclusive and exclusive of certain methods, data and questions, to mention but a few examples (Stern, 1979).

- Social desirable effects, in other words the possibility that participants might say what they feel they “should” say or what they feel will please the researcher, rather than stating the real facts (Stern, 1979).
- Demand characteristics where the participants provide responses that they think the interviewer or the observer wants to hear (Stern, 1979).

Throughout the research process, the researcher had consciously sought to avoid such methodological pitfalls. Special attention was paid to the interpretation of the raw data and the tendency to arrive at hasty or ready conclusions. The researcher has attempted to overcome this potential problem by relying on firm rapport and building sound

relationships of trust between the researcher and the subjects, as well as between participants themselves.

3.12 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The researcher has observed certain aspects of ethics during the study. After the approval of the research proposal by Postgraduate Studies Committee (PGSC) and endorsed by the Senate of the University of Namibia (UNAM) the fieldwork

75

commenced. After this approval, the researcher has also approached the office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence and CDF requesting their permission to conduct research in NDF Units and Headquarters.

The study was based on the principle of voluntary participation. Informed consent was gained from participants prior to their participation. The population was drawn from respondents who decided to participate on voluntary basis. Respondents were assured that at no time is any person forced to be involved or to divulge information he or she was not intended to give. Respondents had freedom to participate or withdraw from the study anytime they decided to do so, however, no withdrawal was observed during this data collection process. All participants were assured of their confidentiality, privacy and

anonymity of any information shared with the researcher. Finally, the researcher was at all times considering psychological consequences for the participants. Participants to the research project were respected throughout the research process Hayes (2000).

3.13 CONCLUSION

The methodology has deduced a number of activities that led to the collection of the data. The concepts of research design, research context, respondents and the population sampling strategies as well as data analysis techniques were examined in detail. The methodology has changed from the original plan. In other words for example the computer used is not as per original planning. The population sampling consisted of company commanders, company sergeant majors, non-commissioned officers, privates and single soldiers. Chapter 4 discussed the results of the study.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS OF THE STUDY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter will present the findings and results of the study supported where necessary by tables to facilitate data analysis process. Results will be presented in the way they were collected. Finally, the findings and results will be linked with concepts and theories about the discipline.

4.2 PART A: PERSONAL INFORMATION BY RESPONDENTS

The actual participants who took part in the questioning process were 300, consisting of almost all ranks, from privates to general officers. Respondents interviewed were between the ages of 21 to 58. Those who are married range from age 23 to 58. The number of respondents interviewed were 300 out of 16, 040 NDF soldiers. The researcher has started with the focused group discussions and interviews followed by the results of questionnaire. The focused group discussions/interviewees have held that

78

staying away from your family has many disadvantages than staying together. They stated that the absence of married quarters has the following disadvantages:

- Married quarters will make command and control and combat readiness difficult.
- It is expensive for the Government to maintain.
- It involves salaries and allowances.
- Married quarters will make soldiers lazy to buy their own properties.
- Increase adultery and might cause killings among soldiers.
- Encourage jealousy.
- Married quarters will give problems in maintenance and cleaning by occupants.
- It cause work disturbance because the house is near the workplace.

- It is not good to be transferred with family every time, because it will affect children education and the promotion of married soldiers.
- Married quarters will encourage the misuse of properties/facilities.
- Married soldiers will no longer use their leave credit days and so forth.

An anonymous NDF couple stated that it is very difficult to live in the same base. Couples are sometimes accommodated in a side room in the barracks. They are given two beds to put together to form a family bed. “During the time of inspections, you are always told to make those two beds apart by commanders. This can be seen as violation of one’s constitutional rights on his or her privacy as it is enshrined in Chapter 3 of the

Namibian Constitution”, reported the couple. The couples feel that their privacy is exposed to commander’s inspection. They stated that it is not allowed to keep private property in the military base and even if it were allowed there is no space to keep household goods. “You cannot call your children to come and visit you during school holidays. This situation is uncalled for. This can also be seen as a violation of children’s right of visiting their parents”, they stated. “It is also a big problem when you are not deployed in one company in that battalion because you will be forced to phone each other every now and then” reported the couple. “When you do not have credit on your cell phone, the other spouse will say that you ignore her or him.” This situation can create jealousy easily among spouses. This state of affairs might bring misunderstanding among couples and they may start calling each other names, which is not conducive in a marriage”, they concluded. The researcher has also asked the interviewee in the group

discussion on the question of advantages of married quarters; and the following advantages were brought forward;

- Married quarters make command and control easier, and enhance combat readiness.
- It is close to work, school, recreational facilities and church.
- It provides job and family security.
- Living in married quarters is a better economic decision and affordable.
- It reduces stresses, frustrations and alcohol abuse among married soldiers.

80

- Improve the living standard of married soldiers.
- Married quarters helps for excellent and efficient service delivery, and increase discipline.
- It reduces detached duties and transfers applications by married soldiers.
- Married quarters will reduce the contraction of deceases specifically HIV/AIDS.
- It will reduce extra marital affairs and prostitution.
- Married quarters will limit children from disarrays and vulnerability.
- It encourage children education.
- Solve transport costs and reduces rental costs.

- Married quarters increase family love, maintain good family relationship and will limit the feeling of being disregarded and jealousy.
- It will introduce military spouses to know each other, encourages family bond, supports and helps family planning in many ways.

Table 4.2.1 below depicts the breakdown of participants participated who answered to questionnaire.

Table 4.2.1 **Number of samples per services.**

Services				
Respondents	Army	Air Force	Navy	Total
Number	160	100	40	300

Note: The table above depicts the number of samples selected.

Three hundred samples interviewed included 160 from the Army, 100 from Air Force and 40 from Naval Forces. This 300 samples were taken from 16, 040 NDF the strength.

