

TABLES OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| TABLES OF CONTENTS | i |
| LIST OF FIGURES | iv |
| LIST OF TABLES | v |
| ACKNOWLEDGMENT | vi |
| ABSTRACT | vii |
| ONE – BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY | 1 |
| Introduction | 1 |
| Statement of the Problem | 2 |
| Objectives of the Study | 3 |
| Research Questions | 4 |
| Significance of The Study | 5 |
| Assumptions | 8 |
| Limitation of the Study | 8 |
| Definition of Terms | 9 |
| Information | 9 |
| Information Needs | 9 |
| Children | 10 |
| TWO – REVIEW OF LITERATURE | 11 |
| Introduction | 11 |
| Definition of the term ‘Information’ | 12 |
| Information Need | 13 |
| Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs | 14 |
| Children and Information Need | 17 |
| Children’s right to information | 20 |
| Challenges Faced by Children of the present Information Age | 21 |
| Information needs studies | 23 |
| Past research on information needs of children | 24 |
| Children’s Need and Role of Libraries | 27 |
| Children’s Information Needs from other documents | 32 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| THREE – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY | 36 |
| Introduction | 36 |
| Research Design | 36 |
| Instrument | 38 |
| Selection and the Composition of the Population | 39 |
| Respondent Selection Criteria | 41 |
| Respondents or Informants | 42 |
| Collection of Data | 45 |
| Data Analysis | 46 |
| FOUR - FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION | 47 |
| Introduction | 47 |
| Primary Information Needs of Children | 48 |
| Physiological Needs | 49 |
| Safety and Security | 50 |
| Education and Self-esteem | 52 |
| Love and Belonging | 54 |
| Values | 56 |
| Current Information Source to Children | 59 |
| How Far the Sources Available Met the Information Needs of Children? | 62 |
| Unmet Information Needs of Children | 64 |
| Reasons for children not getting the information they need | 68 |
| Suggestion on ways to improve the Quality and Quantity of Information to Children | 74 |
| FIVE – CONCLUSION | 82 |
| Introduction | 82 |
| Discussion of the results | 82 |
| Primary Information Needs of Children | 82 |
| Current Sources of Information to Children | 84 |
| Unmet Information Needs of Children | 87 |
| Implications and Recommendations | 89 |
| Recommendation for Further Research | 94 |
| Conclusion | 97 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| APPENDICES | 98 |
| APPENDIX A (Interview Questions - Instrument) | 98 |
| APPENDIX B (Interview Transcript - one example) | 102 |
| APPENDIX C (Data analysis print out) | 106 |
| APPENDIX D (Ministry of Education's Permission Letter To Conduct Research) | 112 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 114 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| FIGURE | Page |
|--|------|
| 1 Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs | 15 |

LIST OF TABLES

| TABLE | Page |
|--|------|
| 1 Population Distribution According to Age and Sex Group in 1991 | 41 |
| 2 Population Distribution According to Age and Ethnicity in 1991 | 41 |
| 3 Percentage of Population having Attended School by Age Group and Sex | 41 |
| 4 Summary of Key Respondents/Informants | 44 |
| 5 Summary of Information Needs of Children in Rank Order | 58 |
| 6 Current Information Source to Children | 60 |
| 7 Unmet Information Needs of Children as Perceived by Adults | 65 |
| 8 Barriers in Meeting Information Needs of Children as Perceived by Adults | 69 |
| 9 Ways to Improve the Quantity and Quality Of Information the Children Receive as Perceived by Adults | 74 |