

Disrupting Harm

Evidence from 13 countries on the context, threats, and children's perspectives of online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Detailed Analysis of the Frontline Service Providers Survey
Tanzania

Last updated 27/4/21

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This report is a summary of preliminary data collected for this research project. The perspectives contained herein represent the individuals interviewed and surveyed. Support from the Fund to End Violence Against Children does not constitute endorsement.

Introduction

The Disrupting Harm frontline workers survey aimed to explore the knowledge, attitudes and practices related to OCSEA that are presenting to those directly working to prevent and respond on the welfare frontline. Insights from frontline workers via this survey allowed us to more deeply explore findings from other research activities such as the national literature reviews and government interviews from the perspective of staff directly engaged in the response to this growing problem.

A convenience sample of 50 interviews were conducted with client-facing frontline child protection workers who were surveyed in each participating country. In order to participate in the survey respondents had to meet the following qualifying requirements:

- 1) Be an adult over 18 years of age;
- 2) Work the last 12 months (at least) in the field of social work, psychology or welfare;
- 3) Manage their own case load directly in the last 12 months;
- 4) Have caseloads that included children over the last 12 months.

The survey itself included a combination of 68 closed and open-ended questions. The data was collected via SurveyGizmo and administered by Disrupting Harm staff (either in person, or remotely via phone/Skype – due to COVID-19). Whilst the data collected is not statistically representative, it is still a vital snapshot in indicating scope, and broadening our perspectives on knowledge, attitudes and practices related to OCSEA.

NOTE:

In Tanzania, the data collection for the survey was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic from July 17th 2020 to September 30th 2020 where movement restrictions were in place. It should also be noted that participants were only sourced from mainland Tanzania and not Zanzibar.

Basic Description of Survey Sample

The frontline workers who were surveyed in Tanzania (n=50) consisted of 19 males (38%) and 31 (62%) females.

Participants were asked to select a single category that best describes their organisation. In reality, these categories are sometimes not mutually exclusive, however the indications of a category that 'best' describes their organisation does help to depict the range of organisations that participants represent (Figure 1).