Table 4.2.2 **Number of respondents by gender.**

Respondents by gender					
Gender	Army	Air Force	Navy	Total	Percentages
Males	100	83	31	214	74%
Females	60	17	9	86	26%
Total	160	100	40	300	100%

***NOTE:** The table above depicts the targeted population from the three (3) Arms of Service.*

The researcher has approached the office of Chief Personnel Officer at MOD to find out the numbers of male and females in the NDF, but the information was said that it is

classified and therefore, not allowed to be disseminated to everybody. With regard to respondents interviewed females were few in number (n=86) 26% but they occupied the central point of the whole data collection process. Married soldiers stated that they are the people who suffer the most. The focus group discussion also held that if two of the couples involved a civilian and a soldier, it became a problem mostly when a female couple is to attend night duties. In this case civilian male couple got jealousy and sometimes brings disputes in the marriage relationship. They have also stated that one

may end up with divorce because of jealousy. They have also maintained that a mother to stay away from her child will not carry out her responsibility properly.

Table: 4.2.3 **Number of respondents by ranks.**

Respondents				
Rank	Strength	Army	Air Force	Navy
Officers	60	30	20	10
NCO's	100	50	35	15
Privates	140	80	45	15
Overall	300	160	100	40

NOTE: *Entries are adjusted for characteristic differences across rank structure in NDF.*

The above table presents the number of respondents interviewed as per their ranks. This information is in accordance with the respondent's perceptions, opinions and

conceptions in addressing issues of social impacts resulting from the absence of married quarters at the Namibian Defence Force. Respondents include Generals, Senior Officers, Juniors Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Privates. These respondents include married and single soldiers. Out of 300, 180 are married which include 70 females and 110 males.

84

Sixty officers interviewed 3 were Brigadier General (who include Deputy Army Commander, Chief of Staff Human Resources and a Brigade Commander), 5 Colonels, 7 Lieutenant Colonels, 20 Majors, 17 Captains and 8 Lieutenants. This group of officers hold command and staff appointments. In addition to the above-mentioned respondents, 100 non-Commissioned Officers and 140 Privates were also interviewed. The research revealed that respondents joined the NDF from 1990 to 2009, were 300 soldiers out of 16,040 soldiers were selected for the purpose of this study. Out of the 300 respondents selected 54% (n=180) of respondents are married whereas 44% (n=120) are not married. Seventy two percent (n=276) of the 300 soldiers interviewed responded that they feel bad about being separated from their families while 8% of them say that they feel good because one is released from family problems. The researcher has decided to concentrate more on married soldiers.

4.3 PERCEPTIONS

Participants/respondents in the study representing privates, non-commissioned officers and commissioned officers were asked to indicate how they feel about the social impacts resulting from the absence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force. In

85

response to this general question the majority of participants have indicated that the social impacts that is affecting married soldiers in NDF do exist. Some of them do not believe that married soldiers in the NDF have been or are affected by social impacts arising from the absence of married quarters. Few of them were not sure whether married soldiers were affected by the social impacts resulting from the absence of married quarters in NDF. Seventy five percent (n= 216) of respondents who believe that the social impacts affecting married soldiers in the NDF were male respondents compared to 25% (n=84) of their female counterpart.

Table 4.3.1 **Number of responses to perceptions of soldiers having difficulty to find a partner or due to the absence of married quarters in the NDF.**

Responses from the 300 respondents interviewed	
having difficulty to find partner generally	having difficulty to find partner due to the absence of MQ

Yes	3	Yes	186
No	274	NO	110
N/A	23	N/A	4
Total	300	Total	300

NOTE: *The above table illustrate how answer varies from different respondents.*

In response to the question whether respondents have difficulties to find a partners 9% (n=3) respondents has stated that it was not applicable to them, 82% (n=274) have no problem to find partners while 7% (n=23) held that they do have difficulty to find partners. The question whether respondents did not marry due to the absence of married quarters 74% (n=246) are not affected to that question because they had already married, 1% (n=4) held that they do not have problem of marrying but not ready yet while 25% (n=60) confirmed that the non-existence of married quarters is an obstacle for them to marry, because one will be separated from his/her family. They do not want to be separated from their beloved ones.

According to the results of the study the numbers of children of married soldiers interviewed are 466. Two point five percent (n=) 57 of these children live with their parents at their work place while 98% (n=409) live apart from both parents and/ or either one of them. This indicates that the majority of married soldier’s children do not enjoy

love of their parents as a family because they do not living permanently with them together. Next to follow are the perceptions of 180 married soldiers regardless of their ranks, age or gender.

Table 4.3.2 Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers lived with their families in MQ, and those who live with their families near work place.

Perceptions of married soldiers interviewed					
living in MQ		Percentages	living with families near base		Percentages
Yes	0	0%	Yes	6	1.1%
No	180	100%	NO	174	98.9%
N/A	0	0%	N/A	0	0
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

NOTE: Table 4.3.2 to 4.3.12 depicts perceptions of married soldiers interviewed regardless of their ranks, age or gender.

In response to the above question 100% (n=180) married soldiers responded that there are no married quarters in the NDF. They stated that there are few houses around NDF bases which were built before independence marked “BM” (Burgersake en Mankrag), but it was held that those houses were allocated to senior officers and few non-commissioned officers only. They were and still are government houses under the

In response to the question whether married soldiers live with their families at work place, 1% (n=6) stays with their families near their work place in sack-houses, 98% (n=174) have their own houses at regions where they came from. Both married soldiers who live near the work place with their families and those who live far from their families support the introduction of MQ in NDF. The approximate distance for those who live apart from their families ranges from 500 km to 1750 km from the place of work.

Table 4.3.3 : Number of responses to perceptions of married soldiers renting with families and those renting without families at the work place.

Renting by married soldiers					
with families		Percentages	without families		Percentages
Yes	4	8%	Yes	7	6%
No	176	92%	No	173	94%
N/A	0	0%	N/A	0	0%
Total	180	100 %	Total	180	100%

One hundred and eight married soldiers interviewed 8% (n=4) of them are renting with their families while 92% do not. This is a clear indication that many NDF members have

difficulty to stay together with their families. Some from focus group discussions were talking about low salaries and others are saying that it won't help because they are always transferred from one place to another. It was found out that married soldiers who use to rent, pay rental as from N\$800.00 to N\$2800.00 a month. Those who own houses held that their monthly installments are ranging from N\$1200.00 to N\$5500.00. Some married soldiers have houses through the government housing scheme at their regions/towns where they came from. They stated that it is very difficult to pay rental on the one hand and house monthly installment on the other. They suggested that it will be better if the MOD introduces married quarters to accommodate the married soldiers. Some married soldiers intervened had stated that they erect sack-houses to accommodate their families when they come for a visit.

