

**PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTS OF SHEBEENS ON THE COMMUNITY OF  
GREENWELL MATONGO, WINDHOEK**

A RESEARCH THESIS SUBMITTED IN FULFILMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

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BY

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## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to my husband, Mr. Absalom Hasheela, and to my parents: Mr. Pineas Shidolo and Mrs. Francina Shaangeni.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I GIVE ALL THE GLORY TO GOD, THE JACK OF ALL TRADES!

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Without the financial support from the Namibia Students Financial Assistance, I would not have been able to complete this study.

Above all, I will forever be grateful to the Almighty God, whose grace propelled me. His wisdom guided me and His promise sustained me. Thanks are due to you in abundance my LORD!

## DECLARATION

I, Miriam Winnie Shidolo, declare that this study is a true reflection of my own research, and that this work, or part thereof has not been submitted for a degree in any other institution of higher education.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study focused on the effects of shebeens in the society, particularly within the Greenwell Matongo residential area. Its overall aim was to explore the community members' perceptions towards the effects of shebeens, thus it investigated their views and experiences around the signing of shebeen consent letters, and the shebeen monitoring system. A qualitative research approach was employed, and, a phenomenological design was used. Data were collected through a semi-structured interview that involved open-ended questions. Interviews were conducted with eighteen (18) community members, of which 3 are employed (including self-employed), 3 are unemployed, 2 are shebeen owners, 3 are general community members (community councillor, a school teacher, and a police officer), 4 are working at shebeens, and 3 residents who have signed the shebeen consent letter.. The data collected through interviews were transcribed and analysed. The collected data were themed into three major themes: 1) effects of shebeens on the community, 2) the signing of the shebeen consent letters, and 3) the shebeen monitoring system; which after analysis led to the following themes as being the effects of shebeens on the community: environmental effects, economic effects, high alcohol consumption, poor parenting, increased crime, lack of shebeen control, lack of knowledge on shebeene consent, bribery and intimidation, poor shebeen control as well as corruption. These themes will be useful to all shebeen stakeholders and the Liquor Board to implement the recommendations made by community members regarding the issuing of shebeens' and liquor licenses. The Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 is an amicable alcohol and shebeens regulator in the country, however, the study found that it is being ignored, not practical and is therefore not being implemented. Consequently, the study recommended an amendment of the Liquor Act, especially the requirements of the shebeen structures to fit the environment where the shebeens are located. The study is significant to the community at large, as it is adding to the existing

literature lie on the phenomena. In conclusion, shebeens have both positive and negative effects in the community, with negative effects outweighing the positive ones. The negative effects include: noise, excessive alcohol consumption, poor parenting, low performance at school, poor hygiene, increasing crime, and poverty. The positive effects of shebeens are mainly income generation and job creation. The study also concluded that community members know very little about the signing of the consent forms that are signed as a requirement to obtain a liquor license. Many members have also not realised the effectiveness of the shebeen monitoring system. These results are essential because they can be used to contribute to plans of strengthening the existing alcohol monitoring system in Namibia.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>LAC</b>	Legal Assistance Centre
<b>MoHSS</b>	Ministry of Health and Social Services
<b>NAMPOL</b>	Namibian Police
<b>NRTA</b>	Namibia Retailing Traders Association
<b>NSA</b>	Namibia Shebeen Association
<b>SAIF</b>	Self-regulating Alcohol Industry Forum
<b>SMEs</b>	Small Medium Enterprises
<b>UNTAG</b>	United Nations Transition Assistance Group
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

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# **CHAPTER 1**

## **ORIENTATION OF THE STUDY**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 has defined shebeens as “any premises exclusively or mainly used for the sale to, and the consumption on the premises by the public, of light liquor and refreshments” (Government Republic of Namibia, 1998). According to this Act, a shebeen may include a tavern, but would exclude an accommodation establishment, restaurant or club. The Namibian legislation related to the supply of liquor was developed to govern the sale and supply of liquor in various places, including shebeens. Before Namibia gained independence in 1990, shebeens were perceived to be informal sites, and were viewed as places where people meet for political agendas (Gondwana Collection Namibia, 2013). However, that is no longer the case. Currently, shebeens are formally recognised, legal and have been reported as a trendy business option in the lower income townships, especially in Katutura, Windhoek, where most of the black population is residing (Nicodemus, 2011).

The formal and informal economic sectors are the two sources of income in Namibia. Of the two, the informal sector is expanding, which is further exacerbated by the increasing unemployment rate (Shindondola-Mote & Ohlsonn, 2013). Over the years, the informal sector has become saturated by the increasing number of shebeens, being established in the view that they have a potential to generate income and jobs, especially in poor communities (Goeiman,

2012). Some shebeens operate informally to avoid the struggles of formal registration and the costs associated with registration. In such instances, the operation of shebeens and any other business in the informal sector is not protected by the law, workers have no employment security, and can be hired and fired anytime.

Shebeen operators are part of the beverage industry in Namibia, which represents 18.9% of the operators (Nicodemus, 2011). Based on the 2001 informal sector survey in Namibia, 182 607 people were estimated to be employed and operating in the Namibia's informal sector in comparison to 280 000 in the formal sector (Nicodemus, 2011). However, the proportion of shebeens in that figure for the informal sector is not stated.

Shortly before the independence of Namibia, shebeens were represented by an association known as Namibia Shebeen Association (NSA), which was formed in 1987 to create an enabling environment within the informal sector (Nicodemus, 2011). This association played a role in the formulations of regulations on the operations of shebeens. The NSA has been replaced by the Namibia Retailing Traders Association (NRTA), an association that aims to regulate the sale of alcohol in shebeens (Graig, 2014). The specific purpose of the NRTA, as clearly pointed out by its current president Mr Andreas Nuule, is to:

- Represent shebeen owners by stimulating the awareness and shebeen owners' creativity for the purpose of developing innovative and successful solutions to problems that affect the operations of their businesses in Namibia;

- Provide a channel for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to become proactive in realising their talents and in implementing their goals and initiatives, by taking on professional roles, methods, and responsibilities that will develop their business skills and experience; and
- Collaborate with the government and other stakeholders around the country in order to systematically remove the obstacles hindering Namibian SMEs from becoming empowered, self-reliant, and innovative business people of tomorrow.

Shebeens provide a variety of entertainments through the provision of services such as: bars counters, pool tables, dance floors, jukeboxes/music boxes, gambling machines as well as alcoholic beverages. With a wide range of choices available, shebeens attract middle- and upper-class people for a local experience (Vesiko, 2013). Apart from the above-mentioned services provided, shebeens are said to be a necessity in the Namibian economy, and an important segment for job creation in the country (Goeiman, 2012). Haidula (2015) reported that there were approximately 12 000 shebeens countrywide, of which 3 000 are found in Windhoek, but only 540 shebeens are registered. She further reported that approximately 15 000 people in Windhoek depend on shebeens to sustain their living.

Specifically, in Windhoek, shebeens were initially categorized as being inexpensive, and one of the local options among other alcohol outlets such as pubs and bars in the Katutura area (Vesiko, 2013). Nowadays, with the alarming rise in popularity of shebeens, more wealthy people have also opened up their alcohol selling business facilities that have been structured differently, which has led to the categorization of shebeens in different classes. The well-known different classes of shebeens are: shebeens, shebeen bars, action bars and nightclubs (Vesiko,

2013). However, some shebeens in Namibia operate legally while others are illegal. Operating legally means they have been registered and are in possession of liquor licenses. On the contrary, those shebeens that are operating illegally are not registered and have no liquor licenses.

Shebeens are often linked to alcohol abuse, which consequently contributes to other social ills such as crime, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), violence, teenage pregnancies and school dropouts. This fact is further supported by Nichols (2011), who argued that drinking establishments are socializing points, which pose a risk for the pattern of alcohol abuse. The same author has made an indication that the quantity of alcohol consumed at both the registered and unregistered shebeens is much higher than the quantity of alcohol consumed at other drinking establishments such as bars. She further added that the drinking establishments can disturb the neighborhood's environment through noise pollution, particularly during the night, can increase the rate of alcohol consumption, while at the same time promoting risky sexual behaviors. The research conducted by Nichols (2011) revealed that neighborhoods with high densities of drinking establishments such as shebeens are concomitant with high HIV prevalence. The research findings are supported by those of a study conducted on a randomized trial of a community-based alcohol-related HIV risk-reduction intervention for men and women in Cape Town South Africa. That study has confirmed that drinking establishments in Southern Africa are mostly where people meet sex partners, of which HIV prevalence is mostly high in people who visit those informal drinking places (Kalichman *et al*, 2008).

Against the above background, it was deemed essential to conduct research which seeks to establish an understanding of the effects of shebeens on the livelihood of the locals.

## **1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

At the national level, shebeens have increased, and are found in almost every corner of Namibia, mainly invading the residential areas. Specifically, in Windhoek, shebeens have expanded, with majority being found along the Eveline Street in the Greenwell Matongo area (Shanghala, 2016). The famous street referred to by Shanghala (2016) as ‘Sodom and Gomorrah’ is a place where countless shebeens have been observed to be scattered all over the place. Some shebeens are reported to operate illegally, and as a contributing factor to numerous social problems, such as domestic violence, GBV, fights, and stabbings as a result of alcohol or drugs abuse regardless of their legal or illegal operations. Moreover, most children living in residential areas near shebeens are using drugs and alcohol, therefore as a result of exposure; they end up dropping out of school and getting engaged in criminal activities (Shidhudhu, 2013).

A report of 2017 by the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture has revealed that alcohol use is one of the risk factors for mortality, disability and morbidity. In the report, it has been indicated that 14,3% of students who consume alcohol are likely to get into trouble with family, miss school and get involved in fights and risky sexual behaviours. Another report from the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC) of 2008 has revealed that exposure to shebeens, causes approximately 49% of the Namibian youth to access home-brewed alcohol in their communities. The Legal Assistance report has further revealed that alcohol is given to children who are hungry, to stop the hunger and stop them from crying. Similarly, based on a study conducted by (Wood, Read, Mitchell, & Brand, 2004) it was stated that there are some parents or guardians who take their children with to alcohol outlets which

influence alcohol use in children. Overall, alcohol is easily accessible in every community where shebeens are found (Barth & Hubbard 2009).

Given the alarming increase in the number of shebeens in the Greenwell Matongo settlement where many social problems such as alcohol abuse are experienced, it was deemed necessary to conduct a research on the effects of the numerous shebeens in that specific community and determine the impact of shebeens.

In essence, a few studies have already been conducted in Namibia on this phenomenon. A quantitative study by Nujoma (1998) for example researched on the effects of shebeens in the neighbourhood. Nevertheless, that was 20 years ago (when the study was conducted), therefore the findings of this study can be viewed as being out-dated; thus the need to collect the most recent, up to date and scientifically tested data.

In addition to the study conducted by Nujoma (1998), Vesiko (2013) conducted a study that specifically targeted the shebeen market in Namibia in association with Social Media. The aim of the study was to investigate how a company known as Camelthorn Brewery can utilize social media as a strategy to market shebeens in Namibia. The study did not investigate the effects of shebeens on the community and did not consider the issue of licensing. Therefore, the identified research gap has led to the need to conduct this qualitative study, which aims to explore and address the issue of shebeen licensing and registration, and the impact of shebeens on livelihoods in more detail. In the end, this study has provided recommendations that could be used for policy formulation and to develop and strengthen a shebeen monitoring system.

### **1.3 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The overall aim of this study was **“To explore the Greenwell Matongo community’s perception towards the effects of shebeens on their livelihoods** “in order to develop recommendations that could be used in the development of a policy related to the management and monitoring of shebeens.

The specific objectives of the study were:

1. To appraise the community’s perceptions towards the effects of shebeens in their community.
2. To obtain the views and experience of community members regarding signing of consent letters for opening shebeens.
3. To assess the processes of the shebeen monitoring system in Greenwell Matongo community

### **1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

Although there are various reports on the effects of shebeens in Namibia, more research still needs to be conducted in order to add relevant information to the current body of scientific knowledge. Based on the review, communities’ perceptions towards the shebeens are missing in the available reports. They have either been ignored, or the reports strictly focused on the impacts and effects of shebeens. For this reason, this study has recognized the significance of exploring the communities’ perceptions towards the shebeens, in order to add valuable information to the existing literature on these phenomena. Furthermore, by exploring the available information around the giving of shebeens liquor licences consent to proceed with operation, valuable knowledge around the matter will be gained. With such information in

place, this study will place the relevant authority/ies in the best position to provide relevant information to all shebeen stakeholders on what is known about the operation of the shebeens, and where possible to implement strategies and programmes aiming to improve the procedures around the sharing of consent letters for shebeen licences within the community. In addition, the collected data could be used to provide recommendations to the Liquor Board and line stakeholders regarding issuing of shebeen licences and consent for shebeen operation in residential areas, and to formulate policies. These results are essential because they can potentially contribute to plans and policies aiming to strengthen the existing shebeen and alcohol monitoring system in Namibia.

## **1.5 OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF CONCEPTS**

### **1.5.1 Shebeens**

According to the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, shebeens are defined as “any premises exclusively or mainly used for the sale to, and the consumption on the premises by the public, of light liquor and refreshments including taverns but does not include established accommodation”. For the purpose of this study, a shebeen will be referred to as an alcohol outlet or establishment found in informal settlements or in rural areas.

### **1.5.2 Liquor license**

The Namibian Liquor Act defines Liquor license as a legal document that permits the sale of alcohol beverages (Government Republic of Namibia, 1998). For the purpose of this study, a liquor license will be referred to as an official legal document acquired by a shebeen owner to sell alcohol beverages.

### **1.5.3 Alcohol**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has defined alcohol as a beverage containing ethanol, which is produced through a process of fermentation or distillation of various fruits, vegetables or grains (Bezuidenhout, 2008). In this study alcohol is referred to as any beverage that contains ethanol and is produced through a process of fermentation.

### **1.5.4 Alcohol Abuse**

The Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation has defined alcohol abuse as a “Pattern of drinking that leads to the failure to fulfil responsibilities at work, home or school and/or repeated drinking in situations in which it is physically hazardous” (Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, 2016, para.2). This study refers to alcohol abuse as excessive use or misuse of alcohol beverages.

### **1.5.5 Alcohol use**

Miller and Munoz (2005) have defined alcohol use as the consumption of beer and wine or hard liquor. For the purpose of this study, alcohol use is referred to as the general use and consumption of alcohol beverages.

### **1.5.6 Substance Abuse**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has defined substance abuse as the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs (World Health

Organization, n.d). For the purpose of this study, substance abuse is referred to as the continuous abuse of alcohol and drugs.

### **1.5.7 Liquor**

Liquor is defined for the purpose of the Liquor Act as any drink, including wine and beer, containing 3% of alcohol and more, as well as *tombo* and other homebrews of the same strength. The definition of liquor does not include methylated spirits (Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998). In this study, liquor is referred to as any beverage containing 3% or more of ethanol and other home brewed drinks.

### **1.5.8 Livelihood**

Chambers and Conway (1991, pp. 5) argues that livelihood “comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required to make a living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with, and can recover from stress and shocks and can maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base. Livelihood in this study is referred to as the means to secure the necessities of life to make a living.

### **1.5.9 License**

A license refers to a document granted and issued to a prospective business owner under the Namibian Liquor Act authorizing the sale of liquor or light liquor (Government Republic of Namibia, 1998). For the purpose of this study, a license is referred to as a document authorizing the sale of liquor.

## **1.6 SUMMARY**

This chapter has presented an overview of shebeens in Namibia, in response to the alarming increase of shebeens in neighborhoods particularly in residential areas. It has covered a wide range of aspects, including the general definition of shebeens, the legislation that governs them, the motivation behind the establishment of shebeens, their regulation, the services they offer, how they operate and some of the impacts that they pose in communities within which they operate.

Overall, the chapter has provided an introduction and the general orientation of the study. The problem, research objectives and significance of the study have been expounded and the researcher has provided definitions of selected concepts that would play a significant role in the study. The next chapter, Chapter 2 has presented a detailed literature review on shebeens.

# **CHAPTER 2**

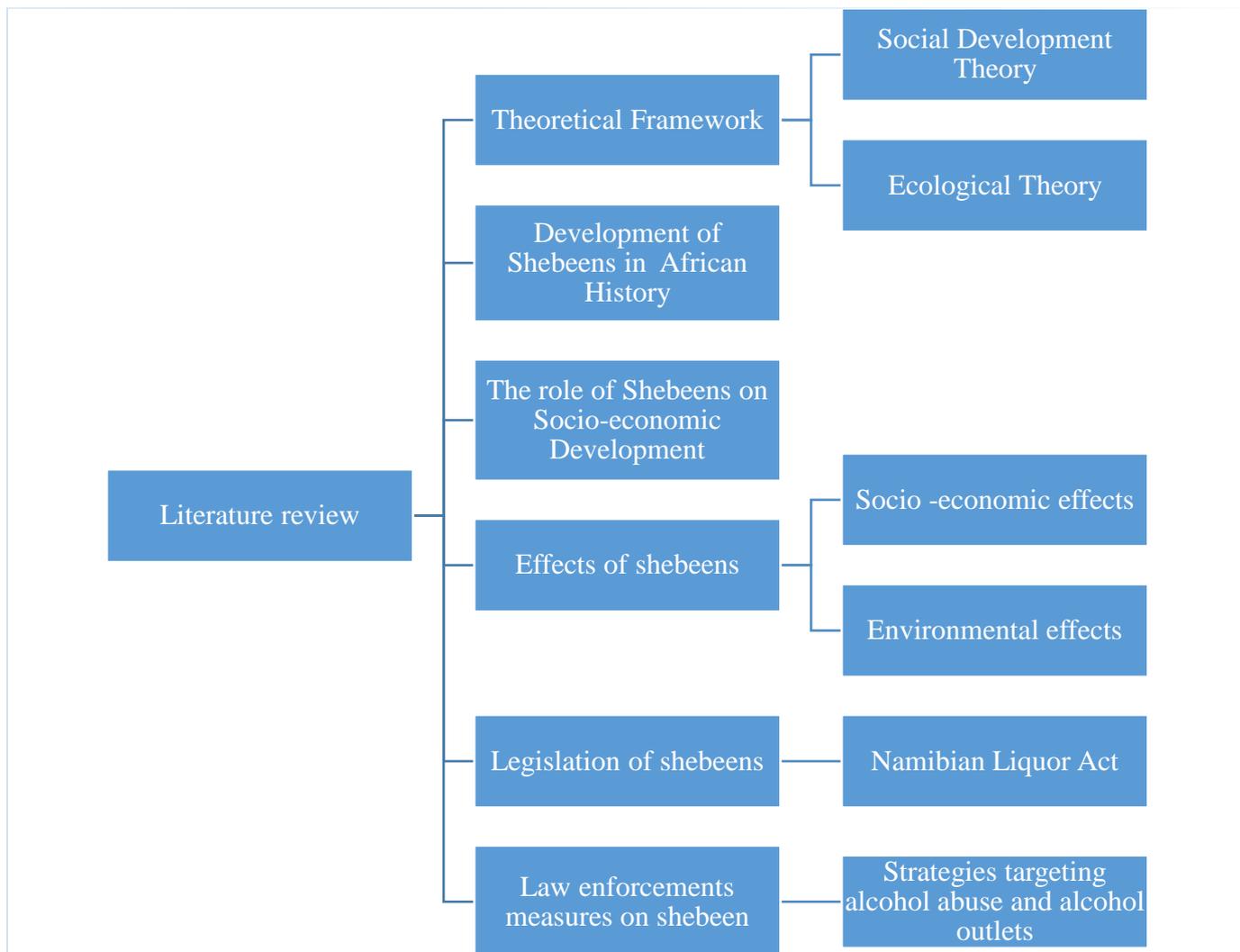
## **LITERATURE REVIEW: OVERVIEW OF SHEBEENS**

### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

In outlining the overview of the phenomenon under study, chapter one (1) has focused on the orientation of the study, the statement of the problem, and stated the research objectives. Most importantly, the chapter briefly highlighted the significance of the study and clearly defined the operational concepts of the study.

This chapter includes a review of the literature, as it relates to the study on the effects of shebeens on the society, information on the shebeen consent form and on the shebeens monitoring system. The chapter further explores the related theoretical perspectives guiding the exploration for a better understanding of the phenomenon under study.

This chapter comprises of the following sections: (1) Theoretical framework, (2) Historical development of shebeens in Africa, (3) The role of shebeens on the socio-economic development of Namibia, (4) The effects of shebeens on socio-economic development, (5) Legislations on shebeens in Namibia, and (6) Law enforcement on shebeens.



**Figure 2. 1 Layout of the literature review**

## 2.2 Theoretical Framework

Drinking establishments such as shebeens are considered as important features of the socio-economic development in most African countries. Shebeens, contribute to the livelihood of people in most poor countries, and directly to the economy of some African countries like Namibia. Despite their contribution to the economy, shebeens have a strong influence on how people behave, and on their personal development. Nicodemus (2011:11) indicated that the formalisation of informal businesses contributes to “profitability of capital” and has negative

effects on the society. Nichols (2011) further asserted that factors such as risky behaviours, high prevalence of HIV and alcohol use/abuse are mostly common in communities with a high density of drinking establishments such as shebeens. Socioeconomic status is one of the contributing factors that influence the use/abuse of alcohol and increase of HIV prevalence (Ibid).

This study is based on the Social development and Ecological theories, which are relevant to the effects of shebeens.

### **2.2.1 Social Development Theory**

The social development theory was developed by Lev Vygotsky in 1920, and it argues that social interaction precedes development, and that consciousness and cognition is the end product of socialisation and social behaviour (Shafee, 2014). This theory was used for a study that focused on cultural and social influences on children's and youth development (Shafee, 2014). Through the social development theory, it has been concluded that the cognition development of children and all people is influenced by their social interactions. As applied to the study conducted by Shafee (2014), this theory indicates that children can be influenced by physical and environmental factors such as shebeens in their communities, and children as well as youth tend to learn from the interactions that they observe in the environment. Children may learn new social behaviours by observing their parents who visits shebeens or the shebeen patrons. The social development theory emphasises the role of social interaction towards learning but disregards the role of an individual.

#### **2.2.1.1 Principles of Vygotsky's Social Development Theory**

The principles that contribute to a better understanding of Vygotsky's Social Development theory states that cognitive development is limited up to a certain extent or within a certain range, at any given age of the individual; and an individual's full cognitive development requires social interaction (Shafee, 2014).

This study is as well directed by the social development model by Patel (2005). The author argues that the social development model should aim at improving the wellbeing of people in order to address the development needs on the society. The model should address challenges in communities to improve the quality of life of the people in the society (Patel, 2005). The social development model aims to promote social welfare through the integration of economic and social policies within a dynamic development process. Patel (2005) notes that social development emphasise the importance of social interaction of an individual in a community or neighbourhood. It includes the social care of children through the network of families and communities. In thus study, the author used social development theory by Vygotsky as a theoretical framework and integrated it with Midgely social development model to uncover and understand the phenomenon under study. A theory is referred as a set of statements used to explain facts of the phenomenon or make predictions and a model represents the reality that has been discovered about the phenomenon (Imenda, 2014).

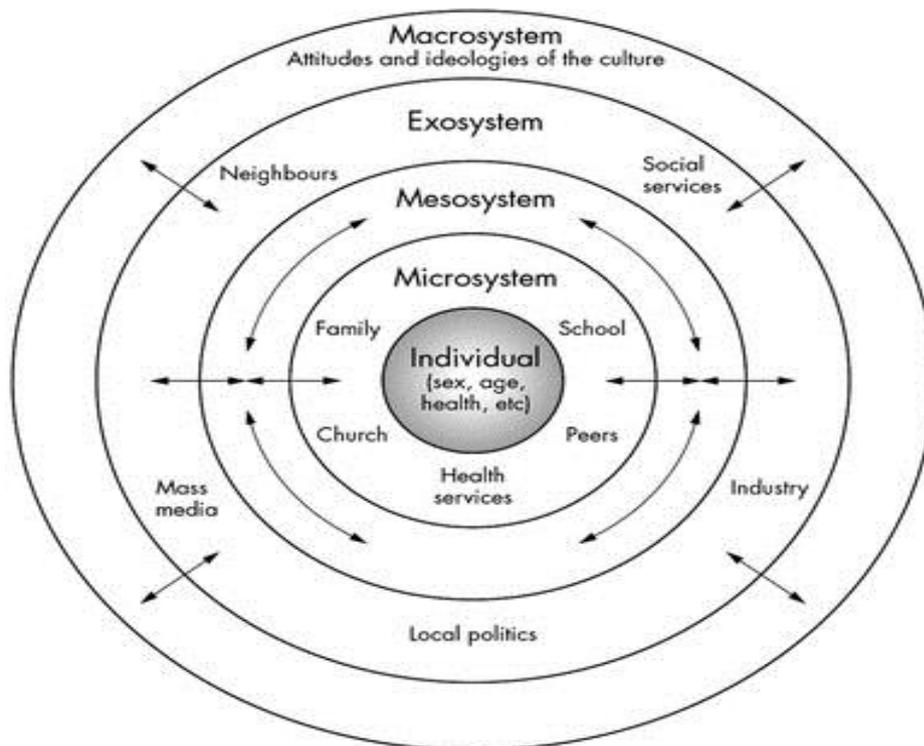
In the context of this study, this model will help us to understand where we are and where we are heading to in terms of alcohol outlets, alcohol and development in Namibia. The model will help the policy makers to understand the challenges faced by the society, and the need for a purposeful action to be taken regarding shebeens, in order to achieve the desired socio – economic development goals as they are enshrined in the vision 2030 framework. Vision 2030

is a Namibian national document that visualises the future of the country with regards to political, socio-economic development by the year 2030 (Malumo, 2012). It aims to improve the livelihood and social status of the Namibian people. In addition, social development model provides an extensive macro-perspective that focuses on communities and societies. The model places emphasis on interventions that are change oriented whilst focussing on both economic and social objectives.