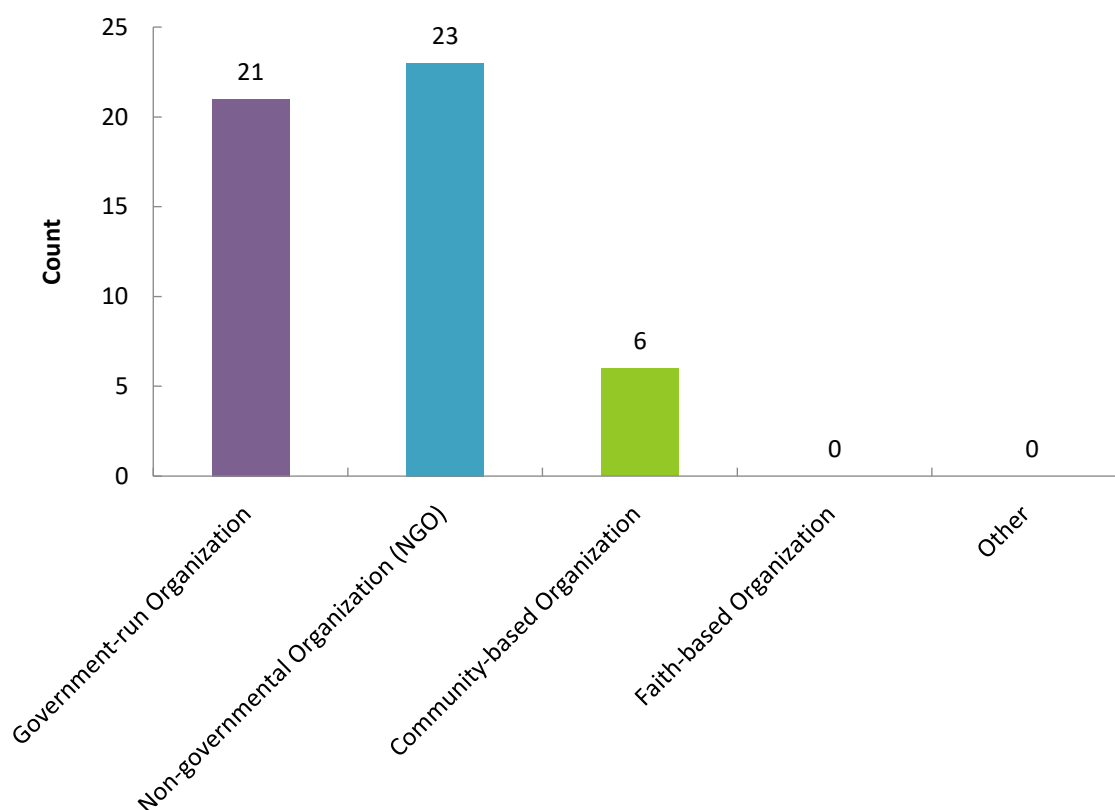


Figure 1. Types of participants' organisations. N=50

The majority of participants identified their organisation as non-governmental (n=23 – 52%) or government-run (n=21 – 42%). 6 participants (12%) reported working for a community-based organisation. The large amount of government workers is important to note and is indicative of the national welfare workforce - since Tanzanian law stipulates that government social welfare officers have mandated child protection responsibilities. All NGOs refer child protection cases to social welfare officers and that is why they are strongly represented in the sample. Child protection cases won't get worked on without passing through the social welfare officer – if cases go to the court, the social welfare officers are involved. Even in children's homes, they go through social welfare officers.

The frontline social support workers were asked to detail what type of services their organisations provided related to children. The results are illustrated in Figure 2 below.