Table 4.3. 4: Number of responses from married soldiers who visiting families and married soldiers who were visited by their families at work place.

Married soldiers about visiting per year					
visiting families		Percentages	visited by families at workplace		Percentages
3 times a year	11	2%	2 times a year	4	7%
2 times a year	13	4%	1 times a year	7	13%
1 times a year	156	94%	0 times a year	179	80%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

The research also revealed that out of 180 married soldiers interviewed 2% (n=11) visit their families 3 times a year, 4% (n=7) 2 times a year while 94 % (n=156) visit their families once a year are mostly privates. The study found out that 7% (n=13) use to be visited by their families once a year at the work place while 13% (n=7) 2 times a year, 80% (n=179) are not visited by their families at work place. According to table 4.2.6 it is clear that married soldiers do not enjoy their conjugal rights as married people. They tend to stay away from their families for a long period of time. They have also stated that they use to pay travelling costs ranging from N\$160.00 to N\$1800.00 per go, when visiting their families. They have 25 leave days per year. Due to long distances (e.g.

from Katima Mulilo to Karasburg) one has to spend a lot of money for transport and staying one to three days without reaching home. The focused group discussions also reveal that it is impossible to visit your family on weekends.

Table 4.3.5: **Number of responses on main activities of married soldiers during evenings.**

Main activities during evenings		
Event	married soldiers	Percentages
TV	46	26%
Shabeens	41	22.5%
Studies	17	9%
Sport	28	15.5%
Visit prostitution or second job	39	22%
Homework	9	5%
Total	180	100%

The main activities of married soldiers during evenings are as follows: twenty six percent (n=47) of married soldiers use to watch television, 9% (n=17) study, 15.5%

(n=28) do sport and 5% (n=9) help their children with homework. Twenty two point five percent (n=41) spent most of their time at shabeens while 22 % (n=39) spend their

money on prostitution. All of the above were caused by the separation of spouses from their beloved ones.

They stated that living apart from your family is inhuman, and is regarded as an arbitrary situation. Most of the married soldiers stated that to rent or to own a house wherever you are to be transferred is very expensive. In other words one cannot afford to arrange for a new house in every town/place where he/she is being transferred. It was also stated that it can also affect cultures and customs of an individual/children. Married soldiers do not believe that renting or buying a house wherever you go is a good practice.

Table 4.3.6: Health with married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands at work place and those whose wives /husbands stay away from them.

Opinion of married soldiers about health					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	120	67%	vh	0	0%
h	40	22%	h	2	3.5%
m	8	4%	m	5	3.5%
l	3	2%	l	18	6.5%
vl	2	1%	vl	155	86.5%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

On the question of health matters married soldiers has held that health in the NDF is much needed, one must have healthy forces. They were very worried about HIV/AIDS. They stated that it is very difficult for a normal human being or grown up person who is married to stay away for 6 to 8 months without seeing his family. Out of 180 interviewed 67% (n=120) had stated that health is very high in married soldiers who stay with their wives near the work place.

In response to the question about health and married soldiers whose families stay away from them, held that health is a problem to this group. Married soldiers become frustrated and start abusing alcohol. They stated that when married soldiers get drunk they can just love any woman/man due to stress. Through this way they can do it without a condom and they can easily contract HIV/AIDS. As a result one can easily transmit

HIV/AIDS to his wife or husband, and then the whole family is destroyed. All parents will die and children will become orphans. They suggested that it will be better if the MOD/NDF can introduce married quarter as a matter of urgency.

Table 4.3.7: Saving by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husband near the work place and savings of those whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.

Saving by married soldiers	

with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	125	69%	vh	3	1%
h	40	22%	h	5	3%
m	6	3.5%	m	5	3%
l	4	2.5%	l	7	4%
vl	5	3%	vl	160	89%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

Sixty nine percent (n=125) of married soldiers interviewed in response to the question of saving by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place, they stated that is very high. They stated that because spouses are together they can advise each other on how they must budget their money, while 89% (n=160) of married soldiers interviewed in response to the same question by married soldiers who stay away from their wives/husbands near the work place had stated that it is very low. They held that it

is very low because spouses are far from each other to plan their budget. They stated that in this way married soldiers will only become frustrated and misuse their money on irrelevant things. They had also stated that married soldiers who stay away from their wives/husband may start abusing alcohol or extra marital affairs, as opposed to those who stay with their families near the work place. Even, if they try to save more money, when they will visit their houses they will find a lot of problems that will need more money as oppose to the one who is always with his family.

Table 4.3.8 Disputes by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place and dispute by those whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.

Opinion of married soldiers about disputes					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband near		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	1	0.4%	vh	125	69%
h	2	1.6%	h	40	22.5%
m	3	1.8%	m	8	4 %
l	4	2.2%	l	5	3.5%
vl	170	94%	vl	2	1%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

According to 180 respondents interviewed had held that disputes among married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place is 94% (n=170) very low, 2.4% (n=4) stated it is low while 1.8 % (n=3) said that it is moderate. In responding to the question of disputes among wives/husband who stay far from the work place, 125 (69%) have held that it is very high. They have stated that if couples are very far from each other, it may create jealousy and they will quarrel. This is a clear indication that disputes are high if husband and wife lives far away from each other as opposed to those who stay together.

Table 4.3.9: Learning of married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place and learning of those whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.

Study of married soldiers off or on job					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	1	0.4%	vh	159	88%
h	2	1 %	h	9	5.7%
m	3	1.6%	m	6	3.3%
l	7	4%	l	3	1.6%
vl	167	93 %	vl	2	0,4%
Total	180	100 %	Total	180	100%

Learning is regarded as the most encouraging program in any given society/business. The NDF need professional forces and this can only be achieved if all its members are educated. In response to the question of the degree of married soldiers who stay with

their wives/husbands near the work place, 93% (n=167) married soldiers interviewed, held that it is very low. In reply to the same question in regard of married soldiers who stay far away from their wives/husbands is 88% (n=159) high. Four percent (n=7) of married soldiers interviewed has said that married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place is low against 5.7% (n=9) high. Married soldiers

who stay with wives/husbands near the work their learning capabilities is very low because, if one is with his family he/she surrounded by problems as oppose to someone who is far from his/her family. On the other hand in response to same question married soldiers, who stay away from their wives/husbands from the work place, have more time of studying abilities, because they do not encounter problems every day.