### **2.2.3 Ecological Theory**

The Ecological Theory was developed in 1979 by Urie Bronfenbrenner, an American psychologist. It is also referred to as the human ecology theory (Eze, 2016). It explains how environmental systems influence human development. In other words, the ecological system looks at the reciprocal environment, particularly on how the environment affects a person and how a person affects the environment (Eze, 2016). The ecological theory also looks at how children develop within the context of systems. As applied to this study, an ecological study explains how individuals are influenced by the environmental context in which they live. Shebeens are part of environmental features which individuals find themselves interacting with, as a result influencing individuals one way or the other.

The ecological system theory includes four types of interconnected environmental systems, namely: microsystem, mesosystem, exosystem and macro system (Ettetal & Mahoney, 2017). Such systems are diagrammatically presented in Figure 2.2.



**Figure 2. 2 Diagrammatical presentation of the Bronfenbrenner’s Ecological Systems Model**

Source: <https://intascprinciple2.weebly.com/bronfenbrennersquos-ecological-systems-model.html>

[The four interconnected environmental systems of the ecological theory are presented in details below:](#)

- Microsystem

The microsystem is the first ecological model which looks at the immediate and direct environment in which an individual interact (Ahmed, Amer and Killawi, 2017). This level looks at possible direct influences on an individual’s life. This direct form of influence include: family, friends/peers, school, church, neighborhood and health services. The interactions may influence the individual in two ways i.e. away from the individual and towards the individual.

In other words, an individual can influence the other and vice versa. Ryan (2000) has indicated that a microsystem is the strongest and has the greatest impact on a child. For instance if a child is closely living in an environment where there are shebeens, that child can start going to those shebeens and start drinking.

- Mesosystem

The second system of the human ecological system is the mesosystem, which involves interactions and connections of the immediate environment. Such interactions may be between the individual's family and school and can potentially make a cohesive network. The mesosystems connect and act as a linkage of the systems of an individual (Ryan, 2000). For example, parents are part of the mesosystems that are supposed to nurture, support and encourage children according to the norms of the home setting. In this way children learn what they have been taught as right or wrong through interactions with their parents and families (Ettetal & Mahoney, 2017).

- Exosystem

The exosystem is the third system of an ecological system. This system involves lawmakers, government, social policies, community, and mass media. An individual does not directly interact with the exosystem settings, but is however influenced by this system. For example, an individual may have no direct involvement in policy formulation, yet the policies influence him/her. For example, the Liquor Act No 6 of 1998 developed

by law makers did not include direct interactions with individual members of the community but it affects the lives of the members of the community, both positively and negatively. Decisions by policy makers such as allowing shebeens within residential areas may indirectly

affect the children's well-being as most of the children are exposed to shebeens and alcohol and this may influence children's behaviours. Moreover, parents' socioeconomic status may affect the children because children will have no choice but to live in this environment where their parents can afford (Ettekal & Mahoney, 2017).

- **Macrosystem**

The macrosystem is the fourth and final level of the ecological system, which involves the influences from society norms, lifestyles, cultural values, religious practices as well as gender roles that influence the behaviours of individual lives. The individual's attitude and behaviour are influenced by what is perceived to be normal, mostly practiced in their environments and cultures. For example, if a child is raised up in a society where drinking alcohol and fighting are commonly observed, the child will grow up believing that it is right to drink alcohol and behave in that manner. If children are raised up in households where the parents are frequently visiting the shebeens, they may view this as a family norm and become influenced by this behaviour (Ettekal & Mahoney, 2017).

The next section has discussed the historical development of shebeens in Africa.

### **2.3 Historical development of shebeens in Africa**

Research has revealed that shebeens were rooted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century in countries such as Ireland and Scotland (Gondwana, 2017). The name shebeen has been derived from the Irish Gaelic word "Seibin", which refers to an unlicensed small bar selling alcoholic beverages. However, homebrewed beer and self-distilled whiskey were often prominent during the early establishment of the shebeens (Gondwana, 2017).

In the Southern African history, alcohol formed part of the apartheid controlling practices during South Africa's colonial era by the British. Alcohol was controlled by the British government, especially on how it was being produced, used and distributed, whereby they prohibited the use alcohol by Africans (Brits, 2008). Even though alcohol was served for communal and ceremonial purposes, the British colonial authorities perceived it as a social decay and disorder among Africans, and hence passed laws that prevented black Africans from producing and using alcohol. Nevertheless, in 1962, it was made illegal for black people to buy liquor from any other establishment other than alcohol outlets that were owned by whites (Brits, 2008). Such a restriction led to increased illegal alcohol related activities such as brewing traditional African beer and setting up of shebeens by blacks in South Africa.

Gondwana (2017) pointed out that the German and South African government administration of South West Africa (the former Namibia) paved ways for the shebeen business in Namibia. During the German and South African colonial times (1884 – 1920), traditional beer and sugar cane drinks were the most popular drinks in the northern part of the country, although large quantities of home brewing and self-distillation facilities were brought in from Angola (Gondwana, 2017). The same author revealed that the first shebeens were seen in South Africa during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, from where they spread to Namibia. Shebeens were mostly part of the residential areas, and alcohol was sold for on-site or off-site consumption purposes. Setting up shebeens for some South Africans was a way of resisting policies of the apartheid government, which was only meant to benefit a particular part of society.

The establishment of shebeens among blacks was mainly attributed to the improvement of livelihoods and the provision of recreational facilities. They were also established in response to an increase of shebeens in white communities as opposed to other suburbs where other races

lived (Brits, 2008). Shebeens will remain an inheritance from the apartheid era, and development of more licenced outlets will lead to better services and increased competitiveness in the industry, further downgrading unlicensed traders who do not want to comply with the law. The South African Government indicated its recognition of the contribution made by the liquor industry to the economy because of its nature of diversity (Brits, 2008).

Siiskonen (2014) reported that just before Namibia's independence in 1990, 240 licensed traders were identified in the Ondangwa Region, currently known as Oshikoto Region in the northern part of Namibia. Twenty percent (20%) of them were more focused on the sale of alcohol than other products. In addition, more than 800 cuca shops selling alcohol were identified in that same region. The report by Siiskonen (2014) has further indicated that the income generated from the cuca shops was affected by the withdrawal of the South African and the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG)'s forces from the Namibian Government, after which the trading of alcohol was strictly controlled.

Shebeens gradually progressed into the townships of the southern and central parts of the country. The northern part of Namibia had already established cuca shops during the colonial era, and besides the selling of beer, the cuca shops also sold other daily necessities. However, most cuca shops were owned by women, whose husbands were working in the mines or in the towns. Cuca shop is a term used in Namibia and Angola for unregistered shebeens.

Fast forward after Namibia's independence in 1990, many 'black' Namibians joined the middle and upper class and moved to the more expensive 'white' suburbs (Gondwana, 2017). With this transition, some shebeens turned into elegant bars while others remained the same for the poor who could not afford better shebeen constructions. Furthermore, the establishment of solid iron

bars between the bar and the public room came into place to prevent theft and molestation by people under the influence of alcohol. Nonetheless, most shebeens are still seen as social and cultural meeting places where people can relax, socialize and listen to songs performed by Namibian artists and others (Gondwana, 2017).

Shebeens became a way of sustaining lives just after Namibia's independence. It was regarded as the only way to generate income for the unemployed people by establishing cuca shops, currently known as shebeens. In the past, shebeen owners used to make and sell homebrewed drinks, traditionally known as 'tombo'. Moreover, as the tombo market progressed, people had more access to money to purchase other alcoholic beverages. Interestingly, some ethnic groups in Namibia such as the San people were some of the inhabitants that depended on homebrewed beer as a source of food (Sylvain, 2006). The San people developed a habit of drinking because they stayed close to cuca shops where there is accessibility of homebrewed beer (Sylvain, 2006).

Currently, Namibia is faced with countless shebeens in all corners of the country, operating within residential areas as well as along the public roads. Shebeens are currently perceived as an opportunity to make extra income for those who are already earning an income, sustaining lives for the unemployed and creating jobs for those who are unable to find formal jobs (Vesiko, 2013). Apart from that, shebeens contribute immensely to various social problems in the country such as excessive drinking and domestic violence, and promoting greater sexual risk behaviours as well as HIV transmission (Lebeau & Yoder, 2009; Barth & Hubbard, 2009). It seems as if the revolution and development of shebeens in Namibia are ongoing processes which have become societal lifestyles to many, whilst destroying the lives of children who are

supposed to be future leaders of the country. The study hypothesises that shebeens have been largely welcomed to the point of abuse, so they no longer serve their original purpose of sustaining lives but they have become a societal practice to serve other purposes.

The next section has outlined the positive effects of shebeens on the livelihood of the people.

## **2.4 Positive effects of shebeens on the livelihood**

Scholars share contrasting views on the role that shebeens play towards the economy. Seibes (2004) stated that shebeens and other informal businesses such as selling kapana, and street vendors play a vital role in the Namibian economy. The same author investigated the social constraints and economic survival strategies of female headed households operating in the informal sector in Katutura, Windhoek. The findings of the investigation revealed that the shebeen business is part of the informal sector, which has been observed to be one of the economic survival strategies for people who cannot find employment in the formal sector to sustain their livelihoods. For that reason, closing them down would lead to employees losing their jobs, and those retrenched workers would be added to the current 34% unemployment rate in Namibia (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2017).

The Namibia Human Development Report of 1999 concurs that alcohol production and consumption has an impact on Namibia's economic development. The production of alcohol in Namibia is reported as having a significant part of the manufacturing sector of Namibia. In addition, more jobs are created, whether formal or informal, as a result of production and alcohol trading, which boosts the government revenues (Namibia Human Development Report, 1999). Nevertheless, even if alcohol is contributing to the national economy by creating jobs, the misuse and sale of alcohol should equally be considered.

Sibeene (2006) argues that even though the sale of liquor is mostly associated with negative aspects, and particularly with unlicensed shebeens, these liquor outlets continue to play a vital and positive role in the development of Namibia's Small and Medium Enterprises' (SMEs) economy. According to Mr. Martin Mwinga, the economist and Portfolio Manager for Rand Merchant Bank Asset Management, the increase of shebeens in Namibia is an indication of entrepreneurship. The spirit of entrepreneurship reflects early signs of economic development in the country, and business owners should rather be empowered to move from informal economy to formal economy (Sibeene, 2006). Most importantly, even though some money that may have been spent on shebeens may have contributed positively to the payment of school fees of children for shebeen owners, as it does not at all benefit the children and the families of those spending their money in the shebeens (Schutt, 2006).

A report produced by Asemota (n.d) revealed that developing countries, Namibia being no exception, are facing an increase in the rate of unemployment amongst youths. There are a number of graduates every year who are eager and have hopes to be integrated into the labour market but there are limited job opportunities in the country. Over the years, Namibia has been experiencing business failures, retrenchments and cuts in job positions, which also contribute to unemployment (Asemota, n.d). Furthermore, the above-mentioned report wishes to expand and promote small business enterprise development to empower the Namibian people, while at the same time endorsing the spirit of entrepreneurship. In addition, the report indicated that instead of closing the shebeens down and only seeing the problems caused by shebeens, people should be given small loans with reasonable interest rates, and be provided with accounting literacy classes in order for them to have long lasting impacts on their respective communities.

Equally important, closing shebeens would increase the unemployment rate, as the distributors and producers of the liquor industry such as beer brewing industry will have to close down. This will further cause an extremely high unemployment rate, an increase in crime, social insecurity and elevation of poverty.

Tsoeu (2009) asserts that shebeens are part of the informal sector which is directly linked to the formal sector. Shebeens form part of the value chain between formal and informal economies. Tsoeu (2009) is of the opinion that shebeens trade, distribute and provide valuable services to the formal economy. In other words, the formal economy, including the South African Breweries (SAB) which is the largest retailer and distributor of alcohol especially beer in South Africa, and the Namibian Breweries (NB) will not successfully trade without shebeens. Even though the production of alcohol is in the formal sector, shebeens play an imperative role in selling the products, as a result contributing largely to the capitalist machinery.

Smit (2014) asserts that there is a need to reinforce and improve economic activities in order to create employment and boost the economy. This makes sense, considering the current unemployment rate (34%) in Namibia. Not only in Namibia, have economic activities generally contributed to job creation worldwide. According to the Western Cape's 2004 Green paper on liquor licensing in South Africa, the alcohol industry contributes directly and indirectly to the country's economic activities. This created about 691 00 jobs and R900 million into the country's export revenue, and contributed R4.6 billion to the government revenue (Smit, 2014). Similarly, a project known as '*Safe Shebeens Project*' that is in Sweet Home Farm in Cape Town South Africa has indicated that shebeens provide spaces for communities to socialise,

particularly where there are no other recreational facilities. It further pointed out that shebeens create an essence of relaxation through various forms of entertainment such as music and others. According to the report, the majority of participants in the Safe Shebeens Project who are from the community go to shebeens, not only to consume alcohol but also to meet friends and play pool. Overall, shebeens are a source of income for many people (Sustainable Livelihood Foundation, 2015).

Media has also supported the role of shebeens on socio-economic development. According to Informante, a Namibian newspaper, shebeens create jobs and sustain families, who are unable to feed themselves or send their kids to school (Nangolo, 2012). Veronica De Klerk, the previous Director of Women's Action for Development also noted that poverty and unemployment are the main causes of the rapid increase of shebeens because it is used as a source of income generation, which enables families to send their children to school and for their livelihood (NAPPA, 2014). On the other hand, as an additional source of income, some shebeens are reported to be owned by wealthy members of the society such as government ministers (NAPPA, 2014). Similarly Herrick *et al.* (2015) asserts that business options are limited and therefore some people choose to sell alcohol to make a living in townships. The sale of alcohol brings opportunities for employment and also contributes R40 billion to production, export and domestic consumption a year in South Africa (Herrick *et al.*, 2015).

It is evident that shebeens contribute to the livelihood of some families and people; however, the lives of others become affected one way or another. The next section represents the negative effects of shebeens on the society.

## **2.5 The Negative Effects of shebeens on the society**

Despite the benefits and positive aspects of shebeens discussed above, studies have shown that many societal problems in Namibia are mostly blamed on shebeens, or alcohol consumed at drinking outlets, and that some shebeens operate illegally (Nuuyoma, 1996). The following section discusses the negative effects of shebeens in more details.

### **2.5.1 Socio-economic effects of Shebeens**

This section presents in detail, the common negative socio-economic effects of shebeens on society.

#### **2.5.1.1 Increased rate of alcohol consumption**

As a result of the presence of shebeens, alcohol is consumed at an uncontrolled rate to the point of abuse (Smit, 2014). A number of studies indicated that excessive drinking contributes to alcohol problems, which create a serious challenge in socio-economic development, ultimately threatening to overwhelm the health services (LeBeau, 2009; Gobler *et al.*, 2003). In support of this, Gobler *et al.* (2003) argued that the issue of the increasing number of shebeens within communities leads to excessive alcohol abuse, which does not at all contribute to societal development. Consequently, there is a need to reduce the risk factors, and vulnerability of substance users, and to demand and promote areas where the society is devolved, participate in democracy and value clarification, and where community members take part in issues concerning their lives (Grobler *et al.*, 2003).

The availability and easy accessibility of shebeens are the contributing factors for alcohol consumption amongst adolescents. The more the shebeens in the community, the more the young people get exposed to alcohol to the point that they start consuming alcohol at a younger age (Mubita, 2013).

According to a study by LeBeau (2009), the presence of shebeens and the availability of alcohol often puts people at risk of violence, crime, drug trafficking, prostitution, sexually transmitted infections, and HIV. The same study revealed that the production of homebrewed beverages is one of the main channels of alcohol availability in shebeens, mostly in poor communities. Apart from that home brewed beer is easily accessible because there is no control over its production, it is cheap and is easy to find among the low income or no – income consumers. Although the production of home brewed beer is associated with food production in both rural and urban areas, more women are said to be involved in home brewing for economic livelihood reasons compared to men (World Health Organization, 2004).

Shikoyeni (2011) reported that women in the Oshana Region use alcohol excessively by spending too much time at drinking establishments such as shebeens. The more time women spend at spent at shebeens the more these women are susceptible to alcohol abuse which has become worrisome, particularly in view of their development. Alcohol abuse can have serious social and health consequences on individual lives.

It is further argued that the higher the use of alcohol in the society, the higher the prevalence of alcohol related problems (Edwards *et al.*, 2003). This calls for the government's intervention in addressing the issue of the increasing shebeens as well as the misuse of alcohol and drugs, particularly in the fight against GBV (NAPPA, 2014).

Based on the Namibian Human Development Report of 1999, about 35,057 jobs were created in the alcohol industry out of 1830 330 total population in 1999. Sadly about 7% of the adult population were reportedly suffering from alcohol related illnesses. Moreover, approximately 30% of the patients being treated for alcohol related illnesses are said to cost the nation about N\$149 million annually. Of those about 2.9 million are treated for injuries which are a direct result of drinking. Noteworthy, alcohol consumption reduces productivity through ill-health, absenteeism and lower work standards (Namibia Human Development Report, 1999).

GBV affects Namibians from all works of life. The severity of this social ill is mostly associated with alcohol use and abuse as one of the contributing factors (Haihambo *et al.*, 2015). The forms of violence include: physical abuse, emotional/psychological abuse, economic abuse, sexual abuse, threatening, intimidation etc. Interestingly, some of the daily alcohol consumers have acknowledged that heavy consumption is the driving force behind GBV (Haihambo *et al.* 2015). As part of the study conducted by Haihambo *et al.* (2015), it has also been revealed that intoxicated men from shebeens trick young girls to have sex with them. Despite several organizations' concerted efforts to address GBV in the society, more women and children continue to become victims every day. Furthermore, GBV has been reported as a national concern despite the existence of legislative frameworks such as the Combating of Domestic Violence Act No. 4 of 2003 and the Combating of Rape Act No. 8 of 2000, with alcohol and drugs abuse being some of the contributing factors.

Another study by Ehobhayi (2013) in Nigeria revealed that patterns of alcohol consumption amongst adolescents are influenced by environmental conditions. The author pointed out that

the environments where alcohol and drugs are accessed contribute to the level of consumption and abuse.

Coholic (2016) reported that Namibia was ranked as the third highest country in terms of quantities of alcohol consumption per capita in Africa, with an average drinker consuming 27 litres of alcohol per day, coupled with risky patterns of drinking. In the same vein, Hopkins (2012) reported that alcohol in Europe is the third highest contributing factor of ill-health after high blood pressure and tobacco. Another study by Campbell, Gabrielli, Goodwin, Manzardo and Penick (2008) revealed that heavy drinking is often associated with increased risks of cancer, more specifically for the liver and the digestive system. In another argument by Scutt (2006), shebeens not only negatively affect the health and social wellbeing of partakers but also have drawbacks for the whole economy.

#### **2.5.1.2 Crime and Criminality**

Wasserman and Ellis (2010) indicated that crime has negative effects on the victims, their families, communities and friends. The various impacts of crime committed are wide ranging, and could be physical, emotional, psychological, financial, and social and may have spiritual effects. At an individual level, victims of crime can develop cognitive symptoms such as anxiety, feelings of guilt, self-blame, feeling terrified, feelings of being unsafe, fear and shock, which lead to trauma and post-traumatic stress (Wasserman & Ellis, 2010). Victims may also experience loss of their products or properties. In addition, friends, families and an entire community can develop an increase in fear of the environment as a result of a crime.

In communities where shebeens are found, most of the crimes committed there are often associated with shebeens. This is further supported by a study conducted by Lawhon (2012) on the effects of shebeens in Cape Town, which revealed that people who go drink at shebeens in informal settlements contribute to crime because they believe the police does not notice them when they are committing crimes.

A research study conducted by Uukunde (2012) on the major causes of the increase of gun related crime in Katutura revealed that the increase in gun crime is associated with alcohol and drug abuse, mainly observed in domestic violence which results in shooting and eventually in death. Moreover, the study also revealed that some contributing factors to gun crime are poverty, unemployment and economic inequality. Isaacks (2006) stated that shebeens are used as places where people carry and hide their unlicensed firearms and dangerous weapons. The same author reported that in an operation which was conducted by the Windhoek City Police and the Namibian Police (Nampol), five shebeen owners were found in possession of licensed firearms, however the firearms were confiscated because the owners were found under the influence of alcohol and were not able to handle them. Moreover, as part of the operation, it was found that a number of shebeens were still not following the prescribed operating times, such that some shebeens were found open long after the designated closing times but some people were closing themselves in the shebeens and continued drinking. However, during the same operation, police officers reported a noticeable decrease in the crime rate (Isaacks, 2006). In essence, most criminal activities have originated from, and have crossed the threshold to shebeens, and now most shebeens are controlled by gangs (NAPPA, 2016).

Herrick and Charman (2013) believe that alcohol abuse is a driver of violence in South Africa and further assert that shebeens are the major cause of alcohol related violence. They highlighted that the perpetrators of violence in shebeens are usually people who visit the shebeens, including the law enforcers such as police officers. In addition, Herrick and Charman (2013, p.27) clearly pointed out that, “drinking does not exist in spatial vacuum’, but it rather emanates from a multi-layered environment of violence in which the shebeen owners’ experiences of criminality inform their strategies to control (potential and actual) situations of violence within their premises’’. Smit (2014) maintains that there is a link between shebeens, alcohol and crime in South Africa. The study by Smit indicated that an excessive number of perpetrators of murder reported in the whole of South Africa in 2008 tested positive in terms of alcohol concentration.

### **2.5.1.3 Risky Sexual Behaviours**

Namibia remains one of the countries with high HIV/AIDS infections in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with a prediction that 50% of HIV infections in young people, particularly adolescents occur between the ages of 15-24 in Namibia (Chandan, 2008). Alcohol consumption is viewed as a way of experimenting among young people, which results in risky sexual behaviours for some.

Alcohol abuse is associated with risky sexual encounters and concurrent sexual partners. Risky sexual behaviours include unprotected sex such as inconsistency in the usage of condoms or no use of condoms at all (Choudhry *et al.*, 2012). As a result, the chances of contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and unwanted pregnancy are very high in the event of such behaviours. It can thus be concluded that the availability and consumption of alcohol at shebeens put people at risk of risky sexual encounters. The study conducted by Kaundjua,

Kauaaria and Mufune (2015) on drinking and its effects on risky behaviors amongst secondary school going youth in Windhoek revealed that both girls and boys engage in unprotected sexual intercourse due to the use of alcohol, which puts them at risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS. Similarly, Pyne (2002) indicated that the availability of alcohol at places that serve alcohol such as bars place people at risk of getting drunk, which increases their chances of engaging in risky sexual behaviors.

Research has repeatedly indicated that alcohol is well associated with risky sexual behaviors that can lead to acquiring of, and transmission of HIV. This behavior includes increased numbers of sexual partners and inconsistency in the use of condoms (Bock *et al.*, 2015). Based on a study conducted by (Bock *et al.*, 2015), majority of people have the knowledge on HIV and its association with alcohol (>85 and 89.8–98 %, respectively). However, regardless of the high knowledge levels, 66.7 % of men who participated in the study expressed that they were at high risk of acquiring the HIV virus due to alcohol, while 56.5 % of the participants indicated that they often want to have sex after consuming alcohol. In addition, 40.3% of the participants indicated that sexual intercourse gives them pleasure when they are drunk. Furthermore, one of the well-known diseases that often coincide with alcoholism is Tuberculosis, commonly known as TB. This disease remains a serious concern in Namibia, particularly for the fact that it spreads among families and communities, ultimately putting so much concern on the nation in its entirety. Moreover, TB is further exacerbated by the HIV/AIDS pandemic (National Youth Council of Namibia, 2012). Risky sexual behaviours are influenced by social environments such as shebeens which act as places where sex partners meet (Choudhry *et al.*, 2012).

#### **2.5.1.4 Poverty**

Herrick and Parnell (2014) stated that a culture of excessive, hazardous drinking is not just immoral (for the accidents, injuries and crimes it causes) but represents a particular immorality of the poor who should be more concerned with addressing their basic needs rather than buying alcohol. With this in mind, there is no doubt that poverty and unemployment are the main causes of the alarming increase of shebeens in all corners of the country. Moreover, alcohol is clearly one of the contemporary issues that is associated with poverty (Herrick & Parnell, 2014). Conversely, people who have accumulated wealth and moved out from the poor neighbourhoods may return to the shebeens to drink. In addition, many households sell alcohol to make a living as a result of unemployment, and this is why shebeens are increasing within communities (Chabaya *et al.*, 2011). Equally of great concern, shebeen owners sell alcohol to everyone irrespective of their age because their aim is to make profit.

According to a study conducted by Maree *et al.* (2008) at the Namdeb Diamond Corporation, some workers spend a significant portion of their income on alcohol and drugs, without financially contributing towards their household needs and their families. The same study noted that absenteeism from the workplace remains a concern at Namdeb, particularly because employees avoid to be tested, and apparently they do not like to go to work while they are under the influence of alcohol or hangover. Regardless of the prevention strategies that are implemented within workplaces to reduce the impact of alcohol, it has been reported that the workplace can also be a contributing factor that puts people at risk of consuming alcohol because of work stress (Anderson, 2012). At times, people engage themselves in alcohol consuming activities because they spend so much time at work, which stresses them up in the end. Anderson (2012) states that alcohol consumption, especially heavy drinking puts people

at risk of losing their jobs, getting them out of the employment mainstream. Employees that drink heavily are mainly found arriving late at work, leaving early, having poor relationships with co-workers and not adhering to the company morals, which results in them going for disciplinary hearing, or them being suspended or being less productive at work. It is evident that the presence of shebeen does not only influence alcohol drinking patterns and fight poverty by selling alcohol but it however risks the finances of those who are supposed to fight back poverty endlessly contributing to the cycle of poverty in some families.