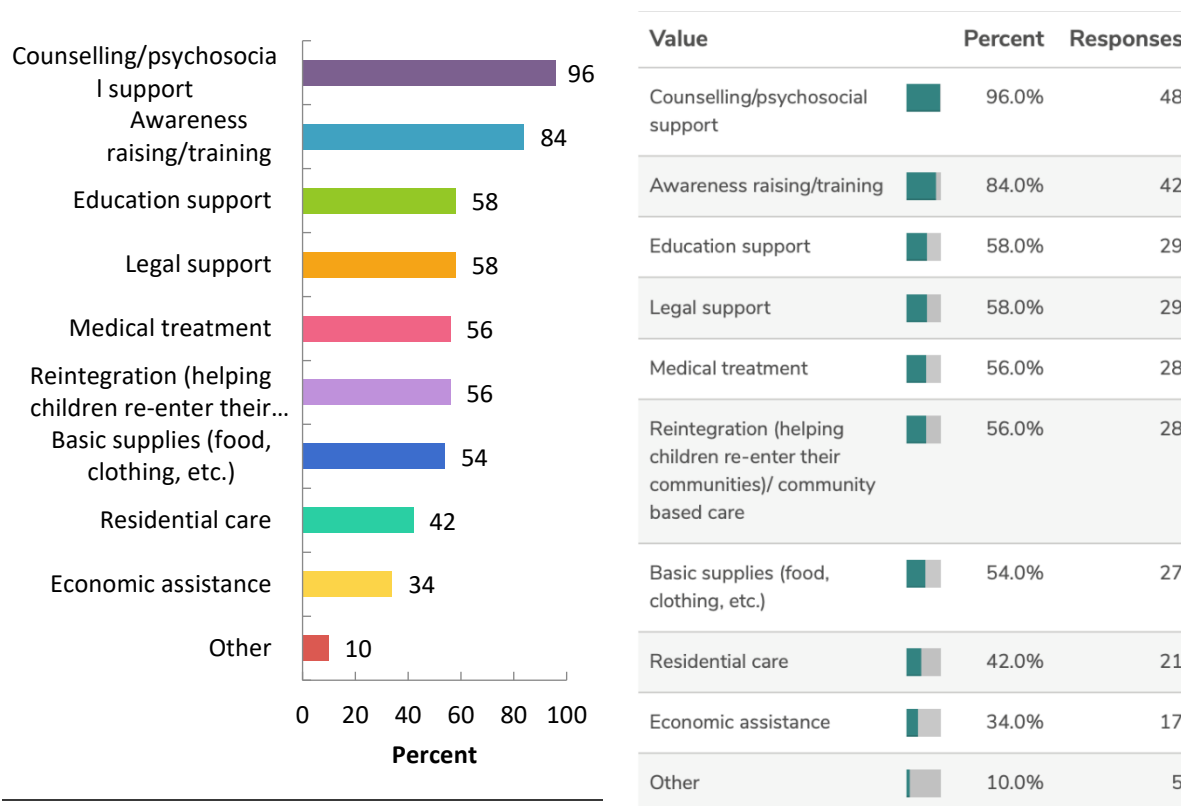


Figure 2. Types of services provided by participants' organisations. N=50

The majority (94%) of participants worked in organisations providing more than one service to children (n=47). As Figure 2 indicates, the most frequently reported services were counselling/ psychosocial support (n=48, or 96%) and awareness raising/training (n=42 – 84%). That was followed by education and legal support – both reported by 58% of respondents (n=29), medical treatment and reintegration/community-based care services – both reported by 56% (n=28) of workers and providing basic supplies was reported by 54% of workers (n=27). Less commonly provided services were residential care (n=21 – 42%) and economic assistance (n=17 – 34%).

Other services mentioned by frontline social support workers were:

- Foster care and adoption
- Reuniting abandoned and abused children with their families
- Referring children to relevant services
- Teaching children about faith and God

- Visiting homes to look at children's welfare
- Providing children with activities such as: fishkeeping, garden, vegetables farming, drawing
- One respondent working in a government-run organisation added: *"Finding safe houses/shelters with credible guardians; conducting psychological counselling to parents who want to transfer their children to another school; following up on children's cases in court while making sure the children are getting appropriate treatment; HIV/AIDS prevention; providing information/education on prevention of Violence Against Children; running community sensitisation activities on reporting violence against children issues/cases to the Welfare Officer or Gender Policy Desk/call Child Helpline service 116 which is free; Teaching children to inform the reliable/trusted person whenever she/he is in the risk or experienced abuse; Connecting parents with women empowerment group so they can access loans which are offered by government councils without interest"* (RA3-TZ-29-A).

It is important to note that the survey findings come only from respondents in mainland Tanzania, not Zanzibar. Zanzibar has a different child protection system. The social drivers of OCSEA may be more heavily influenced by tourism in Zanzibar, too. Further, a parallel religious justice system is also in place in Zanzibar where some child protection matters may be resolved.¹

¹ Personal communication from Tanzania local field research team.

Perpetrator Demographics

To expand on the current understanding of the context in which OCSEA happens in Tanzania, the survey sought to explore the typical relationships that were observed by social support workers between offenders and child survivors when they reported having worked with OCSEA cases.

From the 33 respondents who had worked with OCSEA cases, men were more commonly identified both as perpetrators and facilitators of OCSEA. Out of those frontline workers who had managed cases that involved OCSEA during the past 12 months, the most commonly referenced relationship between the victim and perpetrator was said to be that the perpetrators were community members over 18: *“Child exploitation cases are happening within a community”* (RA3-TZ-38-A), parents/stepparents, family friends, strangers (nationals) or other relatives over 18: *“Family relatives have been sexually abusing children especially boys”* (RA3-TZ-36-A); *“Most sexual exploitation of children is done by the closest people they believe and have power over them, especially closest relatives such as uncle, brother, sister. The perpetrators use their power to intimidate and manipulate children to reach their evil intentions”* (RA3-TZ-37-A). One NGO-worker added: *“Most children face sexual exploitation by the people they trust most in their lives”* (RA3-TZ-36-A). A respondent from a government-run organisation mentioned: *“Most cases the perpetrators were children who acted against the law”* (RA3-TZ-16-A).

Similarly, participants were asked about the most common relationships between facilitators and victims in the OCSEA cases they have managed. Of those cases that involved a facilitator, parents/stepparents and community members over 18 were the most referenced relationships observed by respondents between the victim and the facilitator. One participant commented: *“In most cases, the child abuse facilitators are not mentioned in most cases, you find only perpetrators are put behind bars while the facilitator remains free on streets”* (RA3-TZ-37-A).