Table 4.3.10: Sport by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place and sport by married soldiers whose wives stay away from the work place.

Opinion of married soldiers about sport					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	1	0.5%	vh	174	97%
h	4	2%	h	2	1.5%
m	5	3%	m	1	0.5%
l	8	4%	l	1	0.5%
vl	162	90.5%	vl	1	0.5%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100%

In response to the question of married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place only 162 married soldiers responded that sport by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work is 90.5% low while 3% (n=5) stated that it is moderate. One hundred and seventy four (97%) married soldiers who responded on the question whether married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place held that is very high than married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place. In other words married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place enjoy their married rights as oppose to those whose wives/husbands that stay away from the place of work. It was held that 3% (n=5) of married soldiers stated that those who stay with their families near the work place their involvement in sport is low , as oppose to 0.5% (n=1) moderate of those whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.

Table 4.3.11: Shabeens by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place and shabeens by married soldiers whose wives/husbands who stay away from the work place.

Married soldiers visiting shabeens					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	0	%	vh	167	93%
h	1	0.5%	h	10	5.5%
m	9	5.5%	m	2	1%
l	18	10%	l	1	0.5%
vl	152	84%	vl	0	0%
Total	180	100%	Total	180	100 %

One hundred and fifty two (84%) of 180 married soldiers held that married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place do not go to shabeens too much, while 10%(n=18) of them are of the view that married soldiers who stay with

wives/husbands near the work place is low, as oppose to those who stay away from their wives and husbands. When it comes to the question of married soldiers whose wives/husbands who stay far away from the work place, 93% (n=167) of married soldiers interviewed held that married soldiers whose families stay away from them enjoy shabeens more. This latter group tends to please themselves from frustrations and loneliness. In doing so they are just destroying their lives and their family relationships.

Table 4.3.12: Prostitution by married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place and prostitution by married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place.

Opinion of married soldiers about prostitution use					
with wife/husband			without wife/husband		
Degree	Respondents	Percentages	Degree	Respondents	Percentages
vh	1	0.4%	vh	147	82 %
h	3	1.6%	h	20	11%
m	6	3 %	m	10	5%
l	28	16%	l	3	2%
vl	142	79%	vl	0	0%
Total	180	100 %	Total	180	100%

When it comes to prostitution 82% (n=147) of married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay far from the work place involve too much in prostitution against is low than those who stay with their families near the work place. Married soldiers have also stated that

married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay with them at the work place is 79 (n=142) % very low compared with those whose families stay far away from the work place. When it comes to focused group discussions it was held that the most vulnerable group is the female group. They said that female can easily sold their body to try to find something to pay school fees, hospital fees and feeding of their children, which is very dangerous to their health. They can contract HIV/AIDS easily through this practice. Married soldiers had also held that the male group is only vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and other related diseases through extra-marital affairs. In consensus with the focused group discussions married soldiers has also held that there is a serious need to build married quarters at all NDF bases, to protect married soldiers and their families against HIV/AIDS contraction.

4.4 PART B: INFORMATION AND BEHAVIOURS ABOUT MARRIED SOLDIERS BY COMMANDERS

4.4.1 Information about married soldiers by commanders.

The researcher has interviewed 60 commanders at different levels of command. They

104

have stated that they have 367 married soldiers under their command. They all confirmed that there are no married quarters in their Units neither in the NDF as a whole. They received 294 (82%) detached duty (DD) applications out of 360 (18.3%) of

married soldiers yearly. In other words only about 18.3% of married soldiers who do not apply for DD while 82% of them do apply. Ninety nine percent of reasons for DD are family related, while 1% of DD applications are for other reasons. Out of 294 DD applications only 17 applications may be approved yearly. In other words only 6% of DD applications might be approved while 94% will be disapproved. Some married soldiers apply for permanent transfer to Units in regions where they came from or Units near their home towns or homestead. It was stated that out of 230 transfer applications for family related matters applied only 4% can be approved. This means that 96% of 230 married soldiers' applications were turned down. It was further stated by commanders that the absence of married quarter in the NDF posed a great social impact on married soldiers' social life, their families and service delivery. The researcher used words wives and husbands in describing behaviours to avoid gender bias.

In responding to the question of delaying from work, ninety one percent (n=45) out of 60 commanders interviewed held that it is very low for married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands at the work place to delay from work, while 3% (n=5) stated that it is unusual to find married soldiers delaying from work against 96% (n=53) who held

that married soldiers who stay without their wives/husbands near the work place is very high to delay from work. On the other hand 4% (n=7) of commanders interviewed stated that the degree of married soldiers who stay without their wives/husbands near the

work place is low to delay from work. Married soldiers delayed due to family reasons, for example one can tell the commander that he/she took his/her child to a doctor.

When it comes to the question of quality service, commanders has responded that quality service among married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place is very high 91% (n=45). They stated that they are saying so because staying together with your husband or wife it will prevent you from stresses and frustrations. In response to the question whether the quality service of married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place 90% (n=43) has stated that the service quality of this group is very low. Ten (6%) of commanders interrogated has held that the service quality of married soldiers who stay with wives/husbands near the work place is high as oppose to 5 (3%) of the commanders interviewed who said that the quality service of married soldiers who stayed with their wives at work place is very low. They held that married soldiers who stay with their wives near the work place used to have many complaints and excuses about their families. They have problems of taking children to school in the morning and pick them up after school in the afternoon, as opposed to those whose wives are far away from them.