#### **2.5.1.5 Dysfunctional families**

Armstrong (2013) stated that a family is a significant establishment of the society. However, family members affect each other through their interaction (Mazibuko, 2000). A society on its own is a unit that consists of individual members. The value of a society depends on children being raised in a stable and caring family (Armstrong, 2013). Individuals are raised and prepared to function within societies by “producing and raising children, and also conditioning adults to care about others and to engage in cooperative behaviour” (Armstrong, 2013, p.6). Children mostly learn their language, culture, norms, values, attitudes and behaviours from their family members. Therefore, the quality of parenthood is the greatest characteristic of child development and it has an influence on how children are able to participate in the society. Equally important, a family is a microsystem of an individual, where the basic needs of the individual are met for many people. Overall, families are important for social unity and the wellbeing of their members (Callan, 2014). Therefore it is important for each family member to perform his or her duties and responsibilities sufficiently in order for the family to function harmoniously, appropriately and enhance the quality of life (Callan, 2014). In a community with numerous shebeens, families are usually victims of alcohol related problems.

Lawhon (2012) stated that alcohol causes family problems, which may include domestic violence, children and youth drinking and poverty among families, causing a distraction within families. A report by Mazibuko (2000) on migrant labouring and its adverse effects on families asserted that some family members spend their time drinking beer with their friends instead of spending time with their families. Sadly, many family members suffer from lack of finances because money is spent on alcohol by the breadwinners. In the same vein, a report by the LAC confirmed that alcohol is a major cause of domestic violence. Victims of domestic violence are mostly women, who are often battered by their husbands who leave shebeens under the influence of alcohol (Hubbard, 1998).

Various reports have shown that underage drinking has become a serious problem in Namibia despite the existence of the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, which has also made provision on the issue of underage drinking. In a study conducted by Musweu and Negongo (2009), 62% of alcoholic parents displayed inappropriate behaviour when they were under the influence of alcohol, which influenced unhealthy parent-child relationships. Based on their observations, parents are unable to solve conflict with their children, and some children lack discipline, particularly when disciplined in a harsh manner. Moreover, the study further found that 90% of children raised by alcoholic families are affected by poverty and financial problems because parents spend more money on alcohol than on children (Musweu & Negongo, 2009).

The World Health Organization's report of 2004 revealed that most of the people who drink alcohol have been injured at least once in their lifetime as a result of their drinking at alcohol outlets such as shebeens. In addition, many marriages have been negatively affected by alcohol,

as relationships between spouses often end due to alcohol abuse. Some people were also reportedly arrested for driving while drunk, whilst alcohol abuse was also cited to be one of the contributing factors of domestic violence (World Health Organization, 2004). Based on the Namibian Human Development Report of 1999, many households spend more money on alcohol than on food, resulting in food insecurity in such households.

Nuujoma (1998) stated that alcohol abuse is one of the factors that cause children to be neglected by their parents. Child neglect often happens in poor communities, especially where parents abuse alcohol. Some alcoholic mothers do not have time to prepare food for their children because they can spend up to 15 hours a day at shebeens. As a result, they end up feeding children alcohol and children end up being malnourished (Nuujoma, 1998).

In a study by Poudel (2010) on predisposing factors and family conflicts and elements for comfortable family life in Finland, it was revealed that alcohol abuse, gambling and dishonesty among partners create a discomfort family atmosphere.

#### **2.5.1.6 Alcohol and road accidents**

Reports indicated that alcohol and road accidents are closely linked. Ponicki, Gruenewald, and Remer (2014) asserted that alcohol outlets encourage drinking which may lead to alcohol-related involved crash risk. This has been noted by and Johnson (2010) who states that neighbourhood with a high density of alcohol outlets is associated with higher rates of alcohol related accidents. Interestingly, Gruenewald *et al.*, (2010) argues that, subsystems of the community such as availability of alcohol, alcohol consumption, vehicular traffic and social

and economic consequences may have an influence on drinking and driving behaviours. The scholars argue that high density of alcohol outlets attracts traffic in an area. With this in mind, heavy traffic may create a high risk of accidents in the area. The availability of shebeens encourages motor vehicle drivers to spontaneously collect alcohol beverages on their way to various destinations. As a result, some drivers may end up intoxicated which impairs their driving and causes road accidents (Ponicki *et al.*, 2014). Moreover, in Namibia, alcohol is served to every individual adult who wishes to continue drinking including those who are already intoxicated. The Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 does not include restriction of selling or serving alcohol to intoxicated individuals. On this note, this impulse behaviour puts the intoxicated person at risk of alcohol related road fatalities. Stewart (n.d) argues that there is a correlation between a high density of alcoholic beverage outlets and fatal pedestrian road accidents.

Andreas (2017) reported that Namibia was ranked the 19<sup>th</sup> country out of 25 countries worldwide with a high rate of road accidents rates, 25 deaths per 100 000 people, regardless of the campaigns being put in place to prevent road accidents by the Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVA). One of the reasons why there is an increase in road accidents is the ignorance of drivers and the immature impulse behaviours of drivers. Given that the high accident rate, the International Alliance for Responsible Drinking (IARD) and the Namibian Self Regulating Alcohol Industry Forum (SAIF) in Namibia reintroduced the testing of drivers in 2015, after it was declared invalid in the Swakopmund court in 2013. The use of breathalyzers aim to reduce drinking and driving on the roads (Producer Commitment Report, 2015 – 2016). In Namibia, drinking under the influence of alcohol (DUI) is considered as a criminal offence, and if anyone is found guilty of this offence, they are persecuted. Moreover, Namibia participates in the annual Global Road Safety Week, where a multi-stakeholder road safety campaign takes place

in order to promote behavioural change on the roads, among drivers (Producer Commitment Report, 2015 – 2016). Regardless of the strict measures put in place on behaviour on drinking and driving, according to producer commitment report (2015 – 2016) the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Fund noted a 55% reduction in fatalities, a 17% reduction in road traffic crashes, and a 15% reduction in persons injured during 2015 – 2016 Easter holiday.

#### **2.5.1.7 Shebeens and the community**

In the past, most alcohol programmes focused on people who were addicted to alcohol, more specifically those who depend on alcohol as a means to deal with their social problems (World Health Organization, n.d). However, it is apparent that alcohol does not only affect an individual drinker but it negatively affects the community and the society at large. The extent to which a community is affected depends on the circumstances of drinking, which include the location, social setting and special occasions. Even though it is essential for alcohol to be avoided among some people such as pregnant women, drivers, and those people who engage in activities that need attention or people under the age of 18, the exposure to alcohol outlets makes it difficult to not partake in drinking (World Health Organization, n.d).

Cook (2007) stated that the supply of alcohol in a community is influenced by the demand, which makes it easier for the increase of new legal and illegal establishments of shebeens to meet the community's demand. Conversely, the same author further argued that the continuous supply of alcohol upon demand indicates that the alcohol supply system will be considered important in relation to health and safety in a community. During a National Council Women Caucus (NCWC) meeting in Berseba, Namibia, that took place in 2016, residents stressed that social problems in their community are worsened by shebeens in residential areas. The

residents further expressed that, they experience problems such as violence, teenage pregnancies and crime because of shebeens. Moreover, the residents reported that people who do not drink alcohol are affected by the shebeens because they hardly sleep at night, as the shebeens do not adhere to the regulations and fail to observe the gazetted operating hours (NAPPA, 2016).

The effects of alcohol consumption on communities are evident, as it has been revealed in many studies. Most shebeens have been reported to be operating illegally, not following regulations and are thus considered as being a trouble to the communities in which they operate. Generally, shebeens contribute to a climate of lawlessness and disrespect for community rights. However, in some communities, the consumption of alcohol is accepted and is seen as an important aspect of cultural and societal values, whereas in other cultures and societies alcohol promotes work or school absenteeism (Cook, 2007). A study on the effects of shebeens by Nuyooma (1996) found that alcohol was socially accepted in some communities. However, the same study found that shebeens are destructive to the community, as it leads to destructive behaviors such as children drinking alcohol. In communities where shebeens are operating, residents are mostly affected by noise pollution caused by these shebeens. This has been indicated by Phetlho-Thekisho, Ryke and Strydom (2013) that the presence of shebeens in communities is associated with polluted noise of music and shebeen patrons. As a result of this, residents are mostly disturbed causing sleep disturbance and poor concentration on their normal functioning. Sleep disturbance can have an impact on the quality of life and health (Ruggiero, 2016).

### **2.5.1.8 Shebeens effects on children**

Shebeens are part of environmental ecosystems in which children interact, and may significantly influence children's behaviour in various ways. Kaundjiua, Kauaaria and Mufune (2015) contends that the presence of shebeens contribute to an increase in alcohol consumption and use of drug by young people in African countries. Equally important, alcohol outlets such as shebeens are not only settings where alcohol is accessible but they also serve as locations where other substances such as tobacco are accessible (Milam, Johnson, Furr-Holden & Bradshaw, 2016). The presence of alcohol outlets in communities, along to and from school routes as well as in close proximity to schools provides an opportunity to school going children to experiment alcohol and substance use (Millam *et al.*, 2016).

As a result, some children may end up drinking alcohol excessively or using other substances to the point of habitual behaviour. Uncontrolled use of substances causes poor class attendance and academic performance (Daley, 2015; Mekonen, Fekadu, Mekonnen & Workie, 2017). Children who are exposed to alcohol outlets experience a variety of harm such as witnessing verbal and physical violence and inappropriate behaviours from intoxicated patrons (Laslett *et al.*, 2015).

In a study conducted in South Africa, it was revealed that children were forced into poverty by adopting anti-social behaviours which affect access to education and safety, and the well-being of some children in schools (Chibaya *et al.*, 2011). The study findings indicated that children are unfortunately allowed in shebeens because they bring money to the business and also contribute money as they often want to listen to music in the shebeens, which is in fact not right. According to the legislation been promulgated by parliament, Child Care and Protection

Act No. 3 of 2015 and the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 much emphasis is placed on children below the age of 18, that no alcohol or tobacco should be sold, served or made available to them at entertainment places, and should any adult contravene this law the adult will be committing an offence, and will be convicted to a fine of N\$ 20 000 or be imprisoned for a period of not more than 5 years, or both fines. Nevertheless, the law also stipulates that the person found guilty on this offence will also be forced to attend an educational programme on the dangers of underage drinking and drug abuse.

From a community based perspective in relations to the ecological systems, community factors such as shebeens influence a child's development and play an increasing role in the risk of substance use.

## **2.5.2 Environmental Effects**

### **2.5.2.1 Excessive Noise**

Noise is a major public concern and serious threat to the neighborhood where shebeens are found. It is referred to as a form of pollution that is audibly disturbing and undesirable wide-ranging sound that can threaten the wellbeing of a person and the quality of life (Lane, n.d). In actual fact, noise affects a person's health, biological and social aspects such as hearing, performance at school and at work, and psychologically (Lane, n.d). Shebeens create a lot of noise for the residents living in the vicinity, and often cause a lot of environmental disturbance, leading to emotional and behavioral stress. The loud noise created by the music systems known as jukeboxes that are found in many shebeens may disturb the people, which might also cause permanent hearing damage or loss.

Lane (n.d) pointed out that children who are exposed to noise might be affected in their hearing or permanently lose their hearing. As a result, this may affect children's learning and leads to poor performance in schools. In other words, noise can potentially have an effect on the future prospects of children (Lane, n.d). In the same vein, Ruggiero (2016:1) alerts that noise affects "cognitive disablement" in children.Noise affects children's communication and can cause them to develop difficulties in learning.

Furthermore, noise prevents adequate sleep. In order to maintain good health and mental functioning, a person needs a well-rested sleep state (Lane, n.d). Noise can interrupt the sleeping behaviour of a person in a way that a person's sleeping patterns may be disturbed, for example, developing a routine of waking up in the middle of their sleep, having difficulties in sleeping, being fatigued, and performing poorly at work (Lane, n.d). In addition, the author added that noise cause psychological effects during the sleep, leading to high blood pressure and heart palpitations. Noise in shebeens can be annoying to the people living in the vicinity, which affects one's psychological wellbeing. These shebeen annoyances often lead to people being frustrated, distressed, discomfoted, eventually leading to poor quality of life (Ruggiero, 2016).

According to Haidula (2015), some houses are turned into shebeens, which have made it difficult to raise children in an environment with a lot of shebeens. Given their negative effects, it is recommended that shebeens and jukeboxes should be kept away from schools and churches because they disturb the education and church services. Another study by Lawhon (2012) confirms that shebeens can be a nuisance to the people living in their neighbourhood, as they are very noisy. The loud night music and rowdy conversations of patrons contribute to the noise in the community.

### **2.5.2.2 Poor hygiene**

Hygiene generally refers to the set of practices associated with the preservation of health and healthy living (Howard, 2002). The same report indicated that good hygiene is important when it comes to the prevention of infectious diseases and the overall elevation of health and the wellbeing of people. Hygiene can be viewed at personal, domestic and community levels. The research by World Health Organization (2009) paid more attention to community hygiene, which requires a collective effort of individual members of the community to create and promote a healthy and clean environment (WHO, 2009).

Naidoo, Chidley and Mcnamara (2008) argued that polluted environments are some of the causes of unhealthy living conditions. On the same note, Ruggler (2016) stated that hygiene is another problem and concern in communities where shebeens are present. Patrons of shebeens often worsen the unhygienic conditions around the shebeens, as they have a tendency of urinating everywhere they choose; could be next to houses or even on the fences of the residents houses. This causes unpleasant smells in the communities and also exposes children to these unpleasant smells (Ruggler, 2016).

This section reviewed literature on the negative effects of alcohol outlets like shebeens. The next section will review the Namibian legislation in place that aim to regulate the control shebeens and alcohol in the country.

## **2.6 LEGISLATION OF SHEBEENS: THE NAMIBIAN LIQUOR ACT NO. 6 OF 1998**

The Namibian Liquor Act (No. 6 of 1998) was brought into force in 2001 by the Namibian Parliament with the aim to consolidate, and amend the laws relating to the control of the sale and supply of liquor (Namibian liquor Act No. 6 of 1998). The Liquor Act replaced three previous liquor licensing regimes (Ordinance 2 of 1969, Proclamation 205 of 1968 and the Ovambo Liquor Enactment of 1973). The aim of the new Act is to enforce law on eliminating colonial anachronism, to decentralise the system of licences in different regions, to reduce and administer procedures of the liquor law and control the unlicensed liquor outlets (Niikondo, 2001).

The general regulatory framework on alcohol in Namibia is the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998. This Act makes provision for the acquisition of licenses for selling liquor, depending on different categories of alcohol trading established. Such premises include hotels, clubs, restaurants, shebeens and parks. However, the Act also makes provision for special licenses for other places where alcohol is consumed, and also provides for temporary liquor licenses to sell alcohol at public functions such as exhibitions, shows, races, sports events and fairs. The law also provides for sales licenses for sealed containers to be consumed elsewhere. Nevertheless, the law prohibits drinking alcohol in public places and regards this behavior as a criminal offence, particularly if one is found intoxicated in a public place. Moreover, the Liquor Act states that traditional drinks containing more than 3% of alcohol without a license are illegal if they are sold to a person, but it appears legal if brewed at home for one's self consumption without a license. In addition, children under the age of 18 are prohibited to buy or sell alcohol (Barth & Hubbard, 2009).

Above and beyond the implementation of the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, various reports have shown that the shebeen traders are not complying with what the law has put in place, and that the society is still complaining about the implementation of the Act. Various other reports have indicated that the government is caught up in a dilemma because some people in the society support the implementation of the Act while on the other hand, the shebeen owners express that their rights are being violated by the government, thus arguing that shebeens are their source of income to sustain their livelihood (Niikondo, 2006). The same author adds that some shebeen owners declare that the shebeen license requirements were beyond their means. Some of the requirements of operating a shebeen demand a separation of shebeens from the houses or sleeping places by means of erecting walls. However, this requirement creates challenges in the informal settlements where homes and shebeens are built with corrugated iron. Shebeen owners have stressed that building of walls is complicating their already constructed structures, and this will be a barrier to the shebeen owners who are already living in poverty, and cannot afford to construct cement walls. On the other hand, some community members such as spiritual leaders supported and welcomed the implementation of the Act and argued that the Act will free the nation from misuse of liquor and prevent crimes in the society (Niikondo, 2006).

The economic, social and health consequences associated with alcohol-related problems are an important consideration to determine the policies and regulation of alcohol access. In Namibia, local municipalities in different towns have different Liquor Licensing Boards that are accountable in issuing liquor licenses to prospective shebeen applicants (Namibian Liquor Act No. 6). The types of licenses obtained depend on the specification of the type of alcohol to be sold and their operation hours. However, it seems that the Act does not have adequate criteria in place for issuing liquor licenses.

### **2.6.1 Shebeen liquor licensing**

In Namibia, a shebeen liquor license application is made in terms of Section 27 of the liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, and it is granted and issued to a prospective shebeen owner when the application meets and fulfills the shebeen requirements. The Liquor Act states that no person shall sell liquor if they do not have a license. A shebeen liquor license provides permission for the licensed premise to sell alcohol on- consumption, which refers to the consumption of liquor on the licensed premises on which such liquor is being sold (Act No. 6 of 1998, p.9).

There is a clear distinction as to which license to use where. For instance, a shebeen license cannot be issued to someone who owns a bottle store. An application for a shebeen licence is made at the Regional Liquor Licensing Committees of the magistrate court, and it goes through the committee for approval. Most importantly, the application should meet the requirements for it to be successful. The requirements of shebeen license are stipulated in the fourth schedule of the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 and also by Municipalities. The application of a shebeen license costs N\$60.00, and on top of that, an annual fee of N\$400.00 must be paid. The Liquor Act requires petitions presented in writing, signed by 15 residents of the community in which a shebeen is operating to accompany the application for the liquor license (Act No. 6 of 1998).

According to City of Windhoek (n.d), any person who wishes to open a shebeen or a pub in their home is regarded as a “resident occupant” and should be permitted to do so under conditions of a shebeen “resident occupant”, which includes the support of affected neighbors, and only limited goods are allowed to be sold in that home shop. In addition, the shebeen license will be limited to on-site consumption of light liquor only.

The Namibian Liquor Act (No. 6 of 1998) stipulates that shebeens and bars should not be operating on public holidays and on Sundays, unless the shebeen owners acquire special licenses, and that liquor should only be sold during business hours. The business hours required by the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 states that a shebeen liquor licence holder may operate from Monday to Thursday from 10h00 to 22h00, Friday and Saturday from 10h00 to 00h00 and Sunday from 14h00 to 22h00. According to the Liquor Act, shebeens can operate beyond the specified hours if they are granted special liquor licenses. However, media has reported that the shebeen owners are not happy about the changes made on the new Act because they were not consulted to provide their input on the Liquor Act, and they state the liquor act should be suspended (Niikondo, 2006). Before the enactment of the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, the shebeens were allowed to operate from 10h00 to 22h00 throughout the week, including public holidays and Sundays.

Nevertheless, Rwafa (2015) claims that there is a lack of control on the shebeens' operating hours. The same author argues that there are shebeens that are seen operating beyond their business hours, and those that are operating illegally, while the community members or residents are not aware of the rights they have to report such a predicament to the police. Rwafa (2015) further stated that promotions of alcohol policies in Namibia are not restricted, and this is a contributing factor to the increase of shebeens and an elevation of the alcohol industry. According to Rwafa (2015), there are no reports on alcohol that has been banned, advertised or sponsored by distributors and producers of alcohol.

In South Africa, it has been reported that when young people get bored, they turn to alcohol and sex because it is easily accessible (Molelekwa, 2015). This fact is further supported by a statement that was made by a youth during the Johannesburg Press Conference on law enforcement in the informal sector, that alcohol is “cheaper than going to the movies” (Molelekwa, 2015). Therefore with the unacceptable social behavior among communities, limiting the hours for selling alcohol is recommended, for the purpose of reducing the rate of drinking to the level of abuse (South African Leisure Tourism and Hospitality Association, 2012).

According to Smit (2012), the Municipality of Windhoek, well-known as ‘City of Windhoek’ conducted a meeting which aimed at reviewing the policy on shebeens, with an intention to shutdown shebeens that have invalid licenses. The meeting was attended by various shebeen stakeholders, including the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), Khomas Regional Council representatives and members of the Shebeen Owners' Association. The meeting presented the proposed shebeen strategy which aimed at dealing with shebeens that do not meet the requirements stipulated by the liquor Act No. 6 of 1998.

## **2.7 The Shebeen Consent Form**

One of the municipal requirements to start up a business in a residential area is that the business applicant, including that of a shebeen, to acquire for a consent letter from the Urban Planning Division in the Customer Care Unit in the City of Windhoek (City of Windhoek, n.d). The City of Windhoek, in particular the Health Services Division has an obligation to improve the quality of life for the public in the city. All complains regarding any business being expressed by community residents are mostly that of health and environmental issues (City of Windhoek,

n.d). Interestingly, a shebeen liquor license is not approved until the business application has acquired written consent from the neighbours (Municipality of Walvisbay, 2016).

Smit (2012) reported that some shebeens have acquired licenses without the proper compliance with the requirements in the past. This has caused a tremendous increase of shebeens, especially in residential areas where they are not supposed to be located. Nevertheless, through the Shebeen Strategy Policy, the City of Windhoek has implemented a strategy to reduce the numbers of shebeens in residential areas, by ensuring that shebeen owners renew their resident occupation consent on an annual basis, an approach which will not allow renewal of licenses which did not meet the required requirements (Smit, 2012).

## **2.8 Unlicensed shebeens**

Unlicensed shebeens are illegal shebeens that are selling liquor without liquor licenses. According to SAIF (2012), licensing of shebeens remains a problem in Namibia because the Regional Liquor Licensing Committees under the office of the Regional Magistrate only puts more attention on judicial matters and pay little attention to shebeen licensing. As a result, unlicensed shebeens continue to increase, and most are operational. Haidula (2015) reported that only 540 out of 12 000 shebeens in Namibia were found to be in possession of shebeen liquor licences. Another report by Gondwana (2017) indicated that there is currently a number of illegal shebeens in Katutura/Windhoek. In addition, Isaacs (2006) stated that there were about 80 to 85 shebeens in Mariental operating illegally. This is a clear indication that the majority of shebeens in Namibia are illegal or unlicensed.

Unlicensed shebeens have been commonly reported by the media as a major issue and a contributing factor to the alarming increase of shebeens in Namibia. On a media report by the Police Inspector General Lieutenant Sebastian Ndeitunga, it has been pointed out that the police is determined to continue to close down illegal shebeens in Windhoek. The General alluded that the police records of crimes reported such as murder, armed robberies, rape and GBV are mainly caused by people under the influence of alcohol and other substances, and the victims are often intoxicated (Namibia Economist, 2012). According to Lieutenant Ndeitunga, the shebeen owners get saddened by the closing down of unlicensed shebeens, thus they end up threatening the police officers.

It was affirmed by the Katutura Station Commander Chief Inspector Ismael Basson during a media report that some shebeen owners are operating up to five shebeens with only one license. The chief inspector also emphasised that all shebeens currently in operation should acquire licenses (Kanguotui, 2012).

In South Africa, the liquor industry only allows the licensed outlets to trade in liquor (Smit, 2014). Approximately 4,000 licensed outlets were reported in the Western Cape region of South Africa in 2013 (Smit, 2014). However, alcohol abuse is reported to be linked to a range of negative impacts in terms of the public health, economic and the socio – cultural discourses. South Africa has placed many efforts in strictly regulating the access to alcohol and also in putting measures in place, particularly in areas where alcohol can be sold (Smit, 2013). However, it has been reported that there is still a large number of unregulated alcohol outlets in Cape Town, regardless of the attempts made to regulate alcohol in the past years. It has also been reported that more integrated views are needed, which recognise the importance of

alcohol and shebeens, as well as the consideration of acknowledging that alcohol abuse has effects on the state and the society as a whole (Smit, 2014).

However, community members in the Western Cape Province of South Africa have expressed that reporting incidences as a result of illegal shebeens is not effective most of the time (Smit, 2014). In many cases, the neighbors who report alcohol abuse incidences are being accused of being jealous. In the same vein, the report further made an indication that some community members expressed that they have a fear to confront patrons of shebeens because they are under the influence of alcohol and they become aggressive (Smit, 2013).

## **2.9 Police and Law enforcement measures to control shebeens**

The shebeens in Namibia are controlled and regulated by the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998. The Namibian Police is one the law enforcement officials for the Namibian Liquor Act, which places efforts in the control of the sale of alcohol in registered and unregistered shebeens, as well as the control of shebeens that are not complying with the shebeen rules and regulations. The Namibian Police and various municipalities control shebeens by enforcing existing regulations. The police are involved in arresting shebeen owners when they do not comply with the law, confiscating stock and closing down of illegal shebeens. Good enough, the Namibian Police Force has been given power to enforce the Liquor Act.

The police have the right to enter any premises including shebeens and demand the names of shebeen owners if the Act has been contravened. The police have the power to inspect and demand shebeen licenses which authorize them to sell alcohol. Kandjii (2016) asserted that the

Liquor Act is supposed to control the supply and demand of alcohol in Namibia; however, that does not seem happening because of there are no strict measures to enforce the law and also standard criteria for obtaining liquor licenses seems to be omitted by the act. The law enforcers are also reported to be very lenient when it comes to enforcing strict measures on the sale and consumption of alcohol in shebeens by those under age (Kandjii, 2016).