On the question of alcohol abuse, two point four percent (n=4) out of 60 commanders interviewed held that alcohol abuse among married soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands near the work place is moderate, as oppose to 0.1% (n= 1) commander

who stated that alcohol abuse is moderate among soldiers who stay without their wives/husbands near the work place. Ninety nine point nine percent (n=59) of commanders interviewed held that alcohol abuse by married soldiers whose wives/husbands stay away from the work place is very high, while 96% (n=54) has stated that alcohol abuse among soldiers who stay with their wives/husbands is very low. The aforesaid commanders were of the view that married soldiers get frustrated and sometimes are tempted by many things, such as loneliness and longingness. There is consensus between the results from closed and open-ended questions, the focus group discussions and interviews on the question of social impact affecting married soldiers in the NDF resulting from the absence of married quarters.

4.5 CONCLUSION

To conclude, commanders have stated that they were used to attend to all the problems of married soldiers at different levels; and family related problems were singled out as the most complaints. It was stated that married soldiers were the most who applied for detached duties and urgent private matter leaves, as oppose to single soldiers.

Commanders at all levels are willing to have the introduction of married quarters for the improvement of service delivery. They stated that 65% (n=11,700) out of (n=16, 040) of

the NDF personnel are married, therefore, their welfare must be seriously taken into consideration. Chapter 5 will deal with discussions followed by conclusion and recommendations.

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This thesis presented an analysis looking into the perceived social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters affecting married soldiers at the Namibian Defence Force. The nonexistence of married quarters posed suffering to the married soldiers. The introduction of married quarters was perceived as the most important program in easing the welfare of married soldiers. The statement problem of the study was to analyze what are the social impact resulting from married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force having on married soldiers. Its main objectives were to help improve the welfare and living standard of married soldiers and influence policy makers to come up with alternative policies. The study served as a starting point for future researchers and scholars.

5.2 DISCUSSIONS

The study employed the descriptive research method of qualitative data from the

stakeholders and basic questionnaire respectively. Specific objectives addressed through this research include improving the welfare and living standard of married soldiers in the

NDF and encouraging policy makers to come up with alternative policies. Most of the data presented here is primary data supplemented by secondary data.

5.2.1 The difference between married quarters and community housing

Difference has been made between military housing/married quarters and community housing. Community housings are lodgings in civilian society. According to the participants or respondents married quarters are sometimes older, smaller, and of lower quality compared to the housing in which members reside in civilian sector. On the other hand, military housing is much closer to work, it has greater access to recreational facilities, and residents are more satisfied with the reliability of their neighbours. It was also stated that married quarters also offer far more attached houses compared to the civilian sector, where most military members who rent are in apartment complexes. It was found out that, military housing and civilian rental neighborhoods are quite similar, while owners have fewer problems with traffic, noise, crime, and have better quality schools, parks and recreational facilities, and find their neighbours much more reliable. The reason why respondents prefer married quarters primarily for economic reasons, i.e., because living in military housing saves money as oppose to living off-base.

5.2.2 Who should be responsible for married quarters in the NDF?

Respondents are of the view that occupants of married quarters shall be responsible as if they lived in community housing. It was held that the maintenance of married quarters

might become costly because of the I-do-not care attitude by the occupants. The Namibian Government/MOD expects military families to keep married quarters in a condition comparable as if they lived in their own housing. It was further stated that, married soldiers would be encouraged to adopt good stewardship practices and a pride of ownership mind-set.

Some respondents are of the opinion that residences of married quarters would be responsible for minor repairs, conservation of utilities, indoor cleaning and yard maintenance. Moreover, the Government/ MOD would only be responsible for exterior painting, major repairs and maintenance, and repairs of major appliances. Finally, some respondents are of the view that improving accommodation problems in the NDF is a priority for quality and effective service delivery. Accommodations seem to be the key to recruitment and retention of NDF soldiers. Other respondents maintained that some married soldiers had resigned from the NDF, because of family problems. Respondents had also raised the question of low salary. Some ranks ranging from privates, sergeant majors and captains would no longer afford to buy houses through Government Housing Scheme in areas such as Windhoek. Their salary could not match with the cost of houses today.

It was also contrasted that married quarters might turn into squatter camps, which is not desirable. In other words squatting will allow informal trading of any kind, and possibly

illegal dealings because of the exclusiveness of the area. Respondents on the other hand concluded that an African family is so big, that it cannot properly fit in an average house. The overall objective for housing is to give everyone the opportunity of a decent home and so promote social cohesion, well-being and self-dependence. Members who decide to stay in a Government Housing accommodation have to apply for such accommodation.

In civilian sector the application has to be endorsed by the Ministry of Works and Transport of such renting. In the military the application has to be endorsed by his or her commander for the justification of such renting. Members provided with government housing do not receive subsidies. They receive housing allowances. If one is provided with the subsidy he or she will not get housing allowances benefits any longer. It is a Government policy that you have benefited already. The government deducts monthly rental payments automatically from occupants' salaries, or they made payment themselves. The amount of rental depends on the size of the property. This process might prevent low paid members of the NDF to satisfy the needs of their families. He or she will find it hard to contain municipal water and electricity bills at government housing on the one hand and his own private housing on the other.

5.2.3 The social impact resulting from the absence of married quarters affecting married soldiers in the Namibian Defence Force

According to 60 commanders and all 240 other ranks the social impact affecting married soldiers in NDF identified were as follows:

- Spouses separated from their families/each others.
- Difficult rearing of children.
- High renting costs and long distances travelling.
- Stress, frustration, alcohol abuse and absenteeism.
- Sexual transmitted deceases (STD's) and HIV/AIDS.
- Spending money in sbabeen and prostitution instead of saving.
- Too much detached duty and transfer applications.
- Delay from work and neglecting of service quality.
- Low sport and studying abilities.
- Transport arrangement or travelling allowances.
- And mobility.
- All of them suggested that MOD/NDF to built married quarters.

These are some of the social impacts that result from the absence of married quarters mostly affecting married soldiers in the NDF. Respondents stated that these social

impacts cause a psychological stigma among spouses and children. The separation of family during peacetime gave a hectic time to married soldiers to fulfill their job with morale. Respondents stated that it is a very demoralizing situation. They stated that

some children left school before the age of 18years, looking for the job to help their families. Children became vulnerable because nobody is looking after them. They become street children. Spouses become mad and useless. They no longer take responsibility for their families. They abandon their parenthood responsibility and their properties. The respondents concluded that all these sufferings and frustration are caused by the non-existence of married quarters in the Namibian Defence Force. All 300 respondents had stated that in trying to sustain their families some married soldiers has made sack houses for their families in areas where they were deployed.

5.3 CONCLUSION

The study concludes that an important role of married quarters is helping military families make ends meet and finally to enhance effectively of NDF operations. This opinion was common across all ranks, privates and officers. Married quarters were seen as serving many functions: supporting the families of deployed military personnel, and helping service member's focus on their jobs by keeping family safe, and helping young soldiers fit into the military. Some respondents thought that married quarters are very

important in maintaining military values and held that living in married quarters makes members more committed to the service or more productive at their jobs. It is also found

out that frequent military moves may make it too costly for married soldiers to purchase a home, because frequent real estate transactions as they move from assignment to assignment would limit their ability to accumulate equity.

The research results confirmed that mobility is the major deterrent to ownership, although affordability is also an important impediment to it. The social impact affecting married soldiers in the Namibian Defence Force is mostly caused by mobility. As it was stated by Williams (1989) in Chapter 2 that the reality of family life, despite its problems, provides the best solution to the human predicament of wanting close sustaining relationships, a degree of autonomy, a context in which children can be brought up, and framework within which individual growth can occur.

The Namibian Defence Force members are part of society. They need to be looked after like anybody else in the community. They need love, warmth and care. They need not to be separated from their families during peace time. They want to stay together with their families to strengthen family relationship. In this way families will live in a peaceful and health life, and to reduce military life stress factors easily. In other words, married soldiers in the NDF are eager to hear after this study that their social welfare are taken

into consideration as a matter of urgency to relieve them from stresses. It is therefore recommended that other researchers who in the future might be interested in the area under discussion are free to extend thereon.

5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

The researcher is of the opinion that to align the need of married soldiers with that of the MOD/NDF the following measures should be implemented in a step-wise way:

1. The NDF to come up with a strategy for transport arrangements because travelling distances is very long. The MOD/NDF to set up arrangements with private transport companies e.g. TransNamib, Namibia Contract Haulage etc., for transport services. This can be in the form of free bus ticket or train tickets to and from home until the final destination, for example take people from Katima Mulilo to Grootfontein and from Grootfontein to Keetmanshoop et cetera. The reason being that travelling to and from home and to workplace is very expensive. The MOD should be liable for transport costs. This program should be applicable to all ranks except for management cadres who own car scheme provided for by the government as their benefits.
2. Married quarters when introduced should not be on a permanent basis up to retirement, but a measure to allow couples to stay in until they acquire their own

accommodation.

3. Find a solution to transfer married soldiers to their regions of origin and/or at military bases near their families.
4. To commission a study on the cost of step-wise introduction of married-quarters.
5. Finally, step-wise build up/getting experience: (a) about effects and (b) the rule for distributing married quarters.

6. REFERENCES

Alan Whiteside, Alex De Waal and Gebre-Tensae, (2006). “ AIDS, Security and the Military in Africa: a Sober Apraisal” African Affairs, January, 2006.

An anonymous ex-PLAN Combatant, (2009). Personnel communications interviews. Namibia. Windhoek.

An anonymous ex-SWATF (2008). *Personnel communications interviews*. Namibia. Windhoek.

Berg, B.L. (1995) *Qualitative Research methods for the social sciences* (2nd Ed.). Boston. MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Burnam, M. A., Meredith, L. S., Sherbourne, C. D., Valdez, R. B., and Vernez, G. *Army Families and Military Readiness*. Santa Monica, Calif: Rand Corporation: 1992.

Bryman, A. (1988). *Quantity and quality in social research*. London. Routledge.

Country Profile: Namibia . U. S. Department of State, 2008.

Crandall, David P. (2000). *The Place of Stunted Ironwood Trees*. New York: Continuum International Publishing Group Inc. p. 48

Craig D. (2004). *Family values: issues for the nineties*. Volume 23, Cambridge. Independence Educational Publishers.

Chief of Defence Force (CDF)(2008). *Human Rights Discussion 6th Series*. A public Lecture on the Policy of mandatory HIV testing for recruits in NDF and other uniformed forces. Franco-Namibia Cultural Centre, 118 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Namibia. Windhoek.

Chief of the Defence Force (2008). *HIV influence on all processes involved in ensuring combat readiness, force preparation and employment* (New Era, Friday, September 5, (2008). Namibia. Windhoek.

Chief of Staff Personnel (2008). Directorate of Human Resources. Ministry of Defence, Namibia. Windhoek.

Denzin, NK. & Lincoln, YS.(Eds.) (2000). *The Handbook of Qualitative Research*. California: sage.

Glaser, B.G., & Strauss, A. L. (1967). The discovery of grounded theory: *Strategy for quality research*. Chicago.111: Aldine.

Gordon, M. (1983). *The American Family in Social-Historical Perspective*. (3rd Ed.). New York. ST. Martin's Press.

Habitat International Coalition (1996). Saamstan Housing Cooperative. A case study in Windhoek, Namibia. Hhh://www.hic-net.org/docment.asp?PID=99. 9March 2009.

Harrel, M. C. et al. (2004). President Bush's speech at Fort Stewart. Georgia.

RAND National Defence Research Institute.

Harway, M. (1996). Treating the Changing Family: *Handling Normative and Unusual Events*. New York. John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Hayes, (2000). Doing Psychological Research. Philadelphia. Open University Press.

Heinecken, L. (2001). Preparing for operations other than war: *How equipped is the SANDF to deal with soft missions, Paper presented at the African Defence Summit, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg (August 22-23, 2001).*

Hendricks, J. H., Black, D. & Kaplan, T. (1995). When Father Kills Mother: *Guiding Children through Trauma and Grief*. London and New York. The Royal College of Psychiatrists Publishers.

“HIV/AIDS and the Military in Southern Africa” report of two days seminar convened in Windhoek by the Centre for Conflict resolution (CCR) and the University of Namibia in February, 2006.