According to the Namibian Economist Report of 2012, the Police Inspector General Sebastian Ndeitunga confirmed that the police involvement in the controlling of shebeens by stating that the police will continue “enforcing laws, without being selective as all they are seeking is the support from all law abiding citizens to control crime and revive the morality of society” (Namibia Economist Report, 2012). Despite various attempts to control shebeens and implement shebeens legislations in the country, there are numerous complaints and demonstrations with regard to the liquor law, from the community and other shebeen stakeholders. For example, in a media report by (Niikondo 2006), it was revealed that the shebeen owners and other institutions including the Namibian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the National Union of Namibia Workers and the Namibia Shebeen Association (NASA) have demonstrated demonstrating against the Namibia Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998. Niikondo (2006) further reported that shebeen owners are not abiding by the Act.

A study conducted by Herrick *et al.* (2015) revealed that the police in South Africa needs to conduct operations to close down illegal alcohol outlets It is thus important for the police to design and implement strategies that are community based that aim to empower the community. Apart from that, the police needs to conduct policing activities in communities

where legal alcohol outlets are present to control issues such as noise, anti-social behaviours as well as control outlets that are not complying with the law (Herrick *et al.*, 2015).

### **2.9.1 Strategies targeting alcohol abuse and alcohol outlets**

Effective legislation and strategies for implementing the Liquor Act are important aspects of consideration when it comes to targeting shebeens and the selling of alcohol in communities and Namibia at large. Nambala (2006) proposed that having a proper legislation in place is the best alternative to control shebeen operations and alcohol abuse. According to Nambala, there is a need to enact an effective legislation that will prohibit shebeens from operating within residential areas in all areas of Namibia. Nambala (2006) further suggested that the desired legislation needs to make provision for every local authority to provide land where shebeens can operate from. Such strategies will not only prevent shebeens from operating in the residential areas, but will also assist controlling their operations.

In response to the need to implement the legislations aiming to control shebeens in the Khomas Region to be specific, the Namibian Police force has initiated a campaign called “Secure Khomas for all” (Kanguotui, 2012). The campaign is being conducted with the aim to close down illegal shebeens. With this initiative in place, a shebeen monitoring operation was conducted in various places such as Katutura in Windhoek, during which a number of shebeen owners were caught operating without liquor licenses, while others were found with invalid shebeen licenses. In the same vein, in order to control the operation of shebeens, the Municipality of Windhoek is implementing a strategy, whereby the renewal of shebeen

applications will be turned down if activities of violence, frequent incidences in the street continue resulting from the business operation (Smit, 2012).

In South Africa in particular, a number of environmental strategies have been put in place to lessen and control the physical availability of alcohol at alcohol outlets. According to Babor *et al.* (2010), the strategies include restricting the alcohol outlet operating hours and days; recognition of unregulated shebeens in the formal sector; restriction of the number of liquor outlets per location; establishing working relationships between licensees, police, local authorities and community organizations; controlling the sale of alcohol to people who are intoxicated at liquor outlets; raising awareness among communities on violations of laws and complaints; and carrying out patrol programs to monitor whether the public is complying with the laws especially those that have power to control the of sale of alcohol to minors.

Babor *et al.* (2010) highly recommended that the mass number of alcohol outlets should be decreased to reduce the number of alcohol problems in various communities. However, this strategy will seem impossible in countries like South Africa, because 80 - 90% of alcohol outlets are unlicensed (Parry & Dewing, 2006). The author further stated that this strategy can only be accomplished if the unlicensed outlets are encouraged to obtain licenses.

Even though the police and municipality have made effort to implement strategies in the fight against the increase of shebeens, somehow the shebeen establishments continue to grow, and this remains an unresolved issue. As a result alcohol abuse remains a concern, eventually affecting the lives of many people, both in terms of health and welfare. Therefore, this has made some Namibian institutions such as the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to focus more on implementing strategies against the harmful use of alcohol rather than

strategies of controlling shebeens in particular. To date, the MoHSS has initiated a Coalition on the Reduction of Harmful Drinking (CORD) Programs under its Directorate of Social Welfare Services, specifically the subdivision of substance abuse prevention, drug control and rehabilitation. Such a program is responsible for the prevention of substance abuse through education on the dangers of alcohol abuse, as well as the transmission of HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. The program is being implemented in schools, communities and workplaces under the steering of the social workers in all regions (SASS, n.d). The CORD programme involves one on one counseling, group therapy, and also the use of the IEC materials on alcohol information booklet and posters to extend the message on the prevention of substance abuse in communities (Ministry of Health and Social Services, 2006).

In a study conducted by Kandjii (2016) on social workers' perceptions on the implementation of the CORD Programme in Namibia, it was revealed that the CORD programme is a vital program in educating and prevention of alcohol abuse in all regions of Namibia, as this may lead to the reduction of alcohol problems in Namibia. The findings of the study indicated that 89,1% of the community within which the study was conducted is aware of the CORD Programme, while 57.6% of the research participants reported that the programme is supported by many stakeholders including donors, partners and NGOs and 81 government ministries are involved in the implementation of the CORD Programme activities and programs. However, the study report also indicated that 51% of the main stakeholders are not fully involved in the implementation of the CORD Programme activities. In addition, the study revealed that the CORD programme has no short-term or long-term monitoring tools that determine the expected input, outputs and finally measure the effectiveness of the program in reducing substance abuse.

Another initiative to control alcohol abuse in Namibia is that of the Self-regulating Alcohol Industry Forum (SAIF). This forum is an association that aims to prevent the abuse of alcohol and to promote responsible use of alcohol in Namibia. The SAIF association is constituted by various stakeholders who share the same objectives in terms of the desire to reduce the trade of alcohol and its consumption, working closely with the International Centre on Alcohol Policies (ICAP) and other international organizations, through its links with Brand house, Diageo, SABMiller, ARA and Distell. SAIF mostly targets young people, vulnerable adults and those people who are likely to be at risk of harmful consequences of alcohol abuse and misuse. The goal of SAIF is to promote self-regulation in the industry of alcohol when it comes to producing alcohol, marketing alcohol products with an objective to minimize alcohol misuse whilst advocating for responsible drinking is recommended. SAIF intervenes by conducting an educational awareness to the community and the Alcohol Industry Sector on the negative consequences of alcohol abuse (Self – regulating Alcohol Industry Forum, n.d).

The World Health Organization Report of 2014 indicated that alcohol policies aim to reduce the harmful use of substances such as alcohol and drugs, which result in health and social burdens in the communities. Such policies are formulated at the global, regional, multinational, and national and sub national levels.

Moreover, the increasing level of development in Namibia has created a complex situation which affects the lives of the working class, such that they have to soothe their conscience and stress after weeks or months of hard work. The country needs progressive policies that will turn shebeen owners into formal business men and women in all sectors of the economy. In addition, the country needs low-tech, high-yield businesses, in locally produced consumer

goods and foodstuffs that are currently not commercialized. Furthermore, the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) must act against the root causes of problems that lead to the establishment of shebeens and heavy alcohol consumption, otherwise the status quo remains and Namibia will remain a country of shebeens, and by extension, a country of alcohol abusers (Nangolo, 2017). In essence, it is of utmost importance for a society to have some form of regulations that will guide the sale of liquor, the operating times, and the operation of the liquor sale (Coholick, 2016). Cutting down on informal drinking places completely might control alcohol excess in some areas which ultimately improve the quality of life. Stewart (n.d) concurs and asserts that controlling and limiting alcohol outlets will reduce alcohol consumption and alcohol related problems. Babor *et al.* (2010) is of the opinion that alcohol related problems will only be reduced if days and times of selling alcohol is restricted. This will not only reduce alcohol related problems but it will as well reduce the availability and accessibility of alcohol which is the most direct factor impacting health worldwide (WHO, 2018).

Herrick *et al.* (2015) asserted that there is a need to tighten regulations and control of alcohol especially in accessing liquor in alcohol outlets. These responses may help reduce alcohol related harm by closing down illegal alcohol outlets, reducing operating hours and increasing the legal years.

## **2.10 Summary**

This chapter explored and discussed the theoretical frameworks that underpin the study, which are the social development and ecological theories. The chapter also looked at the historical development of shebeens in Africa. Furthermore, the role of shebeens on the economy was explored. The socio-economic and environmental effects of shebeens were discussed in

relation to the following themes: (1) High rates of alcohol abuse, (2) Crime and Criminality (3) Poverty, (4) Dysfunctional families, (5) Alcohol and road accidents, (6) Shebeens and communities, (7) Shebeens effects on children, (8) Noise pollution, and (9) Poor hygiene. The chapter also discussed some of the provisions of the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, which is the main legislation that governs the licensing of, and operation of shebeens, as well as the selling of alcohol in Namibia. The issue of shebeen licensing in Namibia has also not been left out. The last section of this chapter covered the strategies of dealing with alcohol outlets in Namibia. Chapter 3 has focused on the methodology of the study.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

The previous chapter reviewed different literature on the phenomenon. It further explored and discussed the theoretical frameworks that are guiding the study, which are the Social Development and Ecological theories. The chapter gathered detailed information on the effects of shebeens and explored the shebeen legislation and shebeen monitoring system.

This chapter presents an overview of the important areas of the research methodology that need to be considered when undertaking a research study particularly those that are of relevance to this research. It has also outlined the research methods being employed by this research as well as the rationale for choosing such. In this chapter the following have been defined and described in detail: target population, research design, research strategy, research instruments, data analysis, validity and reliability, limitations and ethical considerations.

#### **3.2 Research Approach**

Creswell (2014) defined science as a knowledge acquired from the use of scientific methodology or scientific research. The author has defined scientific research as a systematic enquiry of a phenomenon. There are different types of methodologies a researcher may use to collect and analyse data in order to acquire knowledge on a particular issue. When it comes to research methods, there are three different methods, namely: quantitative, qualitative and mixed method research (Creswell, 2014). Denzin and Lincoln (2011) indicated that before a researcher considers the different stages of planning, and before conducting an enquiry, it is

important to think about the helpful structures of a well-established and well reported research style.

The different research approaches to research use different methods to collect data. The quantitative research method is used to quantify data by collecting facts and make possible generalised conclusions, whereas, the qualitative research method explores the phenomenon in their natural setting and is used to discover ways in which a phenomenon is interpreted by those experiencing it (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011). For the purpose of this study the qualitative approach was employed. This particular approach is well suited for this study, because it requires participants to provide an in-depth understanding, and a detailed description of their experiences around the focal area of the study (Creswell, 2014). Specifically for this study people's perceptions, interpretations and experiences around the subject matter under study were explored. The qualitative approach was more appropriate to explore the perceptions of the effects of shebeens on the community, determine the views on shebeen licenses and on establishing an understanding of the shebeen monitoring system. This involved exploring community members' views/perceptions of different categories, personal experiences and descriptions of problematic situations and meanings in their lives.

### **3.3. Phenomenology study**

A research type is determined by the purpose of the study, the nature of research questions, skills of the researcher, as well as the available resources to be used by the researcher (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). Each type of research has its own perspectives and procedures, which a researcher needs to follow to reflect on the chosen approach type. For the purpose of this study, a phenomenological study was chosen as the research type. Creswell (2014, p.57) defined phenomenology as a “study that describes the meaning of the experiences of a phenomenon or

concepts for several individuals”. A phenomenology study allows the phenomena under study to be described accurately by those experiencing it. Thus, the study was conducted in a manner that it allowed deep issues; information to be revealed by those experiencing it, and also this approach provided an opportunity to enable community members’ voices to be heard.

### **3.4 Research design**

Creswell (2014) states that research designs involve specific procedures that are involved in a research process. Research design focuses on what study is being planned and what is the aim of the study conducted (Creswell, 2014). De Vos *et al.* (2011) outlines different types of qualitative research designs namely: Exploratory, Descriptive, Explanatory, Correlational, Evaluation, Intervention and Action research. This study was based on exploratory research design. The same author refers to an exploratory research as a research design that is mainly used by practitioners to gather insight information on a particular phenomenon and get familiar with the phenomenon.

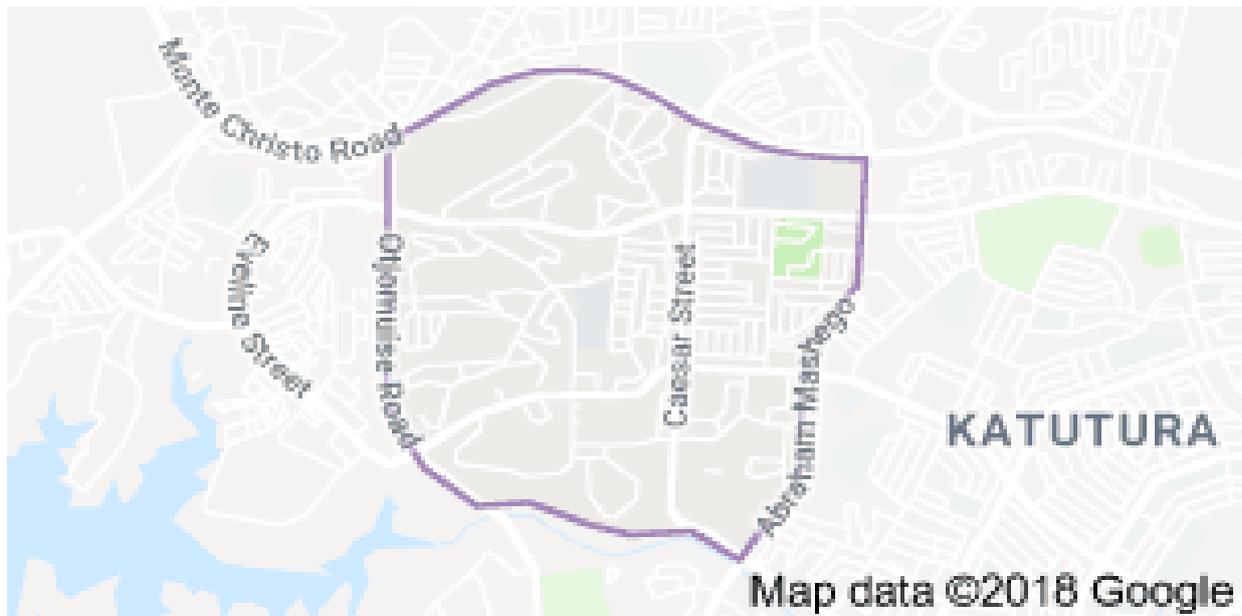
The aim of an exploratory research is to clarify the research questions of the study. Exploratory research was employed intentionally in this study because it is flexible in a way that it allows participants to express their opinions and allows the researcher to understand the issue under study more thoroughly. The exploratory design would allow the researcher to obtain detailed information concerning the perceptions on the effects of shebeens in the community.

This study did not seek to find solutions and conclusions on the phenomenon, it rather intended to explore the phenomenon as a result of disclosure of new data and new insights and add to scientific knowledge. Hence, exploratory design was employed to satisfy the researcher’s

desire to gain more information on the perceptions on the effects of shebeens. De Vos *et al.* (2011, p.95) asserted that an exploratory research is used to study “on a new area of interest”. The effects of shebeens in the society have been reported various times in media reports; however, the issues have not been adequately and scientifically researched in the Namibian context. With this in mind, the researcher chose exploratory research because it intends to discover new information on an issue that is not well researched (De Vos *et al.*, 2011).

### **3.5 Research Site**

Greenwell Matongo is part of the Samora Machel Constituency that is located across the northern part of Windhoek, Namibia (Figure 3.1). It was named after a liberation fighter for Namibia’s independence, the late Mr. Greenwell Simasiku Matongo, who was born in 1945. This residential area is well known for its many shebeens and bars. According to the Population and Housing Census of 2011, Samora Machel has a population size of approximately 50 110 residents, 25 520 of which are female while 24 590 are male. At the time of the survey, the age group within this constituency ranged from 0 to 60 plus, of which 2% are under the age of 5, 17% fall in the range of 5 and 14 years, 70% falls between 15 and 49 years, while 2% are 60 years and older (Khommas census regional profile, 2011).



**Figure 3. 1 Map of the Samora Machel Constituency where Greenwell Matongo is located**

(Source: <https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=kI->)

### **3.6. Population**

When it comes to research a population is defined by an entire group of people, events or things of interest within a defined study area (Creswell, 2014). According to De Vos *et al.*, (2011) a population is ‘the total number of people, events, organizations, units, case records or other sampling units with which the research problem is concerned’. For the purpose of this study population refers to the residents of Greenwell Matongo area in Samora Machel constituency, specifically those who are above the age of eighteen (18). The population for this study will include the following community members who will partake in the research: the unemployed residents, the self-employed, and those employed full-time, students and the community councillor.

### **3.7 Sample**

Cohen *et al.*, (2011) assert that a quality piece of research does not only require the correctness of the methods used and instruments, but also requires a sampling strategy that is suitable for the study. The same authors have stated that researchers should be able to make decisions in the planning of their research studies, with regard to who they should collect data from in order to avoid collecting data from the entire population within the study area. For this reason, the researchers need to do sampling, which has been defined as a subset of the population representing the total population under study.

Sampling by definition is a small representation drawn from the population, in which the researcher is interested in (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). The same authors have revealed that there are two types of sampling strategies, namely - the probability sampling and the non-probability sampling. Probability sampling is a random way of drawing from the entire population (Cohen *et al.*, 2011). It seeks representation from the entire population and everyone in the population has the same possibility to be represented. The techniques used in probability sampling include simple random sampling, systematic sampling, stratified sampling and cluster sampling.

Non-probability sampling does not represent the entire population but only a particular group that has been systematically selected from the population (Cohen *et al.*, 2011). There are a number of non-probability sampling methods, for example, purposive sampling method, availability sampling method and convenience sampling method. The study applied a non-probability sampling which is by means of purposive sampling method in which eighteen participants were selected from the Greenwell Matongo community (De Vos *et al.*, 2011).

The non-probability sampling method was utilised particularly because the size of the population in the area under study is not known, which does not give everyone an equal chance to participate in the study. The sample size was made out of which three are employed (including the self-employed), three are unemployed, four are working in shebeens (both the registered and unregistered), one community leader (community councillor), one police officer, one school teacher, two shebeen owners and three residents that have signed the shebeen consent form. For the purpose of this study, the non-probability technique used was the purposive sampling technique, in efforts to represent the defined population, and those that have the ability to provide valuable information for the study (O'Leary, 2014). Purposive sampling chooses specific cases since it aims to determine the features of interest for that particular study (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). The researcher interviewed the participants with the average age of 34.

The following inclusion criteria were used:

1. Participants over the age of 18
2. Community members who have been living in the area for more than two years
3. The population included (unemployed, employed, self-employed and part-time employed, students and community leaders)
4. Both female and male
5. How the participants were selected, and where they were found

### **3.8 Research instruments**

Research instruments are tools which are used by social science researchers to collect data in order to answer their research questions or research objectives (Kothari, 2014). (Creswell (2014) affirms that one of the researcher's roles is to collect data, which involves gathering information through "unstructured, semi-structured interview guides, observations, interviews, literature/document review and visual materials. For the purpose of this study, firstly, the researcher developed a semi-structured interview schedule with open-ended questions, which was used as an interview guide to collect data for the study. This type of technique was more suitable for this study because it gave an opportunity for the topic to be explored in depth and more openly by the researcher (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). It also allowed participants to express their feelings or views on the issue under study. The questions on the interview guide permitted the researcher and interviewee to discuss and elaborate on issues raised in more details.

The interviewer had the opportunity to explain and clarify questions to the interviewee where she/he could not understand the questions posed to them. The researcher also used a digital voice recorder for the interview, upon obtaining permission from the participants. This technique was useful to the researcher because it captures accurate information compared to what can be recorded through note taking.

In the semi-structured interview, the interviewer had an opportunity to probe the interviewee to allow the views to be elaborated in more details. Cohen, Mannion and Morrison (2015) stated that qualitative studies often use semi-structured interviews because they encourage a two way communication, which allows the participants to freely express their views and also provides participants the freedom to talk about sensitive issues.

### **3.9 Procedure**

The importance of securing permission from gatekeepers in order to obtain information from the participants has been realised (Creswell, 2014). Gatekeepers are people in the area of the intended research study that give permission for a research to be conducted. Before the process of data collection began; the researcher contacted the councillor of the Samora Machel Constituency to request for permission to conduct research in Greenwell Matongo, and permission was granted. The researcher approached prospective participants in the community by going to their homes, shebeens, and made appointments with participants who were willing to take part in the study.

The participants were recruited through the purposive sampling method and were assessed whether they met the criteria for the population of the study. In addition, the participants who were ready to partake in the research were interviewed as soon as they were approached, since there was no need to make other arrangements. Before the interview was conducted, the researcher inquired from participants for their consent (see Annexure A, a consent form) to participate in the research study, and requested for special consent before voice recording them. The participants agreed and gave consent to partake in the study by signing the informed consent form.

The community councillor was approached at his office and an appointment was made with him for the interview. To avoid inconveniences, the researcher made appointments with some prospective participants to arrange for a safe place to conduct the interview of which they did. Participants arranged for a quiet place in their homes where the interviews took place.

The participants were interviewed in private rooms' where privacy and confidentiality was guaranteed. Some participants were interviewed in English and some were interviewed in Oshiwambo as the researcher could speak both these two languages. Therefore, no translator was required in this study. The Oshiwambo interviews were then translated back into English verbatim.

### **3.10 Pre testing of the interview schedule**

It is essential for any researcher to plan the initial research process which includes conducting a pilot study before attempting a major research endeavor (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). A pilot study is the “dress rehearsal” conducted before the main investigation. According to De Vos *at al.* (2011, p.73), a pilot study is conducted to determine the practicality and accuracy of the data collection instruments. Creswell (2014) indicated that a pilot study in field testing is very important because it establishes the validity of the research content and makes provisions for improvement on research instruments such as questions and formatting.

Before embarking on the full-scale study, the researcher conducted a pre-test interview with two residents of Greenwell Matongo, who were not included in the sample size of the study. The pilot study subjects were recruited purposively with similar characteristics as those who participated in the main study. After the pretest interviews, the shortcomings were identified and structured as some interview questions were merged in the interview guide. Questions such as (what are the effects of shebeens in your neighbourhood? What do you think are some of the problems caused by shebeens in your area?) were merged to represent one question because

they appeared as a repetition of each other. The questions were structured to “What are the effects of shebeens in your area?” so that it focuses on the main issue.

The pre-test provided an opportunity for the researcher to improve on skills to conduct semi-structured interviews. With regard to the interview, the researcher needed to probe the participants in order to get in-depth information on the phenomena, not necessarily asking questions chronologically as they appeared in the schedule.

### **3.11 Data Analysis**

Creswell (2014, p.195) states that data analysis involves “making sense out of the data collected and putting the pieces together”. De Vos *et al.* (2011) have defined data analysis as a process of examining and interpreting data. In qualitative methodology, researchers use qualitative data analysis (QDA) to analyse and interpret data collected. Dyer (2015) defines qualitative data analysis as the processes and procedures followed by researchers to explain, understand and interpret information collected in the study in a meaningful way. In this study the researcher used the thematic analysis approach, which is a process that involves recognizing patterns within the qualitative data (Delanunt & Maquire, 2017).

Thematic analysis was employed using the six simple steps recommended by Braun and Clarke (2006) to identify, analyse and report the data. These steps are as follows: 1. Familiarising self with data by transcribing the interview in a verbatim way and re-reading the transcripts to understand the content of each transcription; 2. Generating initial codes, as the researcher should aim to preliminarily identify codes; 3. Searching for themes by extracting codes, themes

and subthemes, 4. Reviewing themes in a more deeper search, which enabled the researcher to decide on whether to split or combine the themes; 5. Defining and naming themes, since the researcher has to refine and define potential themes and sub-themes of the data; and 6. Producing the report, which the researcher is expected to do after analysing data, for the purpose of interpreting them (Harding, 2013).

The above-mentioned steps were applied in the following manner:

### **3.11.1 Familiarising self with data**

By familiarising herself with the data collected through interviews with participants, the researcher internalised the data through transcription of interviews. The researcher listened to the 18 audio recordings countless times to ensure accurate translations and transcription of each recording. The researcher reread the entire data set in order to familiarise herself with overall detailed aspects of data before generating codes. All interviews were transcribed in English.

### **3.11.2 Generating initial codes**

Using the transcripts and ideas generated through rereading transcripts, the researcher detected aspects that are similar and the phrases that came out strongly and that were answering to the research objectives. She further identified the features that made sense to the phenomenon and grouped them together in meaningful groups. The researcher also wrote down notes on the data that was being analysed.

### **3.11.3 Searching for themes by extracting themes and subthemes**

Once the codes were identified, the researcher categorised the different codes into potential themes. The different codes were written down in a note book that helped the researcher to categorise them into themes. The generated codes were reread and reviewed over and over to extract different categories of themes and subthemes. The themes that were searched for included those that captured important aspects of the research objectives and also those that appeared frequently across the data. The themes were identified according to what the participant would have said (semantic approach).

#### **3.11.4 Reviewing themes in a more deeper search**

This stage involved refining of themes and subthemes after the themes have been set. The researcher reviewed the themes by scrutinising those that were not relevant and not appropriate to the codes. The researcher removed some themes and created new themes that were related to the data set.

#### **3.11.5 Defining and naming themes**

At this stage, the researcher was comfortable and ready to define and name the themes. The researcher defined and refined the themes by identifying the real meaning of each theme. The themes were categorised in sub-themes to provide structure to the larger themes. The themes and sub-themes are presented in a table format with main issues raised from each theme.

#### **3.11.6 Producing the report**

This stage involves a full analysis of data and writing a complete report. The researcher reported on different themes and sub-themes using a combination of analyst narrative relating to existing literature and illustrative data extracts.

### **3.12. Validity and Reliability**

It is important for a researcher to find out the accuracy and credibility of their findings (Creswell, 2014). In a qualitative study there are two strengths that are used to determine the accuracy of the researcher, namely: qualitative validity and qualitative reliability. In qualitative validity, the researcher finds out the correctness of instruments used for data collection in order to determine the accuracy of the results. De Vos *et al.* (2011, p.172) also refers to validity as the “extent to which empirical measure adequately reflect the real meaning of the concept under consideration”.

Qualitative reliability points out the consistency and trustworthiness of the researcher’s approach (Creswell, 2014). The researcher ensured validity and reliability of the results of the study by developing a semi - structured interview guide and conducted a pilot study. The pilot study was conducted with two participants who were not part of the main study in order to detect possible shortcomings of the interview and ensure reliability.

The researcher addressed trustworthiness of this study by employing Lincoln and Guba’s four criteria of trustworthiness in qualitative research (Shenton, 2004).

#### **3.12.1 Credibility**

Credibility refers to the assurance of a researcher to determine the truthfulness of the research findings (Anney, 2014). In essence, the findings of the researcher should represent believable information to ensure credibility of the study. In this study, the researcher conducted a pretesting study before the initial study to affirm and, to ensure that the study explores what it intended to explore. The in-depth explorations of the phenomenon, showing all the complexities of variables and interactions while gathering data from the intent population that it cannot help were deemed valid. The researcher did not go beyond the planned parameters of the study to ensure validity (De Vos *et al.*, 2011).

### **3.12.2 Transferability**

Anney (2014) refers to transferability as the extent to which qualitative data can be used to compare to other possible context. By triangulating different sources, using the two different theoretical frameworks that guided the study, the researcher collected thick descriptive data of the phenomenon. The researcher used interviews to collect data. In addition, the study used different background data sources such as literature on the phenomenon in question to allow comparisons to be made (De Vos *et al.*, 2011).

### **3.12.3 Dependability**

Streubert and Carpenter (2003) refer to dependability as the level of consistency of the findings; which means that the findings of the study should be consistent if the study is repeated with the same participants within the same context. In this study, the research protocol were discussed with each participant to ensure the applicability of the research design and plan. Research protocols involve information on the objectives and the aim of the study.

### **3.12.4 Conformability**

Streubert and Carpenter (2003) refer to conformability as the extent to which the discoveries of the study could be confirmed. Newman (2000) is of the opinion that researchers should be aware of their personal feelings, perceptions and their own interpretation to establish conformability. The study was based on objectivity. The researcher was constantly aware of personal feelings and experiences that might influence the study and integrated her understanding in the study to ensure objectivity. According to Shenton (2004), it is important to enquire if the findings of the study could be confirmed by another researcher.

For the purpose of this study, a research audit trial was applied to examine the enquiry process and product to ensure data validity. An audit trial is defined as a strategy for which a second person or an auditor examines the possibility of inaccuracies or fraud in the research study (Carcary, 2009). The transcriptions and data analysis chapter were provided to Mr. Frans Matlakala who is a research assistant at University of Limpopo to examine the findings for possible fraud. An audit trial was applicable to this study because it reinforces the conformability of the present data, and also examines the transparency of the study. The study also used verbatim record to transcribe data which can assist an audit trial to demonstrate the existence of that data.

### **3.13 Elimination of Bias**

The researcher used two languages, namely English and Oshiwambo, in the simplest and clearest way to ensure that participants understood the questions. The questions were posed in

a way that allowed the participants to express their own feelings and reveal their perceptions without misrepresentations.

### **3.14 Ethical Consideration**

In essence, research should never be conducted at the expense of human subjects (De Vos *et al.*, 2011). For this reason, social researchers should seek to address ethical dilemmas by setting out ethical principles to evaluate their conducts. This study was based on mutual trust, acceptance, voluntary participation, cooperation and fully explained expectations between all people involved in this research, to avoid conflict and possible harm to the involved parties. The researcher is multilingual and was able to conduct the interviews with some participants in English and in Oshiwambo with others, based on preference. For the purpose of this study, the following ethical principles were applied from the beginning to the end of the study.

#### **3.14.1 Permission to conduct the study**

Prior to commencement of data collection, ethical clearance was obtained from the Ethical Clearance Committee at the University of Namibia (UNAM). Permission to conduct the study was granted by the Ministry of Health and Social Services, and the Councillor of the Samora Machel Constituency under the Khomas Regional Council.

#### **3.14.2 Obtaining informed consent**

Bless, Smith and Sithole (2013) stated that participants have the right to be informed about the research study, its risk and benefits of participants. Thus, the principle of informed consent

allows prospective participants to make an informed decision whether to participate in the study or not. Having this in mind, the researcher explained the purpose of the research to the prospective participants, ethical guidelines of the study, and the possible outcome of the research. This was specifically done in order for them to understand what was required of them to partake in the study without pressurising them. The prospective participants were asked whether they want to be part of the research. Participants agreed to take part, an informed consent form was issued and the participants signed voluntarily. Special consent was requested for voice recordings separately from the general consent, and the participants gave consent for doing digital voice recordings.

### **3.14.3 Protecting anonymity and confidentiality**

Bless *et al.* (2013, p.33) asserted that “the principle of anonymity is linked to confidentiality”. For this reason, participants’ information should not be related with particulars that could easily be identified and linked to their responses such as their names. Research participants may disclose or provide sensitive or personal information that should be protected and should not be revealed from anyone other than the researcher (Bless *et al.*, 2013). Therefore, in this study, the researcher informed the participants not to disclose their names during the tape recording to protect their identities, which they did. The participants were informed that their information will not be disclosed to anyone other than the researcher’s supervisor. A tape recording file will be stored on the researcher’s personal laptop in a protected folder with a password known only to the researcher, and the file will be deleted after the completion of the study. Interviews were conducted in privacy in the homes of participants to ensure confidentiality.

#### **3.14.4 Avoiding deceptive practices**

De Vos *et al.* (2011) refer to deception as providing participants with false information in order to convince participants to partake in the research study where they could have refused. The authors further stated that, researchers may provide wrong information to participants through verbal or written instructions. In this study, the researcher made efforts to be honest about the whole concept behind the research study from the beginning to the end. She also clearly explained the purpose of the research to the research participants without any false information. In addition, the researcher made efforts not to intentionally be involved in any kind of deceptive practices. Furthermore, no participants were bribed to partake in the study.

#### **3.14.5 Providing the right to withdraw**

Bless *et al.* (2013) asserted that participants should be assured that they can discontinue their participation at any point without providing explanations to the researcher. The authors argue that participants should be informed and be assured that the study will not affect them in any way if they choose not to continue with their participation. In this study, participants were given an option to withdraw from the research after signing the consent letter, if they did not want to continue with the interview. However, that did not happen. The participants' rights were explained to them at the beginning of the interview. In addition, the researcher did not pressurise any participant to continue with the interview if they wanted to withdraw at any stage of the research. Interestingly, all the participants voluntarily participated in the study without being forced.

### **3.15 Limitations and delimitations**

Lebaree (2009) defined limitations as characteristics of the study that influence the interpretations of the research study. Limitations are based on the designs and methodology used, and are limits on why the study cannot be generalised.

All participants in the study were residents from Greenwell Matongo and were sampled using purposive sampling strategy. This study cannot be replicated because the situation might be different from other areas. It is only applicable to the Greenwell Matongo community.

### **3.16 Summary**

This chapter has covered the research approach, research methods and research design used in the study. It has also described the research site and has outlined the study population, research sample and sampling procedures. The research instruments and the procedures for collecting and analysing data have also been discussed in detail. Furthermore, the chapter has presented details of a pilot study that was conducted prior to the actual research. It has also covered a section on data processing and analysis, and discussed the issue of validity and reliability. The chapter has further presented information on the elimination of bias and on important ethical issues that were considered by the researcher. Chapter 4 presents data analysis.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS**

#### **4. INTRODUCTION**

The previous chapter has dealt with various aspects of the research methodology such as: the research design, sampling and population, research procedure, validity and reliability, and ethical considerations of the study. An indication has been made in that chapter, that the researcher transcribed the interviews and analyzed data using the thematic analysis approach. The data were collected from the residents of the Greenwell Matongo settlement, consisting of the Constituency Councilor, Police Officer, teacher, shebeen owners, people working in the shebeens (registered and unregistered shebeens) and community members. This particular chapter presents the analysis of the data that emerged from the semi-structured interviews that were conducted for the study. Overall, the chapter has aligned the collected data with the research objectives and triangulated with the literature.

Given the fact that the collected data were themed, the style adopted to present the data has captured the connection between the research objectives and the themes which emerged from the summarized data, in order to reveal the significant responses and insights obtained from the analysis of the data.

The study specifically attempted to meet the research objectives, which were to:

1. Appraise the community's perception on the effects of shebeens;
2. Assess the views and experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent letters for opening shebeens; and

3. Assess the shebeens' monitoring systems in the Greenwell Matongo Community.

The research findings are presented according to the biographic information of the research participants, as well as major themes and sub-themes.

#### 4.1 Demographic characteristics of the participants

Godo, Gubrium, Seale and Silverman (2004) indicated that researchers should at first consider the factors that guide the participants when it comes to the provision of data in terms of socio-economic background, and the specific social situations of concern in order to understand and explain the social meaning. Gender, age, marital status employment status, and educational levels were the demographic data that were considered by this study. The demographic information of all the research participants is presented in this section (see Table 4.1.).

**Table 4. 1. Demographic characteristics of the research participants**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Education Level</b>	<b>Employment status</b>	<b>Position in community</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>
Male	59	Married	Diploma	Full time employed	Community councilor	Oshiwambo
Female	35	Married	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Shebeen owner	Oshiwambo
Male	37	Married	Diploma	Full time employed	Police Officer	Otjiherero

Male	36	Single	Diploma	Self-employed	Community member	Damara
Male	36	Single	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Shebeen owner	Otjiherero
Female	35	Single	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Community member	Oshiwambo
Female	25	Single	Grade 10	Full time employed	Shebeen worker	Oshiwambo
Female	28	Single	Grade 10	Full time employed	Shebeen worker	Otjiherero
Female	39	Single	Grade 10	Full time employed	Shebeen worker	Damara Nama
Female	36	Married	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Teacher	Oshiwambo
Male	36	Married	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Community member	Oshiwambo
Female	31	Married	Bachelor's degree	Full time employed	Community member	Oshowambo
Female	28	Single	Bachelor's degree	Unemployed	Community member	Damara Nama
Female	21	Single	Grade 12	Unemployed	Community member	Otjiherero
Female	25	Single	Grade 12	Unemployed	Community member	Oshiwambo

Female	36	Single	Grade 12	Unemployed	Community member	Oshiwambo
Male	29	Single	Grade 12	Full time employed	Community member	Caprivian
Female	25	Single	Grade 10	Part-time employed	Community member	Rukavango

#### **4.1.1 Age**

The participants were aged from twenty one (21) to fifty nine (59) years. Of the participants, only one (1) is in his 50s, while ten of the participants are in their 30s. The remaining seven are in their 20s. Based on the ages of the participants, there is a clear indication that the majority of the participants are youth, which suggests that there is a lot of youth that lives in the Greenwell Matongo Community.

#### **4.1.2 Educational level**

The participants' educational levels are as follows: four participants have Grade ten (10) certificates, four (4) are in possession of the Grade 12 qualification, three participants are in possession of diplomas, while seven of them are bachelor's degree holders. The study revealed that the community comprises of a combination of people with a tertiary qualification, and

those without a tertiary qualification. However, the number of participants is not representative enough to conclude the status of the community in terms of the educational level.

#### **4.1.3 Employment status**

The employment status of the participants was as follows: four (4) of the participants who took part in the study are unemployed. Of these, two (2) have a Grade 12 qualification, one is a student and one has an honors degree in Education. This confirms that a person can be in possession of tertiary qualification, yet unemployed. Furthermore, one (1) of the participants is self-employed as a shebeen owner, one participant is part-time employed as a carpenter, while twelve (12) are full-time employed. However, the number of the full-time employed participants includes two shebeen owners who are employed on a full-time basis elsewhere, while operating shebeens to earn extra income. The three shebeen workers are also included in the full time employed participants, even though their jobs are not secure. The other full-time employed residents are mainly those with tertiary qualifications i.e. a teacher, a nurse, a social worker, and a business administrator, councilor, shop assistant and a police officer. This indicates that most people who have low qualifications are mostly employed in informal jobs, while those with tertiary qualification are employed in the formal employment sector. This agrees with a study conducted by Shindodola-Mote & Ohlsonn (2013), who revealed that high unemployment led to an expansion of the informal sector. Although the study did not focus on the qualifications, it is clear that whether one possesses a qualification or not, desperation to earn income can force them to get employed in the informal sector.

#### **4.1.4 Marital status**

The majority (12) of the participants are single, compared to the minority (6) who are married. This can simply be attributed to the non-probability sampling method used, which does not give equal chances to the individuals in a population, of being selected (Cohen *et al.*, 2011).

#### **4.1.5 Gender**

The study included six (6) males and twelve (12) females. The gender of the participants in this study was determined by the availability and willingness of those who were approached to partake in the study. In the end, the majority of participants who were willing to take part in the study were females.

#### **4.1.6 Ethnicity**

The majority nine (9) of study participants were Oshiwambo speaking, four (4) Otjiherero, three (3) Damara Nama, one (1) Caprivian and one (1) Rukavango. This participants were based on those that were available to take part in the study. No specific ethnic group was chosen for the study.

### **4.2 Presentation and discussion of the findings**

Various themes emerged during the interviews with participants from the Greenwell Matongo Community. The themes and sub-themes below emerged from the responses regarding the perceptions of the effects of shebeens, the experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent letters for opening shebeens, and concerning the shebeen monitoring system. The themes and sub-themes are presented in Table 4.2

#### **Table 4. 2. Presentation of themes and sub-themes**

Themes	Sub-themes
<b>Theme 1:</b> Effects of shebeens	<b>Subtheme 1.1:</b> Environmental effects
	<b>Subtheme 1.2:</b> Increase in alcohol consumption
	<b>Subtheme 1.3:</b> Parenting
	<b>Subtheme 1.4:</b> Economic effects
	<b>Subtheme 1.5:</b> Increase in crime
<b>Theme 2:</b> Experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent forms for opening shebeens	<b>Subtheme 2.1:</b> Lack of knowledge on the shebeen consent forms
	<b>Subtheme 2.2:</b> Bribery and intimidation
	<b>Subtheme 2.3:</b> No obligatory right to say no
	<b>Subtheme 2.4:</b> Sense of loyalty to neighbor
	<b>Subtheme 2.5:</b> General sense of support (minority and majority)
<b>Theme 3:</b> Shebeen monitoring system	<b>Subtheme 3. 1:</b> Police control
	<b>Subtheme 3.2:</b> Implementation of the Liquor Act
	<b>Subtheme 3.3:</b> Corruption
	<b>Subtheme 3.4:</b> Ignorance
	<b>Subtheme 3.5:</b> The role of the Councilors' Office

The data presented herein have been collected through interviews, and have been presented in such a way they have made the responses of the interviewees sound clearer to the point that the situation under investigation is understood. This study followed a qualitative approach using

semi – structured interviews which were transcribed verbatim. The data were analyzed using the thematic analysis approach, following the sequential steps of the thematic analysis proposed by Braun and Clarke (2006) which are: familiarizing self with data, generating initial codes, searching for themes, reviewing themes, defining and naming themes, and producing the report.

The findings have been grouped in themes and sub-themes, and have been integrated with the literature to aid with interpretation. Literature has been used to serve as evidence that the themes and sub-themes are related to those in other research studies. In order to support the themes that emerged during the interviews, direct quotations of participants have been included in the findings.

#### **4.2.1 Objective 1: Theme 1: Effects of shebeens**

The density of alcohol outlets has been associated with a range of social problems such as excessive drinking, crime and other related social ills which can be harmful (Cameron, Cochrane & Livingstone, 2016). However, despite their negative impacts, evidence is available that confirms the positive impacts of the alcohol outlets. Among other examples is the fact that shebeens are operated in efforts to ensure economic survival to those who are unemployed but in dire need to have means to feed their families (Seibes, 2004). The theme “effect of shebeens” was the first theme of the study which emerged during the interviews when the participants were questioned on their general view and perception of the effects of shebeens in their community.

*“I perceive them in a way as being good because they are a source of income for the unemployed residents, and for the families that are struggling financially. In a way I feel it is not such a good thing to have shebeens because they are negatively affecting the younger generation living in the community.”*  
(Female participant)

All participants expressed the negative and positive effects of shebeens as they felt. Out of this theme, five subthemes were identified as the effects of shebeens on the community of Greenwell Matongo, namely: environmental effects, increased in crime, economic effects, parenting and increased in alcohol consumption.

Such subthemes are elaborated on as follows:

#### **4.2.1.1 Sub-theme 1: Environmental effects**

The sub-theme on environmental effects refers to the direct and indirect effects that the shebeens have, both on the environment at large and on people. Such a theme brought to light some findings relating to how shebeens affect the environment and people in the community.

The environmental effects are elaborated in more details.

All participants expressed that shebeens contribute to excessive noise in the environment, which affects both the adults and children. Excessive noise refers to high levels of uncontrolled noise in any setting (Concha-Barrientos, Campbell-Lendrum & Steenland, 2004). In this case, the study refers to noise present in the environment as a result of shebeens. This noise could be from music in the shebeens, from many cars in the neighborhood, and from the shebeen patrons. Based on the participants’ responses, a lot of disturbances within the community is brought about by the loud noise that is generated by the jukeboxes in the shebeens. Jukeboxes are

automated music machines that are mostly found in bars and shebeens in which people insert money and select the music of their choice and play it. To support the findings, one participant said:

*“The noise is always there, even if you want to rest, you won’t be able to do so. The jukeboxes are just playing upside down until you get used to them. I think this is because there is nothing you can do, and you cannot go to the shebeens to complain about the noise. Otherwise how many shebeens are you going to visit and tell them: Can you please put the volume of their music down?”(Female participant)*

Sadly, all participants reported that jukeboxes are played throughout the day and during the operating hours of the night by the shebeen customers, which can be very disturbing. The participants also pointed out that not only jukeboxes cause noise in their environment but shebeen owners also bring in disk jockeys (DJs) during the weekend to entertain their guests, and this adds to the noise disturbance in the area. DJ is an abbreviation for a Disc Joker, a person who plays recorded music for a live target audience. DJs commonly perform at nightclubs, festivals or parties. They manipulate sounds that are already recorded on disc spinner (Michael, 2013). Loud music is often experienced in the presence of DJs, and this affects the neighbors because they do not get enough sleep during the weekend when they are off from work.

At times, the same music is played repeatedly and loudly, which affects the studies of school going children. According to most participants, school children are greatly affected by the jukeboxes because they do not sleep when they are supposed to. The music is set so loud that

they find it difficult to sleep and their sleeping patterns are often disturbed by the noise. As a result of lack of sleep, children are sometimes attracted to the music and end up going to the shebeens.

The findings of this study support the findings cited by Lane (n.d), who stated that shebeens create a lot of noise among the residents living in the vicinity, and often cause a lot of environmental disturbance, leading to emotional and behavioral stress. Consequently, children do not get enough sleep and rest, which affects their cognitive well-being. This is confirmed by Orzeł-gryglewska (2012) who stated that sleep deprivation may affect the cognitive function, attention and operant memory of a person. Below are the comments made by some of the participants with respect to the noise that is generated from the shebeens.

*“Obviously shebeens are mushrooming too much in the community, and they are so much disturbing, because wherever you go there is just a shebeen, and they cause noise pollution, whereby it disturbs the neighbors, such that they do not get enough time to rest anymore.” (Male Participant)*

Another participant echoed this by stating the following:

*“The noise that is resulting from the shebeens affects the children that are living in the neighborhood, whereby they cannot control it because this is where their home is, and they have no chance of going away. Even though they don’t go there, just the noise, even the noise from people, people that are sitting around alcohol, they also make noise, even though there is no music they still make a*

*lot of noise to the neighbors. Sometimes when there is a child maybe studying or just sleeping, the noise becomes so loud to the point where it creates problems to the child.”*

The study findings concur with those of Lane (n.d), whose study revealed that environmental factors such as noise from shebeens in the community can also have an effect on students and learners’ academic performance. It is therefore evident that excessive noise in the environment contributes to poor school/academic performance. The learners and students will find it difficult to concentrate on their homework and to study for their examinations the time when children are mostly supposed to pay attention to their school work, due to the noise in the area, thus affecting their academic performance. Sadly, there is no control over the loudness of the jukeboxes, which disturbs the studies of the children living in the environment.

With reference to the children’s well-being and school work, some participants shared the statements presented below:

*“The jukeboxes are disturbing, and I know that their effect on children is very bad, especially those who are in areas surrounding the shebeens. The noise affects the studies in a bad way. I know the shebeens have not any kind advantage to kids or positive whatever benefits to the kids.”*

Another participant added:

*“Imagine you are coming from school, and most of the shebeens don’t close early, even when you want to study, because the shebeens are near the houses, they play loud music and you can’t even concentrate.”*

Apart from the children, adults are also affected by the music, especially the employed ones who have to wake up early in the morning to go to work. This strong indication was made by most participants, who expressed that the employed residents often have to go to work with exhaustion, particularly because they hardly get enough hours of sleep due to excessive music sounds. In addition, they come back from work tired and they do not have enough time to rest and sleep due to the noise caused by shebeens during the resting hours, thus causing them fatigue and to be less productive at work. They further expressed their unhappiness about the fact that jukeboxes are all over the community, such that at almost every shebeen there is one, and this causes annoyance and sleeping disturbance.

The findings revealed that shebeens are a health hazard to the community, as they create bad smells in the vicinity. This is because people who drink from there have a tendency of urinating anywhere outside the shebeens. Some participants expressed that the environment is exposed to a lot of smell, which has a very negative effect on people’s health.

In view of the hygiene related to sanitation, some participants expressed their honest views on the situation at hand:

*“The people urinate anywhere around the shebeens, even on walls.*

*Sometimes when you wake up in the morning, you just find that somebody has peed on your wall.”* said one participant.

Another participant said:

*“In a case like of our neighbor, there is a shebeen nearby and in that shebeen there is no toilet, so where do those people go release themselves?”* (Male participant)

The study also revealed that people coming from shebeens tend to throw bottles everywhere, which makes the environment unclean, while also leading to vandalism of community infrastructures. One participant echoed that shebeens contribute to the destruction of infrastructure and other resources in the neighborhood and community, caused by drunk people. This participant made the following statement:

*“Most of the infrastructures are being vandalized by people that are drunk.”* (Male Participant)

He continued:

*“Like your street signs, your street lights, your public buildings, and the windows are shattered by the people that are drunk.”*

In collaboration with the below statements, another unemployed female participant stated:

*“Shebeens affect the community in different ways such as: dirtifying the community as people throw alcohol bottles all around, and people who are*

*working for these shebeens do not mind and only care about cleaning their vicinity and not those that are close to them and are affected by these”.*

The data from the study revealed that communities where there is a high density of shebeens contribute to alcohol abuse, and as a result the drunken people destroy communities' infrastructure such as street lights, street signs, and windows of some public infrastructure. One participant strongly emphasized on this by stating that shebeens are the reason why some of the neighborhood's street lights are not working. These results are consistent with those of Peterson (2014), who argued that people who misuse alcohol develop different types of anti-social behavior, such as aggression, and as a result they end up destroying of community infrastructures.

#### **4.2.2 Sub-theme 2: Increase in alcohol consumption**

The availability and easy accessibility of alcohol leads to alcohol temptations and eventually high alcohol consumption. Increase in alcohol consumption was one of the second sub-themes that emerged prominently in the responses on the effects of shebeens in the community. All participants confirmed to this effect.

One participant expressed that shebeens contribute to temptations of a strong desire to drink alcohol. The same participant pointed out that shebeens are too close to their houses which entices people to drink alcohol, such that people end up going to buy beer after a long day of work. The participants asserted that the presence of alcohol in the vicinity of their residential areas influences residents to take alcohol even if they do not want to. They further pointed out

that they are often pressured or tempted to go buy alcohol just because the shebeens are too close to them, and it does not take much time to access alcohol when one is thirsty.

One participant shared in his own words:

*“The closeness of shebeens in our residential areas often leads us into temptations to drink alcohol even if we do not want to. If truth is to be told, proximity is the main cause of the temptation. To be exact, I have a shebeen next to where I live here, therefore sometimes I am tempted to go get two beers there, just because the shebeen is close to me.”* (Male participant)

The majority of participants expressed that shebeens contribute to excessive drinking, which leads to alcohol addiction. The availability of shebeens exposes people to alcohol abuse, and people end up becoming alcohol addicts.

In this light, one of the male participants said:

*“The presence of shebeens in a residential area contributes to alcohol addiction. It is obvious that people in the area will be forced to buy alcohol out of their desire. Personally, if I buy alcohol I will be addicted to the point that I would want to buy and drink alcohol more often.”* (Male participant)

Another participant stated:

*“There is love for alcohol among the Namibian people, which leads to people spending so much time at shebeens, unlimately resulting in addiction.”* (Female participant).

The finding of the study showed that the availability of shebeens in the society contributes to high alcohol consumption. When people are exposed to shebeens, there is a high possibility of people engaging themselves in binge drinking and becoming alcohol addicts. These findings agree with those of a study conducted by Smit (2014), who argued that the presence of shebeens results into uncontrolled rate of alcohol consumption, to the point of abuse. Other studies on drinking at alcohol outlets in urban neighborhoods by Ahem, Margerison-Zilko, Hubbard and Galea, 2013 and Zhang, Hatcher, Clarkson, Holt, Bagchi, Kanny and Brewer, 2015 found that the more the alcohol outlets in the neighborhood, the more the individuals are likely to consume alcohol excessively.