HIV/AIDS in Namibia, (2009): Behavioral and Contextual Factors Driving the Epidemic, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Measure Evaluation & USAID.

Hon Namoloh, C.D.N.P. Major General (Rtd), Minister of Defence (2005). The 2005

Defence Budget. National Assembly. Namibia. Windhoek.

Ishii-Kuntz, M. (1994). Journal of Family Issues: *International Perspective on work and family*. SAGE Periodicals Press, 15 (3).

Kayongo-Male, D. and Onyango, F. (1994). *The Sociology of African Family* (4th imp.). New York. Longman Inc.

Klaus G. Förg, Gerhard Burkl (2004). *Himba. Namibias ockerrotes Volk*; Rosenheim: Rosenheimer, Verlagshaus.

Kvale, S. (1983). The qualitative research interview: *A phenomenological and hermeneutical mode of understanding*. Journal of Phenomenological Psychology, 14, 171-196.

Macksoud, M. (1993). *Helping Children Cope with the Stress of War: A manual for parents and teachers*. New York. UNCEF Programme Publishers.

Meier, Benjamin Mason (2002). International Protection of Persons Undergoing Medical Experimentation: Protecting the Right of Informed Consent, Berkeley journal of international law [1085-5718] vol:20 iss:3 pg:513 -554.

Military Family Clearinghouse. *Military Family Demographics: Profile of the Military of the Military Family*. Arlington, Va: Military Family Clearinghouse; June 1992.

Literature: Annotated Bibliography Washington, DC: Military Family Resource Centre 1985.

Ministry of Defence Strategic Plan 2008-2012, (200). Office of the Prime Minister, Namibia. Windhoek.

Ministry of Health and Social Services, (2008). Directorate of Special Programmes, Results of the 2008 HIV Sentinel Survey.

Morgan, J. (2001). How to succeed in your Master's and Doctorial Studies. *A South African Guide and Resource Book*. Pretoria: Van Schaik Publishers.

National Demographic Health Survey, 2006.

National Planning Commission, 2003.

National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children 2006-2009.

Namibia's Research Situation Analysis on Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children: Boston University Center for International Health and Development with Pharmaccess/Namibia. Final Report 2009 [show] v · d · e. HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Neumann, W.L. (1997). Social Research Methods: *Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Boston. Allyn & Bacon.

Nowak, S. (1976). Understanding and Prediction: *Essay in the methodology of social*

behavioural theories. Dordrech, Netherlands: Reidel.

Oxford English Pocket Dictionary (2001). Oxford. Oxford University Press.

Peil, M. (1993). Situational Variables. In Bulmer, M. & WARWICK, DP. (Eds.)
Social Research in Developing Countries: *Surveys and Censuses in the Third
World*. London. UCL.

Peter Pickford, Beverly Pickford, Margaret Jacobson (1990). *Himba*; ed. New
Holland Publishers (UK) Ltd.

Pidgeon, N. (1996). Grounded theory: Theoretical background. In J.T.E.
Richardson (Ed.), Handbook of qualitative research methods for psychological
and the social sciences (p. 75-85). Leicester: BPS Books.

Pidgeon, N., & Henwood, K. (1996). Grounded theory: *Practical implementation*.
In J.T.E. Richardson (Ed.), Handbook of qualitative research methods for
psychology and the social sciences (p. 86-101). Leicester. BPS Books.

Rina Sherman (2009). *Ma vie avec les Ovahimba*; Paris: Hugo et Cie.

Rubin , H.J & Rubin I.S.(1995). Qualitative interviewing: *The art of hearing data*.
London . Sage. Schapera, I. (1950). Handbook of Tswana Law and \custom,
Oxford University.

Rupiya, M. (Editor), (2006). The Enemy Within: South African Militaries, Quarter-

- Segal M. W., and Harris, J. J., (1993). *What we know about Army Families*.
Alexandria, Va: US Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social
Sciences; 1993. Special report 21.
- Silverman, D. (1993). Interpreting qualitative data. *Methods of analysing, talk, text
and interaction*. London: Sage.
- Stern, P.C. (1979). *Evaluating Social Sciences Research*. New York. Oxford
Press.
- Struwig F. W. & Stead G. B. (2001). *Planning, Designing and Reporting
Research*. Cape Town. Masker Miller Longman, (Pty) Ltd.
- Terre B.M. and Durrheim, (Ed.) (2002). *Research in Practice: Applied Method in
Social Sciences*. Cape Town. University of Cape Town Press. Washington, Harriet.
- Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans
from Colonial Times to the Present*.
Anchor Books, New York. pp. 300–330.
- Webster's New World Dictionary (1995). Macmillan General Reference. New York.
A Printice Hall/Macmillan Company.

- Williams, P.R. (1989). *Family Problems: Oxford General Practice Series, 17*.
Oxford, New York and Tokyo. Oxford University Press.

6.1 Internet sources reference

Anita Alban and Lorna Guinness, 2000, Socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa, ><http://www.unaids.org/publications/index.html>>

["Africa In Perspective : AIDS and Africa - Racism vs. Science"](http://www.aliveandwell.org/html/africa/related_aids_racism.html). Aliveandwell.org. http://www.aliveandwell.org/html/africa/related_aids_racism.html. Retrieved 2011-03-29

["African Migration and the Brain Drain - David Shinn"](http://sites.google.com/site/davidhshinn/Home/african-migration-and-the-brain-drain). Sites.google.com. 2008-06-20. <http://sites.google.com/site/davidhshinn/Home/african-migration-and-the-brain-drain>. Retrieved 2011-03-29.

[Africa Stark Aids message for Botswana](#). BBC News (2004-12-01). Retrieved on 2010-10-25.

[Africa Uganda Aids education 'working'](#). BBC News (2004-04-30). Retrieved on 2010-10-25

Barrow, C. J., (2000). Social Impact Assessment: an Introduction. London: Arnold. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_impact-assessment.htm: Retrieved on 24th/4/2009.

<http://www.pepfar.gov/countries/namibia/index.htm> "2008 Country Profile: Namibia". U.S. Department of State, 2008. Accessed August 25, 2008

James A. Martin et al. The Military Family: A Guide for Human Service Providers. Retrieved on March 24, 2008 (hhh.bookshop.blackwell.com/jsp/id).