A healthy nation contributes to a productive nation. The participants pointed out that if people are drinking too much, there is a high possibility of them becoming physically or mentally ill, and also engaging in deviant or irrational behaviors such as violence. The findings of this study are consistent with the findings by Livingstone, Chikritzhs and Room (2007), who revealed that the higher the alcohol availability in a society, the greater the effects of alcohol related harm, such as binge drinking and risky alcohol behaviors. Similarly, Baliunas, Rehm, Irving and Shuper (2010) and Nichols (2011) discovered that the densities of alcohol outlets influence people’s engagement in excessive drinking and that binge drinking puts them at risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV, compared to those who are not drinking excessively.

The majority of participants indicated that excessive drinking leads to physical illnesses. One participant echoed and said:

*“Alcohol can cause high blood pressure and other chronic diseases.”* (Female participant)

This agrees with the findings of the study conducted by Phetlho-Thekisho, Ryke and Strydom (2013), which revealed that heavy drinking is mostly associated with the prevalence of drinking patterns, leading to intoxication that may result in acute health or negative social impacts. Furthermore, people living close to shebeens have a tendency of drinking frequently and consuming large quantities of alcohol in a short period of time without eating properly.

Substantial majority of the participants indicated during the interviews that people who drink alcohol excessively fall prey to risky sexual behaviors. Some of the participants stated that once people are under the influence of alcohol, they are mostly in a position where they are not able to control their behaviors which results in risky sexual behaviors and violence. They added that when people are intoxicated, they start to be irrational and often get engaged into irrational decisions. One participant expressed this sentiment, as follows:

*“I know myself, once you drink too much, you tend to forget what happened or what you did, and can even ask questions like, how did I get home?”*(Male participant)

Another participant stated:

*“People contract the virus through going to shebeens, where they get drunk, and end up having unprotected sex. So it really has an impact on the community at large.”* (Male participant)

Apart from the adults, shebeens put children at risk of engaging into risky behaviors such as unsafe sexual activities when they are under the influence of alcohol. The findings of this study revealed that shebeens are at times the cause of school dropouts. It was noted that some teenage girls fall pregnant while they are under the influence of alcohol, and as a result end up dropping out of school. In that regard, one participant pointed out the following:

*“I have a neighbor here, who got pregnant while under the influence of alcohol. Right now she has delivered a baby but does not know who the father is. It is a pity though that she is only in Grade 10. After falling pregnant, she became afraid to go to school.”*

The findings are consistent with the views of Baliunas, Rehm, Irving and Shuper (2010); Naimi *et al.* (2003); and Prager *et al.* (2007), who stated that people who engage in high alcohol consumption and get drunk are often at risk of irrational thinking, which leads to risky sexual behaviors through which they can contract sexually transmitted diseases including HIV. Risky sexual behaviors do not only lead to infections but also results in unwanted pregnancies, and school dropouts to some. From the findings, it is evident that young people are mostly at risk of sexually transmitted diseases when they are intoxicated because they often neglect precautions. With that said, the researcher believes that since the people living in high density environments are more prone to excessive drinking and are likely to engage in unprotected sexual intercourse unconsciously, it will potentially raise the HIV infection rates in Namibia.

### **4.2.3 Subtheme 3: Parenting**

Another sub-theme under the domain of the effects of shebeens which emerged from the interviews was the issue of parenting of children who live in the neighborhood where shebeens are present. Parenting does not only involve the bringing up of children, it also involves the provision of care and support, and motivation of the children. It involves responsibilities of taking care of children, both physically and psychologically (Chan, 2004). According to the Child Care and Protection Act No. 3 of 2015, parenting involves executing parental plans to serve the best interest of the child. However, good parenting depends on the type of a parent and a supportive social environment to successfully perform parental roles.

Almost all participants in the study observed that there is poor parenting in communities where shebeens are present. Parents have a tendency of spending too much time at such drinking venues, which results in poor parental supervision. As a result, children and families are neglected, and are left at home for long hours with no proper parental supervision, unattended to and with no social support from parents. This study discovered that the effects of too many shebeens in the environment, cause parents to have easy access to alcohol, which consumes much of their time, leaving them with little time to do proper parenting to their children at home.

In many cases, children are left with no proper supervision, which gives them an opportunity to also go to shebeens and start consuming alcohol. The findings of the study revealed that as some family members go to shebeens, the children at home are also influenced to do the same

thing. The study further discovered that there are some parents who take their children along to shebeens, which exposes children to alcohol consumption at an early age. Some parents have also been reported as having a tendency to drink alcohol in front of the children, such that children view this behavior as a positive modeling. Furthermore the participants alluded to the fact that some parents do not stop children from drinking alcohol, while others give their children alcohol. Overall, the fact that many children live in areas with shebeens in their surroundings, they easily get access to alcohol and start consuming it at an early age. This is evident, as expressed by some participants in the statements below:

*“If today you see some young people in the street around 12 o’clock at mid-night because their parents are also in the bar, what do you expect? There is no control in the house, and some kids have to sleep with hunger because the parents did not cook. Many parents go straight to bed from the bar, where they go straight from work, despite the fact that their children need to eat. As a result, children have to play the roles of the parents.” (Male participant)*

Another participant added:

*“Having shebeens in a residential area is very bad because sometimes when parents are drinking at shebeens and their children join them, they tend to give their children alcohol to drink, and this makes the children think that alcohol is something good because their parents are not preventing them from drinking. This makes children develop a habit that whenever they see their parents drinking they would want them to give them a share of the drink, which is a bad influence on the children.” (Female Participant)*

These findings agree with those in a study conducted by Freisthler, Jonhson-Motoyama, & Kapple (2015), who found that caregivers who spend so much time at drinking establishments lead to supervisory neglect. Shikoyeni (2016) asserted that a family is an important subsystem, and is the first system in which children learn ways to behave. Generally, the family shapes children in ways that they are expected to behave. Hence, if children observe parents and other family members regularly going to shebeens, they will regard this behavior as normal and may as well start going there and start drinking at a tender age.

According to Agoabasa (2012), poor parental control because of alcohol intake negatively affects the children's livelihood in future. This particular study revealed that situations whereby parents come from the shebeens drunk and misbehaving, result in family distractions, which also affects parent-child relationships.

With regard to parental influence on children when it comes to alcohol consumption, one participant stated the following:

*“In some cases, parents go to shebeens with their children which contributes to children drinking at an early age and dropping out of school.”* (Female participant)

The participants also indicated that, with no proper parental supervision, children can get opportunities to engage themselves in peer groups that easily influence their behavior, such as drinking alcohol at an early age. They pointed out that peer pressure and parental influence are

mainly the ways that lead children into drinking at tender age. These findings are substantial to the findings of Shikoyeni (2016), who noted that children who are raised up by parents or guardians who drink alcohol are introduced to alcohol and are at risk of developing drinking behaviors associated with excessive drinking of alcohol.

Some participants pointed out that some parents spend too much money on alcohol rather than on buying food, which leaves children hungry at home. They pointed out that children are being neglected in many houses because their parents spend too much time at shebeens. In similar circumstances, some children often go to school hungry because their parents do not have time to prepare food for them due to the lengthy period of time spent at the shebeens. Herrick and Parnell (2014) share the same observations and indicated that a culture of excessive, hazardous drinking represents immoral behavior of the poor who should be more concerned with addressing the basic needs than buying alcohol. It is so saddening that some parents do not provide support and supervision to their children in terms of homework which they get from school because they spend too much time at shebeens, thus negatively affecting their children's school performance.

To support this, one participant said the statement below:

*“There is no control, children might end up with hunger. Maybe the parents do not get time to come and cook at home, therefore home works for the children will not be done. This child may be having a homework from school and the parents could still be at the shebeen by eight o'clock in the evening, so they won't get time to help with the school work. There is no proper control, and parents do not even have time to advise their children because the time they come from the shebeens is already late.” (Female participant).*

Another participant stated:

*“Negligence by parents is one of the things that are observed at schools because children come to school without food and they are not properly taken care of. Thus if they are asked questions like: What happened? Why are you not having food? The response could be: “My mother did not prepare a lunchbox for me.” If you ask further, what time did she get home? The child could say: “She always gets home very late, I don’t even see her.” (Teacher)*

The same participant added:

*“The education of these children is affected because they do not get any support from home. They only get support from school.” (Female participant)*

Some participants expressed that some parents lack proper parenting skills to parent their teenage children, which causes children to become vulnerable to unruly behaviors which they observe from people under the influence of alcohol. An indication was made that most drunkards tend to speak louder, while at the same time using vulgar language in the street, thus influencing children unintentionally. Apart from the influence from the people in the streets, children end up imitating behaviors of their parents, shebeen patrons, and their relatives who drink alcohol. Furthermore, in the absence of good parenting, some older children also tend to negatively influence the younger children.

In view of parental influence on children, one participant made the following statement:

*“There are a lot of effects of shebeens on parenting. I can say that it affects children seeing their parents getting drunk every day at shebeens in a lot of ways. It affects them in school, at home, the way they grow up, and they might end up becoming like their parents, becoming like their relatives, or becoming like their neighbors.”*

According to the participants, some parents who often visit shebeens do not spend time with their children. As a result, some children get the opportunity to spend most of their time with peers that can easily influence their behaviors negatively, to the point that they may start going to shebeens to drinking alcohol and behaving inappropriately. A male participant echoed the following statement:

*“You can see teenage girls wearing miniskirts and everything but they are just in Grade eight (8) or Grade seven (7) but they are at shebeens with their friends who are in Grade twelve (12) and some that are at the tertiary level, but they are there because learning from them.”*

In general, alcohol outlets have an effect on effective parenting to children who are brought up in environments where there is a high density of shebeens. Such children may not only end up drinking alcohol but may develop inappropriate behaviors, which may have an effect on their personal development in future. Inescapably, lack of parental control as a result of shebeens and alcohol consumption implies a disorganised family unit with no proper values, norms in place for better upbringing of children. The more the parents or caregivers are absent in the upbringing of children and meeting the needs of the family, the more the family will not

function as a unit, which will affect the family's relationships and the overall well-being. This is in agreement with the findings by Bezuidenhout (2008), who stated that family disorganization weakens and dissolves family ties. Meaning, if parents spend most times at shebeens and not fulfilling their parental responsibilities, family members will not function smoothly because the interpersonal relationships between parents and children have been ignored.

The presence of shebeens compromises the welfare of children and the future of children. The children's growth and development, health and well-being depends highly on good parenting and the entire community, and if the issue of shebeens is not controlled, than Namibia is failing to protect and promote the rights of children. It is important to note the issues covered by the Child Care and Protection Act No. 3 of 2015 that involves the totality of care and protection of children from abuse and neglect. The Act has proposed that anyone who abuses a child or neglect a child is found guilty and contravening the law (Child Care and Protection Act, 2015). The question remains: How are we going to promote child care in communities where there is an increase of shebeens and high alcohol consumption which contributes to poor parenting, child neglect and abuse?

From the above observations, consequences emanating from shebeens continue to present challenges to the society, ranging from high alcohol consumption, and increase in HIV infection rates which leads to poor health, poor parenting, and increase in crime diminishing production and slowing down the local and national development goals.

#### **4.2.4 Sub-theme 4: Economic effects**

Economic effects is the fourth sub-theme that emerged from the interviews on the effects of shebeens. Alcohol abuse as a result of the density of shebeens can have diverse economic consequences on the drinker, their immediate environment including families, and the society at large (Karki, 2016). With regard to this theme, participants expressed that shebeens have both positive and negative economic effects.

During the interviews, the majority of participants spoke about the issue of spending money on alcohol, as a contributing factor to individuals experiencing hardships in their lives. Some participants asserted that if some people are stressed or have problems, they normally go to shebeens to drink alcohol, with the hope that they will solve their problems. This upholds the views of Makubele (2012) who found that alcohol has an influence on the economic status of people who consume it. The author stated that alcohol use does not only affect the money spent on it and its influence of poverty, but it contributes to the harshness of poor people.

However, there are high probabilities that money will end being wasted on alcohol. Some participants strongly stated that people use up their little wages or salaries to buy alcohol, and as a result find themselves with no money to sustain them. Sometimes people end up using the little income they earn and spend it on alcohol, leaving no money to feed their families.

This has been echoed by a male participant below:

*“People mostly think they are solving problems by engaging into alcohol abuse, but they are creating more poverty in their lives”.*

*“They even put up gambling machines which are not even licensed. Salaries go in gambling machines because of gambling addiction, and when a person’s money is gone in the gambling machine, survival becomes difficult.”*

Some participants also stated that some shebeen patrons spend too much time at shebeens, using up their money just on alcohol rather than important things in their lives. Some end up spending their whole salaries and become stressed again, ultimately getting into poverty. These findings are similar to those of Zawaira (2009), who argued that poverty is mostly experienced by those who spend money on alcohol. Similarly, Bezuidenhout (2008) also agrees that substance abuse worsens the situations of those who are already living in poverty because people end up losing their family’s income to maintain their habits.

According to the report on Alcohol and Sustainable Development goals (2017), high expenditure on alcohol mostly affects deprived families and communities who are already in need of basic resources such as food and other basic needs. The study revealed that people living in lower socio-economic communities are mostly exposed to, and are vulnerable to the negative effects of alcohol use, which results in the cycle of deprivation as, most of this vulnerability is passed on to the younger generation (IOGT international, 2017). In the view of the researcher, shebeens will not only contribute to excessive alcohol use, but will also negatively affect the socio-economic development of the country by contributing to poverty.

Most participants were of the opinion that people who live in close proximity of shebeens are unlikely to develop themselves because they spend too much time at shebeens, which results in poverty for many. They pointed out that the culture of too many shebeens in community further results a culture of alcohol consumption, which slows down people and the community's development. These views are shared by Bruhns (2014) who asserted that Namibia has become a country of drunkards where alcohol and drug abuse limits the chances of upward socio-economic mobility for most young people. Bruhns (2014) stated that shebeens are currently perceived as recreational facilities in Namibia. This means that most young people are drawn to shebeens to socialize with their peers, while in the meantime, engaging in binge drinking and wasting too much time at shebeens, which limits their time to go and look for job opportunities or other opportunities in life.

According to the participants, children who are raised up in the Greenwell Matongo Community may be affected by shebeens to the point where they can drop out of school, and this might result in limited future prospects. Some participants alluded that alcohol availability triggers alcohol abuse, and people who spend most of their times at shebeens will not have time to find other things to do and develop themselves apart from drinking. This has been echoed strongly by the one participant below:

*“Even poverty, poverty itself is also being caused by this alcohol within families, and all those things. The upbringing of children will also not be effective because people no longer have the time to nurture the children, and as a result, children will be growing up in houses where all such things are happening. A lot might affect them, such that they cannot move forward, their schools will be affected, and even the thoughts of becoming entrepreneurs will not come to them, therefore they will not be able to do anything. All such things result into a stagnant society that is not developing further. If you have 10*

*people, and within those people you have only have 3 people who are thinking positively, they are too few because we can't really have all of them progressing. Therefore, if all 7 people are alcoholics and you are thinking about the future of the whole country, that means the country will not go forward, especially with the youth. They will not be thinking of how they can develop the country, they just don't have time anymore because they use most of their time and lifestyle in alcohol.” (Male participant)*

Literature contains similar sentiments with Karnani (2011) stating that people adhering to societal norms such as that of visiting shebeens regularly have a tendency of not taking initiatives to develop themselves. The general view of most participants in the study regarding the theme on the effects of shebeen was that, shebeens create employment to most people who are unable to find formal jobs. The participants indicated that shebeens are meeting the government half way in terms of job creation in the country, even though it has more negative effects on the residents and community at large.

Almost all the participants emphasized that people who are employed in the shebeen businesses are earning the little that they can use to feed their families, and without shebeens, they will then be earning no income to sustain themselves and their families. Some participants also expressed that it is very difficult to get a formal job when a person does not have qualifications, therefore they opt for shebeen jobs, for livelihood. Such remarks were confirmed by some participants, as stated below:

*“Sometimes when you do not have a Grade 10 or a Grade 12 certificate, you have nowhere to get a job, you just go to shebeens to look for employment because you will not find a good job anywhere”.*

Another participant stated the following:

*“According to my point of view, shebeens sometimes to my understanding are actually many people’s source of living, so that’s where they make money from, thus they make a living out of it”.*

The majority of participants perceive shebeens as a way of creating employment to the Namibian people. Participants noted that there are quite a number of people in Namibia who are unemployed, and shebeens provide them with incomes to sustain themselves and their families. The findings have also revealed that shebeens are meeting the Namibian government half way when it comes to job creation and employment, resulting in socio-economic development. There are very few or no job opportunities in the government. Consequently, shebeens are operating as sources of employment creation.

As reported by Bruhns (2014), Namibia’s high unemployment reflects the incapacity of creating employment to both professional and semi-skilled young people. Namibia is currently unable to absorb young people, especially school leavers, into the job mainstream, because of its economic crisis, and this is leaving the young people with no choice but to be absorbed in shebeen industry (Bruhns, 2014). Currently the overall employment of Namibia is 34.0% which has increased at the rate of 6.1% compared to 2014 when the rate was 27.9% (Namibia Statistic Agency, 2017). Whereas, in 2017, Namibia’s youth unemployment rate was estimated at 45.43% (The statistics portal, n.d).

It is worthwhile to note that people lack skills and knowledge to be entrepreneurial and start businesses. In addition, there are many people who do not have the needed qualifications to be employed in formal employment. The findings of this study are consistent with the literature by Seibes (2004), who stated that the shebeen business is part of the informal sector, which has been observed to be one of the economic survival strategies for people who cannot find employment in the formal sector to sustain their livelihoods.

The participants are of the opinion that shebeens cause economic difficulties in families, particularly where some family members abuse/misuse alcohol. The availability of shebeens encourages people to use up their little income that they have on alcohol. Thus, their basic needs are jeopardized at the cost of alcohol, putting them at risk of poverty. When parents or guardians fail to take responsibilities, families suffer indirectly as they fall into poverty. This relationship was also observed by Zawaira (2009), who theorized that people who abuse alcohol mostly experience poverty.

The participants also revealed that the people who are living in the Greenwell Matongo Community are exposed to so much alcohol, and have developed a tendency of spending too much time at the shebeens, mostly during their productive time. As a result, they do not get any time to think constructively and develop themselves further to become successful in life. Some participants also asserted that children who grow up in such an environment find it difficult to succeed because they mostly follow their peers, parents and neighbors' behaviors. If a child is raised in an alcohol drinking community, they are likely to fall prey to this behavior, and endure in that poverty cycle.

#### 4.2.5 Subtheme 5: Increase in crime

Increase in crime was one of the subthemes that emerged prominently in the responses on the effects of shebeens in the community. All participants confirmed this effect.

Some of the participants stated that shebeens contribute to an unsafe environment. The mushrooming of shebeens results in too many people visiting the area, overcrowding the area and creating the fear of free movement of residents in the neighborhood. It was pointed out that residents are afraid to go out of their homes most of the times because there are often people standing everywhere in the streets, even next to their homes. This mushrooming of shebeens creates uncertainty among residents when it comes to identification as to which of the people are robbers and which ones are shebeen patrons, which further creates fear and feeling of insecurity in their lives. This was revealed by one participant in his own words in the statement below:

*“You don’t have time anymore even to rest, even to walk in the street. It has become dangerous to you, because people are too many that are roaming around the street. You know how Windhoek is when it comes to crime, so one will never know if the people standing in the streets or next to the shebeen might do something to them.”*

He further stressed the following:

*“In an unsafe environment, even you as a person, when you walk in the street, you don’t feel like you are in a free and democratic country. You rather walk*

*like you are walking in a country where you expect to be attacked anytime, just because of a shebeen.”*

The study discovered that shebeens create unsafe neighborhoods; therefore people develop a fear to move around the street. One participant confirmed so through the statement below.

*“It becomes a danger to the residents, because people are too many that are roaming around the street. And because there are people everywhere, it results in the community becoming overcrowded.”*

As part of this study, phone grabbing has been revealed as one of the most reported crime in the area, which is a security issue in the community. The participants revealed that there are so many young boys who grab people’s phones and other personal belongings. Sadly, it is no longer safe for people to move around with their personal belongings. In addition, residents have no freedom to move around their neighborhood because of strange people being sighted everywhere due to the mushrooming of shebeens, male participants shared the comments below:

*“One never knows if the people who are standing in the street or next to the shebeens might do something to him/her, therefore such a tendency is also putting residents in danger, such that they are forced to go home early, and if they go late, it makes them think they might be in danger. In situations where people stand in streets or next to shebeens, the environment becomes risky and unsafe.*

The study also revealed that shebeens force some parents to strictly confine their children inside the houses, which also negatively affects children's communication and social skills. Parents are forced to do so, as children are exposed to too many dangerous and negative things happening at shebeens, which puts them at risk of behaving in the same manner.

The majority of participants shared that shebeens are contributing to crimes such as fights among people, and people stabbing each other when they are under the influence of alcohol. The participants expressed that when people are under the influence of alcohol, they are likely to engage into misunderstandings, and as a result they end up fighting and stabbing each other, or even killing each other. These views are consistent with those of Stewart (2005), who pointed out that a community of alcohol outlets is mostly associated with more assaults and other types of violence. Hence, there is a clear indication that there is a relationship between communities with a high density of alcohol and violence.

A neighborhood where there is a high density of alcohol promotes alcohol consumption and creates a source of antisocial behaviors like being violent. Similarly, in a study by Franklin, LaVeist, Webster, and William (2010) it was revealed that there is a close link between alcohol density and crimes such as robbery and assault. Setlalentoa, Ryke and Strydom (2015) also confirmed these findings by stating that assaults take place at drinking places, and at times the patrons die as a result of fights and injuries sustained.

Some participants argued that some fights just happen in the street because shebeens are everywhere, and people that are fighting can start throwing stones or bottles. This can be unsafe to whoever is found in the street, even children are at risk of being harmed because when stones

and bottles are thrown, they can land anywhere. Some of the responses from the participants are as follows:

*“Because of the high number of shebeens in one area, there will be a high number of killings, robbery and many other crimes, and is not a good thing having them in one area.”* (Female Participant)

The same participant added:

*“When you own a shebeen, you might find people fighting at your place, which means that you have to intervene in order to avoid problems, however, the possibility of being injured is very high.”*

*“You’ll always hear the sirens of the police coming to the shebeen because somebody has been stabbed or people were fighting. There are always fights.”*

When the participants were asked about housebreaking in the community, the majority confirmed that there are indeed several reports of housebreaking in the community. Some participants indicated that shebeens attract too many people in the community, which makes it easier for thieves to break into people’s houses because the residents do not know which people are patrons of shebeens, and which ones are just robbers. Furthermore, some participants pointed out that people end up losing their belongings in this community due to housebreaking. With respect to housebreaking, one participant (a police officer) made a statement below.

*“Instead of people leaving at night under the influence of alcohol to go break in houses, they will not have those thoughts or raping, and all*

*these things. All such things happen because of the consumption of alcohol at midnight.” (Male participant)*

The participant continued:

*“Housebreaking and violence happen mainly during weekends and month ends, those are the times when we get such complaints. Once people finish drinking, that is when the thieves also get their chances to commit their criminal activities. The shebeens attract so many people including thieves especially that the shebeen owners bring in DJs. At the end of the day, thieves end up breaking in people’s houses.”*

Another participant said:

*“Some people, especially those that commit crimes are the ones that drink until midnight. Those that spend the whole day drinking are the same people that will continue drinking till midnight, so it is clear that this is creating all these crimes.” (Male participant)*

Some participants articulated that excessive drinking results in domestic violence in some homes. It is one of the contributing factors to poor communication among families, fights among couples and other intimate relationships. Excessive drinking has caused some homes to become unbearable to some members of the families, exposing children to violence. The participants revealed that some family members go to shebeens to drink and socialize and they

become intoxicated, causing them to react violently toward their families when they get back from shebeens. The following statements have been echoed by a community leader.

*“It is very disappointing that you can find a man drunk, who can sometimes enter the house while the mother is sleeping with the children, but is asking for food. I have experienced a similar situation in this office whereby sometimes it is the husband that comes and report that the wife goes to drink and gets home in the middle of the night. She starts disturbing the husband who was left with the children. For cases like this, the majority are mainly men, but such an issue causes a lot of problems in houses, and there is no more peace in many houses as a result of alcohol. The other person does not even care, and does not even understand anything.” (Male Participant)*

He continued:

*“There are a lot of people reporting cases like: husband and wife, are just having problems at home.”*

Domestic violence and Gender-based violence has become a daily reported social issue in various media reports as a result of alcohol. Children are then exposed to such violence, leaving them traumatized. Similarly, Setlalentoa *et al.* (2015) indicated that the increases in domestic violence incidences are mostly associated with alcohol. Therefore, there is a critical need to

review environmental practices such as the presence of shebeens and its effects on violence so as to create safe communities for children.

Participants indicated that shebeens are the cause of most of the crimes that are committed in the community because they attract too many people to the community. These findings are similar to those of Campbell *et al.* (2009), who argued that a society with high number of alcohol outlets attracts a high number of people, which makes it easier for criminality and violence to infiltrate the society. To that effect, participants stated that the community becomes too overcrowded, which creates fear around the safety of the residents. The study further revealed that the crime rate in Namibia is increasing because of the shebeens which are being entertained by the Namibian Government through poor and ineffective shebeen monitoring system. It is evident from these findings that shebeens contribute to major economic effects, which negatively affect the country.

#### **4.3 Objective 2: Theme 2: Experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent letters for opening shebeens**

This section presents the participants views on the experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent letters for opening shebeens. The subthemes presented in this section are: lack of knowledge on the shebeen consent form, bribery and intimidation, lack of obligatory right to say no, sense of loyalty towards the neighbours, and general sense of support. The subthemes are explained below in more detail.

##### **4.3.1 Subtheme 1: Lack of Knowledge on shebeen consent form**

As part of the interview, most participants indicated that they do not have any knowledge on the shebeen consent form. However, despite the fact that the majority are not aware of it, some of the participants pointed out that they are aware of it. Overall, the participants stated that there is lack of knowledge in the community about the shebeen consent form. Some participants shared the following sentiments:

*“Maybe we are not aware, but we are not sure, or sometimes we don’t even read what we are given, but rather put down our signatures. This is because the owner of the bar will just come and say, I want to put my small bar here, it will only be a small thing and will not be big, I just want you to put your signature here. You just sign because you don’t know your rights. We sometimes don’t know our rights.”* (Male participant).

Another participant echoed:

*I think the community should be educated, concerning the shebeens to be put up in future, and about the effects that they will have on them, their children and their community at large, because it might be that they do not always know what they are signing for. Sometimes when you are approached, you just sign because you want to be nice to your neighbor, so you obviously say ‘yes its fine, let me sign’, but tomorrow and the day after tomorrow it might have negative consequences on you, such that your children might start going to the shebeen, and the noise might be too much. In the case where maybe the majority of community members have signed and I decide not to sign because of the noise, and because I understand the negative impacts of the shebeens, I feel that the community needs to be educated on how and why people are signing because I feel they probably don’t know what they are signing for.”* (Female participant)

*“No because we have never been approached, and no one has ever come to us to give us that or ask us to do so.” (Female participant)*

From a researcher’s point of view, the lack of knowledge of consent forms indicate that the community is not empowered in matters that requires their inputs and this affects their to make informed decisions in regards to shebeen consent forms.

#### **4.3.2 Subtheme 2: Bribery and Intimidation**

Sinvula (2015) stated that bribery is a form of corruption that is highly practiced mostly in businesses. Bribery may be practiced in private or public sectors by paying individuals or public servants or provide other gifts to influence their administrative decisions on their duties. The interests of operating shebeens by many people and lengthy processes of obtaining shebeen licenses provide a base for bribery. People are often intimidated to find easy ways to get what they want. With this in mind, the shebeen business can highly involve bribery and intimidations of residents from shebeen owners to get what they want.

The findings affirm that some community members are bribed to sign the consent forms for shebeen owners. This has been confirmed by some participants, who expressed that people are bribed with either food or even alcohol to sign the shebeen consent form. In that regard, residents are bribed through promises for them to sign the consent forms. Some residents are bribed to give consent for the shebeen license. Here are some comments made by a female participant:

*“Maybe at that moment when they were asked to give consent they were bribed somehow, either with beer or whatever, or something like that or maybe they were even told it will create jobs for their kids even or maybe I don’t know.”*

In addition to the above statement, a male participant stated:

*“Yaaaa and people are also smart; sometimes the owner of the shebeen can bribe the neighbors so that means they already earn their favors by bribing them.”*

Another participant added:

*“Ya they know that they will benefit something, you can promise a certain amount month end.” (shebeen owner)*

From an ethical point of view, bribery is an immoral and illegal act. Even though it is impossible to do away with bribery, matters on this issue should be addressed at community level by educating the community on the consequences of this immoral act.

The participants expressed that some residents who sign the shebeen consent forms are sometimes intimidated by the shebeen owners, as a result ending up just signing. They further explained that some shebeen owners will approach them every other time, going to the resident’s houses, which many times becomes annoying to the residents, but leading them to sign the consent forms just to get rid of them. If residents say no, they are intimidated and they will have no option.

### 4.3.3 Subtheme 3: No Obligatory Rights to say No

The majority of participants expressed that residents are not aware of their rights in terms of signing the shebeen consent forms. They pointed out the community members that sign the shebeen consent forms feel obliged to sign them when approached. It was revealed that when the residents are approached they are left with no choice but to sign the shebeen consent forms regardless of the negative effects that the shebeens have on the community. Thus, two of the participants stated:

*“Like to the neighbors, you just have to sign because it is the neighbor, not because you want a bar at the house or at the neighbors you just do them a favour... what can I say? To give the person that help because you will also need help, you just do it to help but it is not because you want a bar. You do not want it, you just feel bad when the bar opens because you have children in the house. You just do it for a person.”* (Female participant)

She continued and said:

*“Sometimes it is because you cannot say no.”*

Against the above background, it is essential that it should be made clear to the residents that they are not obliged to sign the shebeen consent forms when they do not feel comfortable to do so, given their personal reasons. At times some residents might be aware of the negative impacts of the shebeens, and may feel like refusing to sign the consent forms; however, if they don't know that they have the right to do so, they might end up signing. Thus, obligatory rights to say no should be in place. This could be through the amendment of the Liquor Act or simply

the shebeen consent forms, such that there should be a clause that says “no one is obliged to sign the consent forms if they do not feel like doing so”.

#### **4.3.4 Subtheme 4: Sense of loyalty to neighbour**

The majority of participants agreed that residents sign shebeen consent forms to maintain good relationships with neighbors. This came out strongly from most participants. They expressed that a neighbor is a very important person in their lives, so it becomes difficult to refuse to assist him/her when in need. Furthermore, the participants stated that if neighbors refuse to assist each other, it creates tension and hatred among them, which affects their relationships. So in order to keep the Ubuntu spirit, they just have to sign the shebeen consent forms for their neighbors. Community members feel that they have to sign the shebeen consent form to keep a good relationship among neighbors and they do not have the right to say no to someone trying to make means for themselves. The idea behind is that the participants feel that if they do not sign the consent forms, then they are not loyal to their neighbors.

One female participant stated the following:

*“They help each other, if a person is assisting you, it is better than those who are not assisting you so you are given a guarantee that if I am in trouble, this person will be able to assist me and I can tolerate them because I get something from that person.”*

This sense of ‘ubuntu’ has tremendous effects as despite the apparent effects of shebeens, community members feel obliged to consent as they know that they might need assistance from those shebeen owners in future.

#### **4.3.5 Subtheme 5: General sense of support**

The general view of participants in this study regarding the experiences of signing shebeen consent forms is that, shebeen licenses are issued based on the number of people who sign the consent forms. In most case, the numbers of people who will sign the consent forms will outweigh that of those against the establishment of shebeens. Under such circumstances, those against the establishment of shebeens will feel hopeless.

One participant made the following comment:

*“So it is not up to the one that disagreed, so we work according to the majority rule in this country”*

#### **4.4: OBJECTIVE 2**

In order to achieve the second research objective, the researcher explored experiences of Greenwell Matongo Community members on shebeen consent forms. The study found that the majority of participants lack knowledge on the shebeen consent forms. The participants expressed that the community lacks information on what a shebeen consent form is, and that they were not educated on their rights to give consent to shebeen owners. However, some participants perceive that signing the shebeen consent form is an obligation to residents, such that they have to do it without any justification or reason to refuse. They asserted that the

residents that sign the consent form do it without considering the consequences of shebeens, as they mostly want to maintain good relationships with their neighbors.

Some participants also pointed out that some shebeen owners bribe and intimidate residents to sign for the forms, while others are of the opinion that the shebeen owners approach residents that they know personally, who could sign in their favor. Participants further expressed that community members need to be informed on what the consent form is all about and what their rights are in terms of dealing with the shebeen consent form. The majority of participants indicated that shebeen licenses are issued based on the majority rule, which is not fair to those who are against shebeens in the neighborhood. For instance, if five of the residents sign the consent form, and five of them refuse, the probability of the shebeen owner to be issued a license is maximum. However, this does not make sense for other residents who are not in agreement with the consent form. Therefore with such cases, participants feel that their voices are not represented due to the issue of majority rule, particularly because some residents have been bribed, or intimidated to give their consent.

The study found that there is a high possibility of shebeen owners forging residents' signatures in order to acquire the shebeen license. This has been revealed by the participants, who indicated that most of them have been living in the neighborhood for more than 3 years but majorities were never approached to give the shebeen consent. However, there are a lot of shebeens that have started operating in their neighborhood without resident's knowledge. In short, the study observes that there is lack of knowledge in the community regarding the shebeen consent, and that there is an outcry for residents to be well informed on the shebeen

consent, and to be made aware of their rights to partake in the process of obtaining shebeen licenses.

The study revealed that police officers mostly carry out patrol operations when there are crimes in the community, but not when it comes to illegal shebeens. According to the participants, the majority of shebeens are operating without licenses and the police is fully aware of this. Another indication in the study worthy of note is that too many shebeen licenses are being issued with no proper assessment on the requirements of shebeen licenses. It has also been revealed that there is no limit as to how many shebeens one could own. One person can acquire as many shebeen licenses as they can, which contributes to the mushrooming of shebeens in the community. Furthermore, some participants indicated that there is a lot of corruption involved when it comes to the issuing of licenses, as some people are bribed.

#### **4.5 Objective 3: Theme 3: Assessing the shebeen monitoring system**

In order to manage and mitigate the negative effects of shebeens and alcohol, it is important to have effective policy measures in place (Lutta, 2016). Effective policies are required in place for the implementation of the law, and also to assist in networking collaborations with other stakeholders and institutions responsible for implementing it (Wachira, 2014).

The Government of the Republic of Namibia has put in place the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 for the control of the sale and supply of liquor. Methods of reducing the density of alcohol outlets have not been clearly stated in the Act, apart from the role of the police in monitoring illegal shebeens. It also emphasizes on the requirements of liquor licenses. Many

scholars have researched on the effects of alcohol outlets and alcohol consumption; however, studies on assessing the control of alcohol outlets have been slightly ignored.

It is worth noting that the mushrooming of shebeens in particular is an alarming social issue which requires the implementation of the Liquor Act to be visible, and the role of other stakeholders involved in the control of outlets and supply of alcohol to be made clear.

#### **4.3.1 Subtheme 1: Police Control**

The Namibian Police and the City Police have a mandate to enforce by-laws set by the Namibian Government. The Namibian Police in particular has been given the authority to monitor shebeens that are not complying with the law by closing them down, and facilitate the process of issuing fines when one is found guilty of non-compliance with the Liquor Act (No. 6 of 1998). The City Police is part of the department of city police in city of Windhoek. The City Police only operates in Windhoek to complement the Namibian police in terms of, Crime Prevention, Law Enforcement, Traffic Policing and Enforcement of by Laws. City police have no mandate to investigate criminal cases (City police business portal, n.d). The Namibian police and City police are also responsible for ensuring that all shebeens in Windhoek are registered, and in possession of the requirements of acquiring shebeens to become formal.

Most participants indicated that the police is trying its best to control the establishment of illegal shebeens, and those that operate after hours by conducting patrol operations, however, it has not been effective. Some participants pointed out that the police is more visible in the neighborhood at month end, when it enquires for shebeen licenses, and close shebeens that are

operating after their stipulated operation hours. However, some participants indicated that the shebeens are too many, which makes it difficult for the police to control and monitor them all. This means that the police is ineffectively controlling shebeens, which is affecting their regulation.

Some participants also expressed that the police usually conduct shebeen patrols during weekends of month-ends which is such a short time, and is not enough to monitor the shebeens operating after their stipulated times, as well as the illegal ones. They stated that the majority of shebeens do not close on time, but rather operate as they desire, because the shebeen owners know that the police will rarely patrol in the middle of the month. As highlighted earlier, the patrol exercise conducted by police is mostly to monitor criminal activities in the neighborhood but not necessarily looking out for shebeens operating illegally or after hours. A police officer stated:

*“You only have operation because we want to see who is committing crime like an arrest so everything is running, so me I check in the street just to get them just to keep them safe at the shebeen. Imagine you are 2 police officers you come at the shebeen where there are around 100 people. Your life is also in danger as a police officer. What are you going to do nothing?”*

He continued:

*“No operation is done regarding the illegal shebeens, they just operate on their own, full stop”*

Hence there is poor control over the shebeens from the law enforcers, which contributes to the mushrooming of illegal shebeens in the society. Participants stated that illegal shebeens that are allowed to operate normally until 22h00, however, this does not address the issue of illegal shebeens, and it however promotes the mushrooming of shebeens and alcoholism in the society.

On the illegal operation, a male participant narrated the following:

*“Yes, the police does monitor illegal shebeens but is not really effective because of the law cannot be fully be implemented. Yes, they do monitor just by emphasizing that shebeens should operate, but owners should obey the law. This refers to those with licenses. However, those owners with licenses are now complaining that illegal shebeens are affecting their businesses because almost in every third house there is just a shebeen, and this has affected the income generated from the legal shebeens, so now we don’t have any choice.”*

These findings are similar with the observations made by Niikondo (2006) who stated that the if illegal shebeens are allowed to operate from 10h00 to 00h00. For this reason, anyone who is interested in operating a shebeen business will not be encouraged to seek for a shebeen license because they can still operate shebeen without a license. The narrative report of safe shebeen project in Cape Town, South Africa has stated that the majority of shebeens continue to operate in non-compliance with the law. This reduces the effectiveness of government strategies in the reduction of alcohol supply and regulations of shebeen operating hours (Safe Shebeen Narrative Report, 2018).

On the other hand, both illegal and legal shebeens contribute to high alcohol consumption, which leads to social problems. Even though there is no clear distinctive on which shebeens

contribute to socio-economic problems, more illegal shebeens means that communities will be flooded with a lot of shebeens, which will eventually influence the accessibility of alcohol and excessive alcohol drinking.

#### **4.3.2 Subtheme 2: Implementation of the Liquor Act**

Lutta (2016, p.7) defines implementation as a “plan or process that results into the achievement of the desirable goals of a given project”. This may involve the laws put in place to regulate and monitor shebeens, and control alcohol related problems. The Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 is currently the only law in place to control and regulate the sale of liquor. The implementation of this law will be measured by the extent to which law enforcers implement it, and how other non-governmental agencies assist in the prevention of alcohol related consequences.

The data collected from participants during interviews revealed that the Liquor Act is not being fully implemented as it should. Some participants expressed that the law does not speak to what is happening on the ground, and the reality of shebeens in the communities. Given this, it gives the community more reasons to criticize the law being put in place. Further to that, they added that there is lack of police manpower to fully implement the law, which can be attributed to the mushrooming of the shebeens. With so many shebeens in an area, it has become difficult for police officers to effectively carry out their tasks as required by law. Some participants agreed that the Liquor Act is a good law but the people who are supposed to implement it are not doing what they are supposed to do, mainly because of the fear of the people. Campbell, Hahn, Elder, Brewer *et al.*, (2009) are of the opinion that the local control of alcohol outlets can be limited by the state law when the government explicitly or implicitly prevents local authorities from

executing plans and regulate the increase of outlets. One participant elaborated on the above in a statement below:

*“So the police is really trying but it cannot be fully effective, because the law does not clearly state if the shebeens can be closed down. The police cannot do anything, it just emphasizes on illegal shebeens to be operating according to the stipulated hours of the law but then if they are not adhering to the operating times, and if they don’t have licences, then they can be closed down.”*(Police officer)

He continued and said:

*“Remember, if you find a place without a license, you have to take out all the alcohol in and remove it but how will you do that? In how many shebeens are you going to remove alcohol? And there are up to 99% shebeens without licences. It cannot happen. So the only thing you can do is to give these people a certain hour for them to operate”* (Police officer)

According to some participants, the police officers are scared to close up people’s shebeens because they are afraid to violate people’s rights and affect the sources of income for the owners and their employees.

Some participants stated the following:

*“I thank the government. The law is there and clear but it cannot be implemented because of the fear of the society.”*

*“Just as I have mentioned before, the Liquor Act is there, and there was an idea to close down all illegal shebeens, but the association of shebeens in Namibia has come in place to speak and represent the people’s interests. This association has provided various reasons raised by people, and has indicated that the people that were counted that are into shebeen business were a lot.*

From the findings, it is visible that the police are executing its duty in the control of shebeens, however, its strategies are not effective due to lack of resources in terms of manpower which also affects the enforcement of by-laws. Campell *et al.*, (2009) noted that the density of alcohol outlets affects the ways in which policies are implemented and enforced. Lutta (2016) also pointed out that lack of administration officers to conduct patrols affects the implementation of the Act. Given the fact that the Namibian Police and City Police are facing a problem with manpower, the problem of effectively executing its task is very limited. The Namibian Constitution does not allow the violation of human rights, and everyone is required to respect and uphold fundamental human rights.

From the researcher’s point of view, strategies to close down illegal shebeens will not be fully exercised because law enforcers will feel that the law is opposing to the issue of respecting human rights. However, the country should find ways to limit the sale of alcohol and control of shebeens by limiting the density of shebeens in communities.

### **4.3.3 Subtheme 3: Corruption**

Corruption is a form of deception or dishonest by an individual or organization aimed at benefiting unduly under false presentation (Begovic, 2014). It involves the abuse of public resources to one's own benefits. According to Sinvula (2015), corruption in business activity is mostly observed through bribery and extortion. Most entrepreneurs opt to bribe public officials because of the complexity of legislations associated with business, such as following the rules of legislation, which may be lengthy and costly. As a result, corruption might continue to be practiced in a long run, such that it will influence some entrepreneurs who do not want to violate the law (Sinvula, 2015).

Almost all the participants in the study confirmed that shebeens are not monitored effectively because of the corruption being practiced by law enforcement officials, and by the administrative law enforcers, especially those responsible for issuing shebeen licenses. The participants also expressed that some shebeen licenses are acquired through back doors i.e. without following the right procedures and without meeting the requirements of the shebeen license. The following were statements were made by one participant:

*“Corruption is very high in Namibia. Some of the licenses are acquired through deceitful ways, even though some are given according to the right procedures. Some people have friends in the offices where licenses are awarded, who help them acquire those, although they do not meet all the requirements, in exchange of money, like maybe two thousand.” (Female Participant)*

Another participant stated the following:

*“The root of the problem is that, corruption is done in the court. I can go I pay this person, and he gives me the license.” (Police Officer)*

He continued:

*I would say 98% of the shebeens acquired their licenses through scam or through corruption, and majority of the shebeens that we have are shacks. Remember, if you are having a shack as a shebeen, according to the law you are not allowed to have a license. That means we are having almost 99% of the shebeens operating without licenses.”*

Lutta (2016) conducted a study on corruption and enforcement personnel as factors that influence the implementation of alcohol and drug abuse policies in Nairobi. The study learnt that the police department is the most corrupt department, which contributes to the weakening of enforcement of policies, as revealed by 95% of the participants. Smit (2012) reveals similar observations and notes that some shebeens are approved without meeting the requirements of obtaining shebeen licenses but they are allowed to operate. This implies that corruption is practiced by the enforcement or administrative personnel, who are in fact supposed to prevent it by all means.

The study conducted by Smith (2012) brought to light that the process of acquiring the liquor license is lengthy, which lead people to look for other options of acquiring liquor licenses or to operate without licenses. Based on that study, some law enforcers such as police officers are the ones operating some shebeens, which then become a challenge, as it is difficult for them to enforce the law on their own businesses, especially when they are operating illegally or operating after hours.

Some participants also indicated that some police officers are bribed by shebeen owners while some of them are friends with shebeen owners, which affects the implementation of the Act. Lutta (2016) revealed that bar owners can operate beyond the operation hours because they bribe police officers. In this study, 50.8% of the respondents revealed that corruption takes place in form of bribery and extortion by police, chiefs, shebeen owners; which further affects the implementation of the liquor Act. Despite that fact, the government relies on shebeen owners to help with the implementation of the Act.

#### **4.3.4 Subtheme 4: Ignorance**

Ignorance in this context can be attributed to people who lack knowledge or unable to accumulate knowledge concerning the effects of shebeens in the community. Summers (2007) note that ignorance refers to lack of knowledge about something that one should have. Ignorance may be perceived as a sole factor to lessen the rate of one's personal growth and development in any given situation (Amsterdam, 2010).

One participant pointed out that community members are ignorant, and are not taking action when illegal shebeens are erected in their neighborhoods. In spite of the challenges brought along, they do not report the illegally established shebeens but only start complaining after the shebeens have already been operating for some time. This makes it difficult for law enforcers to close up shebeens that have been operating for some time. With respect to ignorance, one participant stated the following:

*“There is so much ignorance among the residents concerning the establishment of shebeens, however, when things get out of hand, that is when they want the police or government to act. By that time, it is too late.”*

It is evident that there is lack of community empowerment in taking action in matters that affect their lives; therefore there is a need for the community to be educated and empowerment in order for them to be able to air concerns that negatively impact their livelihood and communities.

#### **4.3.5 Subtheme 5: Responsibility of Councillor’s Office to monitor shebeens**

The study revealed that the Counselor’s office and the police officers are working closely to control crimes in the community, but are not necessarily monitoring the shebeens that are operating illegally and beyond the operating hours. It was further revealed that the Councillor’s Office is involved in raising community awareness, such that community members are informed as to where to report problematic shebeens. All crimes and problems related to shebeens are reported to the Councillor’s Office. The Councillor’s Office liaises with the Police Office to report the shebeens that are causing trouble in the neighborhood. However, concerning the monitoring of shebeens, majority of participants indicated that they are unaware of the councillor’s office role in the Greenwell Matongo Community.

The following statements were stated by a community leader:

*“No, we just do this exercise for the sake of crimes taking place in the community. With regard to minimizing shebeens, we cannot really do much*

*because this is an issue where the government is involved. Only when the shebeen owners are not obeying the law when it comes to the operating hours, but when they are doing so then we just let them go ahead with the operation. There is nothing that we can do, then we just encourage them to operate according to the hours stated by the law.”*

This confirms that the community is not well informed about the role of other stakeholders regarding the issue of shebeen monitoring in the community. The study findings also revealed that there is a poor monitoring system of shebeens, and that there is need to review the existing laws and monitoring systems in place in order to strengthen the shebeen monitoring system in Namibia. The issue of mushrooming of shebeens was revealed as one of the main issues in the community, and one of the contributing factors to many other social problems in Namibia. These sentiments are consistent with those of Stewart (2005), who is of the opinion that alcohol is highly consumed in communities, and that alcohol policies are essential tools in combating alcohol problems in societies. As part of the study, it was indicated that the operation of shebeens is poorly regulated by the relevant authority of under the government.

These findings confirm the report by the University of the Cape Town (2017), which asserts that the sale of alcohol in densely populated townships is highly unregulated. It is worthwhile to note that people take shebeens as an opportunity to venture into business because such type of business is inappropriately controlled and regulated. Thus the community is requesting for government's intervention, mainly to improve on the monitoring systems of shebeens.

This study strongly suggests that effective measures and policies dedicated to limiting alcohol density will mean reducing alcohol related problems, thus enhancing and creating a healthy alcohol environment, while improving the quality of life in communities. Generally, the neighborhood of the Greenwell Matongo Community is regarded as an area with a lot of business opportunities. However, the process of obtaining shebeen licenses is very lengthy, slow, and expensive to some shebeen owners who are unable to afford the license. Despite shebeens negative impacts, it is unfortunately not possible to close up shebeens because a lot of people will fall into the poverty trap, as they have no means of getting other income to sustain them and their families. The law is clear and wants to get away with illegal shebeens, however, it cannot be fully implemented due to concerns of high unemployment and poverty in the country.

#### **4.4 Summary**

This chapter presented and discussed the findings of the effects of shebeens, experiences around the issue of the shebeen consent form, and the monitoring of shebeens in the Greenwell Matongo Community. The first part of this chapter presented the demographic information of the participants, followed by the main findings presented in themes and sub-themes supported by relevant literature. The study revealed that shebeens contribute to too many social ills in the community and the community members are not pleased with such establishments. The next chapter presents the overall conclusion and recommendations.

## CHAPTER 5

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Chapter 4 presented the analysis of the data which were collected during interviews. The data of the study have been presented in themes and sub-themes, as outlined in the previous chapter. This chapter summarizes the study, and focuses on the conclusion of the findings and the recommendations that emerged from the study for future research and possible policy development.

The study adopted a qualitative design. As indicated earlier, the main purpose of the study was **“To explore the Greenwell Matongo community’s perception towards the effects of shebeens in their livelihoods.** In order to achieve this purpose, the researcher investigated the phenomenon on the community of Greenwell Matongo.

The study had 3 main objectives, namely:

1. To Appraise the community’s perception towards the effects of shebeens;
2. To assess the views and experiences of community members regarding the signing of consent letters for opening shebeens; and
3. To assess the shebeens’ monitoring system in the Greenwell Matongo Community.

Data was analyzed in the previous chapter, presenting the 3 objectives as themes. In the same chapter, literature and theory was used to substantiate, explain, compare and contrast the findings of this study. Chapter 5 provides a brief summary on each of the previous chapters, as well as the conclusion and recommendations based on the findings.

## **5.1 SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS**

This section provides a summary of the chapters.

### **Chapter 1: Orientation of the study**

This chapter provided a general orientation of the research study, and has presented the research aim and objectives, significance of the study and operational definitions of concepts needed to execute the study. The chapter further presented various definitions of concepts applicable to the study.

### **Chapter 2: Literature review: Overview of shebeens**

The second chapter presented the theoretical framework of the study. In this study, the ecological and social development theories were used to explain how shebeens affect people and the community at large. Furthermore, the chapter presented the historical development of shebeens in Africa, whereby the positive and negatives effects of shebeens were outlined. The chapter has also discussed the Namibian Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, which is the main legislation that governs the licensing of, and operation of shebeens, as well as the selling of alcohol in Namibia. The issue of shebeen licensing procedure in Namibia has also not been left out, as well as the community strategies which aim to reduce alcohol consumption. Last but not least, information on alcohol outlets in Namibia gathered from the literature has also been presented.

### **Chapter 3: Research methodology**

This research chose and used the phenomenology approach and an exploratory design, with a qualitative research approach as the best suited in seeking to achieve the aim of the study. Chapter 3 elaborated on the research methodology and on the steps involved in conducting a the research study. This chapter presented the research design (exploratory) and the approach (qualitative) employed. It also described the study population and the sampling method used, which is a non-probability method, specifically a purposive sampling strategy.