["Kenya: Don't Discount Conspiracy Theories on Origin of Aids"](#). allAfrica.com. 2009-12-01.

Latane, B., and Darley, J., (2009). *Theory of Social Impact*. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, McGraw-Hill Companies. Retrieved from <http://mhhe.com/support>, on 4/24/ 2009. [file:///E: ?/ Theory of social impact.htm](file:///E:/Theory%20of%20social%20impact.htm)

McGeary Johanna (2001) ["Origin of AIDS Linked to Colonial Practices in Africa"](#). NPR. <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5450391>. Retrieved 2011-03-29.

<http://www.namchild.gov.na/library.php?po=161> National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (2006-2010)

["New Aids gel could protect women from HIV"](#). South Africa - The Good News –
Sagoodnews.co.za. 2010-07-20.

["Origin of AIDS Linked to Colonial Practices in Africa"](#). NPR.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5450391>. Retrieved
2011-03-29

Peter Piot, Reaching a turning point. Global Issues, July 2000, p. 1,

<http://www.usinfo.state/journals/itgic/o700/ijge/gjo5.htm>. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200912011055.html>. Retrieved 2011-03-29.

Samuels, Fiona (2009) [HIV and emergencies: one size does not fit all](#), London:

126

Overseas Development Institute.

Susan Hunter, (2003). "Black Death: AIDS in Africa" , Palrave Macmillan, chapter 2
[UNAIDS. "2008 report on the global AIDS epidemic"](#).

[http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/HIVData/GlobalReport/2008/2008_
Glo_bal_report.asp](http://www.unaids.org/en/KnowledgeCentre/HIVData/GlobalReport/2008/2008_Global_report.asp). Retrieved March 1, 2010.

UN Report (1999). United Nations report on the global HIV/AIDS epidemic,
<<http://www.unaids.org/epidemicupdate/report/index.html>>.

6.2 Legislations

Constitution of Namibia (1990). Namibia. Windhoek.

Defence Act1 of (2002). Namibia. Windhoek.

Married Persons Equality Act 1 of (1996). Namibia. Windhoek.

Namibian Defence Force General Regulations to the Defence Act (2005).
Ministry of Defence, Namibia. Windhoek.

Namibian Defence Force Personnel Policy (1994). Ministry of Defence,
Windhoek, Namibia.

Namibian Defence Force Personnel Policy Draft (2003). Ministry of Defence
Namibia. Windhoek.

Namibian Defence Force Policy 4th Draft (2006). Ministry of Defence, Namibia.
Windhoek.

Public Service Act 13 of 1995. Namibia. Windhoek.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: A letter to NDF from UNAM for the facilitation of field research by MA- SSS Degree candidates

Appendix 2: Questionnaire Married Quarters

NB! Introductory remarks: *Please take notice that the data to be collected are only for research purposes and are treated as confidential and anonymous. Do not be scared answer freely.*

Number of Interviewee.....
Date of interview.....
Place of interview.....
Current duty station.....

Part A: Personal information by respondents

1. How old are you?.....
2. What is your sex?.....
3. What service are you?.....
4. What is your rank?.....
5. What is your appointment?.....
6. When did you join NDF?.....
7. Are you married?.....
8. If not married: Do you have problems to find a partner/?.....

9. Or you do not marry a partner due to the absence of MQ?.....
10. How many children do you have with your husband?.....

11. Or with your wife?.....
12. Where do you live?.....
13. In a MQ?.....
14. Do you live together with your family?.....
15. Where do your family lives.....
16. What is the distance from your duty station?.....
17. What are the renting costs per month for your family (living apart from you).....
18. What is the renting costs per month for you and your family, living together?.....
19. If you own a house what is your monthly renting (payment)?.....
20. How often do you visit your family?
21. And how often your family visits you?.....
22. How much do you pay yourself per visit?.....

23. How much do you pay for your family per visit?.....
24. Are you granted travelling time (days) when visiting your family?.....

25. Are you given subsistence and travelling allowances when visiting your family?.....
26. To your knowledge, are there MQ in your duty station?.....
27. How do you spend your evenings apart from family? (TV, sport, studying, shabeens, children homework)?.....
28. How much do you spend for shabeen per week?.....
29. How much do you spend per prostitution per week?.....
30. Do you live apart from your family?.....
31. If living apart from family: Why not renting an apartment, house for you and the family near the duty station.....
32. If living apart from family: How is living from your family for you personally?
- Feel very bad
 - It is not so nice, but not too bad
 - Has some real advantages

- Honestly, I am happy not to be with my family all the days

Part B: Information about others by commanders

33. What is the number of married soldiers in your Unit?.....
34. Are there MQ in your Unit?.....
35. Do you know of MQ in any other Unit?.....
36. What is the number of married soldiers of your Unit live together with family, but not in MQ?.....
37. How many detached duty applications do you receive per year in your Unit?.....
38. What percentage of those detached duty applications are due to family reasons?...
39. What percentage of those detached duty applications do you approve?.....
40. How many transfers' applications do you receive per year due to family reasons?
.....
41. How many transfers do you approve per year?
42. How is the behaviour of married soldiers? (See list below).

List related to question 42 of the questionnaire.

Behaviour	m/soldiers	Very	high	moderate	lower	low	Very
------------------	-------------------	-------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------	------------	-------------

		high					low
Delay from leave	With wife						
	W/o wife						
Service quality	With wife						
	W/o wife						
Absenteeism	With wife						
	w/o wife						
health	With wife						
	w/o wife						
Alcohol abuse	With wife						
	w/o wife						
Savings	With wife						
	w/o wife						
Disputes	With wife						
	w/o wife						
sport	With wife						
	w/o wife						
learning	With wife						
	w/o wife						
Prostitution	With wife						
	w/o wife						

43. Your view on MQ:

- What would be the main advantages for your Unit/NDF to have MQ?
-
- What would be the main disadvantages for your Unit/NDF to have MQ?
-

- If MQ would be introduced, what should be the rules for accommodation/distribution?

.....
.....

- What is your further comments:

.....