The chapter further described the research site and included a site map. In this study, a sample consisted of residents of the community of Greenwell Matongo, including shebeen owners was selected. Data were collected by means of semi-structured face-to-face interviews, using a voice recorder. In addition to the study design, approach, sampling and data collection procedures, this chapter also gave a highlight on the data analysis, and the ethical issues which were considered by the study.

### **Chapter 4: Presentation and discussion of data**

Chapter 4 presented a discussion of the main findings, which were presented in forms of themes and sub-themes that were generated from the in-depth interviews which were carried out. Overall, three themes were discussed, which were linked to the objectives of the study. To be specific, the objectives represent the main themes of the study. Out of the themes, several subthemes emerged. This chapter also presented the demographic information of the eighteen research participants. The subthemes, literature and theory were used to substantiate, explain, compare and contrast the findings of this study.

## **Chapter 5: Summary, conclusion and recommendations**

Lastly, Chapter 5 presents the summary of all chapters included in this thesis, conclusions of the objectives and recommendations of the study. It also provides recommendations that emerged from the study and for future research.

### **5.2 CONCLUSIONS**

The following conclusions were drawn based on the set objectives and according to the sub-themes that emerged in the study.

#### **Objective 1: Theme 1: The effects of shebeens**

Participants were able to share their perceptions and views on the effects of shebeens on their livelihood (both positive and negative effects). The findings of the study confirmed that the presence of shebeens in the community, specifically within residential areas have more negative effects compared to the positive effects on the residents, community and the nation at large. One of the main findings that emerged is the negative environmental effects of shebeens in the neighborhood. Shebeens contribute to a noisy environment coming from the music and the shebeen patrons, which causes sleep disturbances and poor concentration on academic studies. This is because shebeens have jukeboxes that are played continuously.

Apart from noise, shebeens are a risk factor to poor hygiene. This is because they are placed in neighborhoods where there is lack of proper sanitation. Most of the shebeens do not have toilets

for the customers. As a result, people urinate everywhere they find, which makes the environment smelly and unclean, further resulting in infections, and other communicable diseases such as Hepatitis A and flu. Even if some few shebeens have toilets, they are often ignored or not up to healthy standards to be used. Therefore, eliminating hazards and reducing environmental risks will greatly benefit people's health and positively contribute to attaining social goals.

High alcohol consumption was identified as a result of shebeens in the neighborhood. Further to that, the study has concluded that excessive drinking does not only affect the abuser's well-being but also affects the abuser's family and the entire society. Therefore if the issue of shebeens is not addressed, there will be high prevalence of alcoholism in Namibia. Generally, shebeens do not only have short term effects but can significantly contribute to long-term effects on personal development and community development in societies that are highly consuming alcohol.

Poor parenting was identified as one of the effects of shebeens. Parents spend too much time at shebeens, neglecting children and leaving them with poor supervision. In a normal family, children are supposed to be nurtured in a conducive environment where there is love and care. Sadly, children that are neglected often develop deviant behaviors, leading them to delinquency and dropping out of school, as well as anti-social behaviors. The study confirms that lack of parental supervision has numerous impacts on the child's future development.

Economic effects have also been identified among the effects of shebeens. The presence of shebeens results in people using family income for alcohol consumption. Basic needs such as

food are often neglected at the cost of alcohol. The study has concluded that shebeens contribute to the economic hardships, to some, which eventually leads to a poverty. It has therefore been concluded that people should be educated on how to utilize the resources they have on the needs that can sustain them, and also to provide financial literacy to community members.

Further to the economic effects, shebeens also contribute to an increase of crime in the community. The study confirmed that the presence of shebeens creates chances for criminality and unsafety in the environment. A high crime rate affects the residents, society and nation at large. The study concludes that, children and youth growing up in this environment will learn behaviors that they observe within this interactions of which may have a negative effect on their overall behaviors and social development.

### **Objective 2: Theme 2: Experiences with the shebeen consent form**

The participants shared their views of the experiences of signing shebeen consent form. The findings of the study confirmed that there is generally lack of knowledge among the community members on the shebeen consent forms that should be signed before a liquor license is awarded. The study revealed that community lacks knowledge on the shebeen consent form, some have never heard of it, and to some it is merely a form that they sign. However, the residents have not been well informed about their rights around dealing with the shebeen such forms, specifically whether they are allowed to say 'No' to signing them when approached. It is worth noting that there is a gap with regard to obtaining information on the shebeen consent among the residents, and this affects their decisions concerning signing of the form. Therefore, the

study concludes that there is a need to educate the residents on such forms and also empower them on their rights of choosing whether to sign consent forms or not.

Bribery and intimidation were revealed as being the main factors that lead people into signing the consent forms. The findings confirmed that shebeens do not only lack knowledge on the consent forms but some are also bribed to sign the form. Such a finding confirms that there is no honesty in the process of consenting for shebeens, but a mere corruption practice, which does not reflect the true support for shebeen operations in the community. Apart from that, residents are afraid to object to the signing of consent forms because they do not want to be victimized by their neighbors. Consequently, residents need to be empowered to freely take part in matters that affect their lives without any fear.

### **Objective 3: Theme 3: Shebeen monitoring system**

The participants shared how shebeens are being monitored and controlled in the neighborhood. The study revealed that there is poor control of shebeens, and that there is a weak system of monitoring their establishment and operation within the community, hence contributing to the mushrooming of shebeens. The study also found that the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 is not being fully implemented due to lack of police manpower and is thus ineffective to control the illegal shebeens that are allowed to operate, regardless of their illegality. This also contributes to the increase of shebeens in the neighborhood, with no proper control and monitoring.

The study also discovered that there are corruption practices being experienced among law enforcers, in the administration of courts, and among shebeens owners to acquire liquor licenses. Generally, corruption impacts the society in numerous ways. It can affect the lives of

people, and can diminish people's freedom, health and money. Overall, the cost of corruption can affect political, economic, social and environmental stability and development at large.

In general, ineffective shebeen monitoring can lead to more alcohol related problems in the country such as excessive drinking and criminality. To this, the study has concluded that the control system of shebeens should be made stiffer to get away with illegal shebeens and those that are operating after the operation hours. The study realise that closing down illegal shebeens will be a difficult decision to make for the government because it will contribute to an increase in the unemployment rate because government cannot stimulate sufficient jobs for the youth.

### **5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Various issues around the effects of shebeens in the Greenwell Matongo have been identified, and therefore need to be addressed. The identified issues include: registration of shebeens, awarding of shebeen licenses, monitoring of shebeens, inadequate implementation of the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998, dearth of information on communities' rights around the signing of consent forms, timely response to community's complaints, general law enforcement, mushrooming of shebeens, the need for employment opportunities, clarity on the role of the councilor's office, and poor parenting as a result of alcohol abuse. For this reason, recommendations have been made to the relevant authorities and stakeholders, as presented in the sections below.

#### **5.3.1 City of Windhoek**

The City of Windhoek (CoW), which is the local authority responsible for the Windhoek City, specifically the Business Registration and Finance Division, has the responsibility to ensure

that all businesses operating in Windhoek are registered, and that their registration is accompanied by all necessary documents required to register the business of choice, shebeens in this context. It has been realized that some shebeens are operating without documents such as shebeen licenses. Therefore the following recommendations have been made to CoW.

- Only shebeens that have all required documents should be allowed to operate.
- Strict monitoring operations should be conducted to identify the illegally operating shebeens in order to close them down.
- Fitness certificates should only be provided to shebeens owners when their shebeens meet the required criterion of operation.
- All prospective shebeen owners applying for shebeen licenses should meet all the necessary requirements.

Awareness around the issuing of the shebeen consent forms should be raised among the community. This will help ensure that people approached with such forms are not intimidated.

### **5.3.2 Law enforcers (Namibian Police and City of Windhoek)**

The role of the Namibian Police and City Police cannot be ignored in implementing what the law has put in place. These are very important departments that are there to ensure that the law has been fully implemented. With regard to law enforcement, the following recommendations have been made in efforts to improve the current state of the implementation of the Liquor Act No. 6 of 1998.

- Police officers should conduct more patrols on shebeens in order to identify the illegal ones, and implement what the law has put in place.
- City Police and the Namibian Police should respond to residents' complaints timely when they are reporting issues around illegal and problematic shebeens.
- The law enforcement officers (Namibian Policy and City Police) should enforce by laws.

### **5.3.3 The Government of Namibia (Law makers)**

The Namibian Government, specifically the law makers have a huge responsibility to ensure that policies and legislations have been put in place do not affect the well-being of its people or hinder the national development. In that regard, the study has recommended the following to the Government:

- Alcohol outlets should not be allowed to operate in close proximity of residential areas. In essence, shebeens should have an area where they can all operate from.
- The shebeen monitoring system should be strengthened in efforts to control and avoid the mushrooming of shebeen within communities.
- More police officers should be recruited to conduct all relevant operations, with hope for success.
- A strategy should be developed and implemented to address corruption in Namibia.
- The requirements of acquiring a shebeen license stipulated in the liquor Act No. 6 of 1998 should be amended to fit the structure of shebeens in poor communities.

- Stricter rules and fines on the shebeen monitoring system should be included in the Liquor Act and should be fully implemented.
- Universal trading hours for all shebeens should be set, and all operations should strictly stick to those. Special liquor license should only be given to alcohol outlets that do not operate within residential areas.
- No televisions should be allowed in shebeens because children that live in houses which do not have televisions can easily be attracted to such shebeens, and as a result will eventually be exposed to alcohol and start drinking at an early age.
- Create job other opportunities for youth to prevent the necessity for shebeen owners.
- People should be empowered to have entrepreneurship mindsets. At the moment, many people in the community lack entrepreneurship mindsets, therefore they should be taught how to become entrepreneurs and should not just waiting on the government to recruit them. There is a lot of potential for business opportunities, however, ideas for such are lacking – which is why many people rather opt to look for jobs
- Opportunities for SMEs and other business enterprises should be provided, and loans should be given to establish other businesses than shebeens.
- The number of shebeens should be limited per community.
- The number of licenses per person should be limited.
- Recreational facilities such as swimming pools, sport fields that are close to the people and that are affordable to people living in poor communities should be provided. This will keep young people busy and not spend time at shebeens.

#### **5.3.4 Councillor's Office**

The Councilor's Office acts as a link between the community and the government. It functions as the middle man between the community and its stakeholders. Alcohol outlets have a role to

play in the increase of alcohol abuse, which is the cause of many social problems. Therefore in cases that involve problems associated with alcohol abuse and other social ills, the Councilor's Office has a responsibility to ensure that community's problems are identified, and that they are presented at the national level to be addressed. The following recommendation has been made to the Councilor's Office.

- As many community meetings as possible should be held to educate the community on the role of the councillor's office with regard to combating the issue of problematic shebeens and the mushrooming of shebeens.

#### **5.3.5 Community members**

Community members are fundamental systems for policy implementation. It is therefore vital for the community members to take part and be involved in the change process that can contribute to a harmonise environment. The following recommendations are directed to community members.

- Community members should conduct meetings with the shebeen owners and collectively raise their voices and concerns regarding shebeens in their community.
- Community members should collectively take part in matters that concerns their lives and wellbeing.

### **5.3.6 Ministry of Health and Social Services (Social Workers)**

Social work has an important role in helping people to improve the quality of their lives by creating awareness in the community on social ills. In view of social services, the study has recommended the following to the social workers:

- Community awareness campaigns on the effects of shebeens and alcohol should often be conducted.
- Educational talks should be conducted with parents who spend so much time at shebeens, and educate them on parental roles and responsibilities.
- Counselling should be provided to alcohol addicts.

### **5.4 Recommendation for future research**

The study recommends more research to be conducted on the issue of shebeens and alcohol abuse in order to add valuable information to the knowledge gained through this study, and to the already existing literature. The more the academic literature on the phenomenon is in place, the more the knowledge and the insight of the subject matter will be available for policy makers and other stakeholders. So far this is the only study on shebeens conducted in over 20 years.

### **5.5 Summary**

This chapter presented a summary of the chapters in the study, followed by a summary of the main findings emanating from the study. It also presented recommendations and areas for further research.

A qualitative approach was used to answer the research question, thereby attaining the research goal and objectives of the study. The results of this study provided an insight on the effects of shebeens on the people's livelihoods. This last chapter of the study provided a summary and the conclusions of the preceding chapters, from the introduction, literature review, applied methodology and the presentation of the research findings.

As part of the chapter, a number of recommendations have been made to the City of Windhoek (CoW), the Namibian Government, and to various stakeholders, based on the results. In addition, the researcher made recommendations for future research. In conclusion, the study is expected to add new knowledge to a limited body of literature on alcohol use in Namibia.

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DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd12.140317>Appendix 1: Informed Consent

## **Appendix 1: Informed Consent form**

### **INFORMED CONSENT FORM**



**TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT: PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTS OF SHEBEENS ON THE COMMUNITY OF GREENWELL MATONGO**

**RESEARCHER: Miriam W. Shidolo**

**ADDRESS: Erf 1594 Santa Clara Street, Otjomuise**

**CONTACT NUMBER: 0814758925**

You are being asked to take part in a research study. Please take some time to read the information, which will be explained to you in detail. Please ask me any question about any part of this project that you do not fully understand. This study is about perceptions of the effects of shebeens on the community of Greenwell Matongo. The participants for this research study are people who are employed including self-employed, unemployed, people working in the shebeen, and community leaders such as community councilor and school teacher, people working at registered shebeens, people working at unregistered shebeens well as residents that have signed the shebeen consent letter. The objectives of the study is: (1) To explore the community's perception on the effects of shebeens in their community, (2) To determine the views and experiences of community members regarding signing of consent letters for opening shebeens, (3) To assess shebeen monitoring system in Greenwell Matongo community.

You need to respond to research questions from the researcher as accurately as possible. There's no wrong or right answer, what is important is your opinion regarding questions asked, therefore your participation is not penalized. The data will be collected from you in a conducive environment where there is privacy and confidentiality, it can be an arranged place or the privacy of their homes by means of one on one interview, face to face, semi-structured interview guide on digital voice recording in the language that you understand. I will request for permission from you to record the interview and with your permission only then you can be recorded. If you do not want to be recorded, I will take notes of the interview if you permit me to do that. The interview is scheduled for 45 minutes.

You are invited to participate in this project because you met the respective descriptions of potential informants desired for the study. You are therefore at liberty to participate or not and you can stop at any time without providing a reason. Your withdrawal will have no effect on the outcome of the study. The implication of completing the interview questions is that informed consent has been obtained from you. The information given by you will not be traceable and you will not be able to recall your consent.

All information obtained during the study is strictly confidential. Data obtained from the respondents will be used for academic purposes but will never include information that identifies you as a participant of this study. Information gathered and digital voice recordings from the study will be kept in password protected files on a laptop that will be destroyed by means of deleting the files when the project is finalised and will not be kept for any longer than the intended period.

This study has been approved by the Research Ethics Committee at The University of Namibia

**Risks and benefits:**

There will be no cost to you if you participate in this study.

There may be no personal benefit from your participation but the knowledge received may be of value to humanity. Your participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate or withdrawal of your consent or discontinued participation in the study will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits or rights to which you might otherwise be entitled.

Your anonymity will be maintained during data analysis and publication/presentation of results by any or all of the following means: (1) you will be assigned a number as names will not be recorded. (2) The researchers will save the data file and/or audio recordings by your number, not by name. (3) Only members the researcher will view collected data in detail. (4) Any recordings or files will be stored in a secured location accessed only by the authorized researcher.

**Rights and Signature**

**1. Declaration by Participant**

I..... consent to participate in the research study. I have understood the nature of this study and wish to participate. My signature below indicates my consent.

Signed at (*place*) ..... On (*date*) ..... 2018.

Participant Signature.....

## 2. Declaration by the Researcher

I ..... (*Name of researcher*) declare that:

- I explained the information in this document to .....  
(*Name of participant*)
- I encouraged him/her to ask questions and took adequate time to answer them.
- I am satisfied that he/she adequately understands all aspects of the research, as discussed above
- I did/did not use an interpreter. (*If an interpreter is used then the interpreter must sign the declaration below.*)

Signed at (*place*) ..... On (*date*) ..... 2018.

.....

Signature of Researcher

## 3. Participant consent to audio recording

I ..... (*Name*) Consent to audio recording being made of this interview to be used for the purpose on this research study. I have understood the nature of this study and wish to participate.

Signed at (*place*) ..... On (*date*) ..... 2018.

Participant Signature.....

## 4. Declaration by interpreter

I ..... (*Name*) declare that:

I assisted the investigator (*name*) ..... to explain the information in this document to (*name of participant*) ..... Using the language medium of .....(Oshiwambo, Oshihherero, Afrikaans, etc.)

Signed at (*place*) ..... On (*date*) ..... 2018.

Interpreter signature.....

## **Appendix 2: Interview guide**

### **PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTS OF SHEBEENS ON THE COMMUNITY OF GREENWELL MATONGO, WINDHOEK**

#### **Semi – structured interview schedule**

My name is Miriam W. Shidolo, a student at the University of Namibia, pursuing my studies in Masters in Social Work. I am conducting a research study on the effects of shebeens in Greenwell Matongo community. I would like to ask you some questions on the effects of shebeens in your community, in order for this study to its objectives and goals. The study is aimed at exploring the community's perception on the effects of shebeens in their community, to determine the views and experiences of community members regarding signing of consent letters and to provide recommendations to policy makers and practitioners on the monitoring and control of alcohol in communities. The study will be conducted in a language that is most suitable to you and at your convenient place and time. Please be free to ask questions where you do not understand. The interview is scheduled to last for 45 minutes. Kindly note that this information is strictly confidential and it will only be used for the benefit of the study. Thank you for availing your time to take part in this interview.

#### **Interview guide for community members**

##### **SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC**

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

What is your marital status?

- Single
- Married
- Divorced

How old are you?

\_\_\_\_\_

Education: What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

- Grade 10
- Grade 12
- High school graduate
- Diploma
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Professional degree
- Doctorate degree
- Never attended school

Your occupation

- Full time Employed
- Part-time employed
- Self employed
- Unemployed

- Student

Population

- Employed
- Unemployed
- Working in the shebeen
- Community leaders (councilor, teacher, police officer)
- Residents that have signed the shebeen consent letter

Where do you stay?

### **SECTION B: PERCEPTION**

1. What is your perception of shebeens in your community in general? Explain why?
2. What are the effects of shebeens on your children and yourself?
3. What are the effects of shebeens in your neighborhood?
4. What do you think are some of the problems caused by shebeens in your area?
5. What is the impact of shebeens in your community and broader Namibia?
6. What are the most problems or complains reported in your community regarding shebeens?
7. What are the most prominent problems associated with school going children who live in the environment?
8. What do you think are the contributing factors of the increase of shebeens in Greenwell Matongo?

### **SECTION C: SIGNING SHEBEEN CONSENT LETTER**

9. What do you know about procedures for shebeen consent letter?

10. Are you aware of any shebeens operating without a license in your community?
11. What is your view on shebeen license in Namibia?
12. What is your view regarding the operation hours of shebeens?
13. What is your recommendation on shebeens operating in your area?
14. Are community members informed on their rights to give shebeen consent and if so, what are these rights?

#### **SECTION D: MONITORING SYSTEM**

15. How often does the police monitor the illegal opening of shebeens?
16. What is the police action on shebeen owners if a shebeen is found operating illegally?
17. How often does the Police patrol on shebeens?
18. What do you think can be done to prevent shebeens from operating within residential areas?
19. What is your view about the law governing shebeens in Namibia?
20. What is the responsibility of the councillor's office regarding illegal shebeens?
21. What is the office of the councillor doing to prevent the increase of shebeens in this area?
22. Any other comments

Thank you

### Appendix 3: Letter of Approval from University of Namibia Research Ethics Committee (UREC)



**UNAM**  
UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA

#### ETHICAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

Ethical Clearance Reference Number: FHSS /384/2018      Date: 6 June, 2018

This Ethical Clearance Certificate is issued by the University of Namibia Research Ethics Committee (UREC) in accordance with the University of Namibia's Research Ethics Policy And Guidelines. Ethical Approval Is Given In Respect Of Undertakings Contained in the Research Project outlined below. This Certificate is issued on the recommendations of the ethical evaluation done by the Faculty/Centre/Campus Research & Publications Committee sitting with the Postgraduate Studies Committee.

**Title of Project:** PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTS OF SHEBEENS ON THE COMMUNITY OF GREENWELL MATONGO, WINDHOEK

**Researcher:** MIRIAM WINNIE SHIDOLO

**Student Number:** 200846591

**Supervisor(s):** Prof C. Schenck (Main) Dr J. Ananias (Co)

**Faculty:** Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Take note of the following:

- (a) Any significant changes in the conditions or undertakings outlined in the approved Proposal must be communicated to the UREC. An application to make amendments may be necessary.
- (b) Any breaches of ethical undertakings or practices that have an impact on ethical conduct of the research must be reported to the UREC.
- (c) The Principal Researcher must report issues of ethical compliance to the UREC (through the Chairperson of the Faculty/Centre/Campus Research & Publications Committee) at the end of the Project or as may be requested by UREC.
- (d) The UREC retains the right to:
  - (i) Withdraw or amend this Ethical Clearance if any unethical practices (as outlined in the Research Ethics Policy) have been detected or suspected,
  - (ii) Request for an ethical compliance report at any point during the course of the research;

UREC wishes you the best in your research.

Dr. J.E. de Villiers: UREC Chairperson

Ms. P. Claassen: UREC Secretary

## Appendix 4: Letter of approval from Ministry of Health and Social Services



### REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

#### Ministry of Health and Social Services

Private Bag 13198  
Windhoek  
Namibia

Ministerial Building  
Harvey Street  
Windhoek

Tel: 061 – 203 2537  
Fax: 061 – 222558  
E-mail: btjivambi@mhss.gov.na

#### OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

Ref: 17/3/3 IS  
Enquiries: Mr. B. Tjivambi

Date: 24 July 2018

Ms. Miriam W. Shidolo  
PO Box 23594  
Windhoek

Dear Mr. Shidolo

**Re: Perceptions of the Effects of Shebeens on the community of Greenwell Matongo, Windhoek**

1. Reference is made to your application to conduct the above-mentioned study.
2. The proposal has been evaluated and found to have merit.
3. **Kindly be informed that permission to conduct the study has been granted under the following conditions:**
  - 3.1 The data to be collected must only be used for academic purpose;
  - 3.2 No other data should be collected other than the data stated in the proposal;
  - 3.3 Stipulated ethical considerations in the protocol related to the protection of Human Subjects should be observed and adhered to, any violation thereof will lead to termination of the study at any stage;

BAL

## Appendix 5: Letter of Approval from Samora Machel Constituency Council



### KHOMAS REGIONAL COUNCIL

Tel no (061) 264836  
Fax no (061) 257327  
E-mail: amupex@gmail.com  
Potomac Street  
Our ref: KCR 14/1/8  
Your ref:.....  
Enquiries: Hon. F.S. Shivute

Khomas Regional Council  
PO Box 337  
Windhoek

02 August 2018

#### SAMORA MACHEL CONSTITUENCY

#### TO WHOM IT MY CONCERN

I honorable Fanuel San Shivute, Councilor of Samora Machel Constituency in Khomas Region, I do hereby confirming that **Ms Miriam Winnie Shidolo,, ID.86093000621, residents of the Khomasdal Constituency.**

**Ms Miriam Winnie Shidolo.,** She is a student at University of Namibia (UNAM)  
We respectfully request permission to carry out her final year research project for the data collection in Eveline Street, Green well Matongo, based on the Perceptions of the effects of shebeens . All information collected will be solely applied for research purpose, and will be treated with utmost confidentiality. No personal detail are required as to protect the respondent identities and to enhance confidentiality.

For further information do not hesitate to contact my office and render her our usual assistant into this regard.

I have no hesitation in recommending this young lady to any future success and feel assured that she have the necessary determination to make a success into this chosen plan.  
My best wishes accompany her.

Your Faithfully

Hon. Fanuel San Shivute  
Councilor of Samora Machel Constituency



## Appendix 6: Letter from Editor No. 1



Harmonious Environmental Consulting Services CC (CC/2011/1733)  
P.O. Box 23064, Windhoek, Namibia  
Email: [harmonious.en@gmail.com](mailto:harmonious.en@gmail.com)

---

21 November 2018

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Editing of the research thesis for Ms. Miriam Shidolo**

This letter serves as an assurance that I have edited the academic research thesis for Ms. Miriam Shidolo, titled: "*Perception of the effects of shebeens on the community of Greenwell Matongo, Windhoek*". I hereby confirm that Ms Shidolo has done the actual research and write up work, which is quite impressive, and I have only made modifications where necessary.

However, there is a possibility of minor omissions, as the work was done in a rush. This is because I have worked on the thesis chapter by chapter, which were shared with me closer to the submission date, thus my time to do proper editing was very limited. Nevertheless, the text content and flow of information is satisfactory.

I have over 5 years' experience of editing research documents, mainly student theses.

I hope you find this in order.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raili Hasheela-Haipinge'.

Raili Hasheela-Haipinge (PhD)

## **Appendix 7: Letter from Editor No. 2 editing**

Enq. Waniwa, F

Email. [febwaniwa@gmail.com](mailto:febwaniwa@gmail.com)

Cell No. 0782427234

P.O Box 192

Lephalale

0555

03 December 2018.

### **EDITING OF RESEARCH DISSERTATION FOR MISS MIRIAM WINNIE SHIDOLO**

The research dissertation; Perceptions of the effects of shebeens on the community of Greenwell Matongo, Windhoek by Miss Miriam W.Shidolo Student No. 200846591 has been edited and proofread, and that unless further tampered with, I am content that all grammatical errors have been eliminated.

Yours faithfully

Dr F. Waniwa (DLitt et Phil)

Lecturer (Department of Linguistics – UNISA)