When frontline social support workers were given the opportunity to provide additional comments about perpetrators and facilitators they encountered in OCSEA cases, they provided contrasting statements. While some respondents mentioned that abuse in most cases is conducted by people familiar to children: *“In most cases sexual exploitation is conducted by those who are trusted from the family, relatives, neighbours and those closest to the victim”* (RA3-TZ-29-A) or *“most of the clients are being abused by their relatives and parents”* (RA3-TZ-08-A), others indicated: *“Most of the cases the perpetrators are strangers”* (RA3-TZ-42-A).

Additionally, one NGO worker providing counselling services indicated: *“Most of the cases I've dealt with, the perpetrators didn't know it was an offence, more knowledge is required”* (RA3-TZ-38-A). On the same note, another frontline worker mentioned: *“Individuals practice OCSEA consciously or unconsciously. Awareness should be provided to individuals particularly on OCSEA in relation to the advancement of science and technology”* (RA3-TZ-40-A).

Below are a number of quotes from participants describing their insights into some of the child sexual exploitation and OCSEA cases they worked with:

- **Boy vs girl cases**

The comments below show that frontline workers have different perspectives on which gender constitutes the majority of cases. While some see girls as more affected:

“Children’s cases, most of the cases are girls compared to boys. Therefore, girls are mostly affected” (RA3-TZ-48-A);

“Most of the cases assisted are girls who are victims of any kind of abuse especially sexual abuse” (RA3-TZ-03-A);

“According to the statistics of the case, girls are the most affected by online and offline sexual exploitation, but communities are able to cooperate with the authorities to prevent violence against children” (RA3-TZ-39-A);

“Some communities do not believe in a girl child to raise her voice, so a girl goes through a lot of sexual violence” (RA3-TZ-43-A);

“Girl children have been abused more compared to boy children leading to girl children being vulnerable” (RA3-TZ-40-A);

“Girls between 14-18 are the most vulnerable group because they’re in the adolescent age” (RA3-TZ-43-A);

“Societal factors put women at risk and treats them like objects leading to sexual exploitation” (RA3-TZ-27-A).

Others claimed that boys in Tanzania become victims of sexual abuse more often, and additionally, that they do not receive adequate attention:

“Boys are more victims of sexual abuse/violence than girls” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

“Boys are mostly affected children because their cases are not given priority” (RA3-TZ-47-A);

“Parents are seeing girls as more vulnerable than boys who believe that they can easily solve problems themselves” (RA3-TZ-09-A);

“The most vulnerable group is girls between the age of 6-10 years, but boys are also not certain where their photos and why their pictures are taken and where exactly they are picture will be sent” (RA3-TZ-35-A).

ECPAT’s partner in Tanzania suggested the minimal attention to boys is due to social/cultural factors/taboo. They note that rape is a crime, but sodomy is not discussed. They noted that people know it is happening but it is not talked about and not publicised. Intersecting with this are restrictions/taboo around being LGBT.²

Participants also left a number of other comments relating to demographics involved in the cases they handle:

- **Age**

“According to the experience as a child counsellor, children at the age of 14-18 are more exposed to violence” (RA3-TZ-42-A);

“Adolescent groups between 14-18 are at big risks because of sexual arousing because of their age. They might engage in such exploitation because they don't know it's a criminal offence. Sexual reproductive health information should be provided to make better choices in their lives” (RA3-TZ-37-A).

- **Amount of cases**

“These [OCSEA] cases are very few” (RA3-TZ-16-A);

“My clients are not associated with OCSEA because they are from rural communities” (RA3-TZ-14-A);

“These issues are happening but are not being reported” (RA3-TZ-47-A);

“Currently cases have decreased because our society has become more aware of the plight of children as well as teachers in schools. This helps with the education provided in the streets and various seminars” (RA3-TZ-01-A);

“It's not easy to get statistical records on these issues” (RA3-TZ-21-A).

The responses diverged into the number/magnitude of cases. Interestingly, as noted earlier, more than 30 respondents said they handled an OCSEA case in the last year. That suggests that within the workers, there are different views about the amount of OCSEA cases in Tanzania.

- **Types of cases**

² Personal communication from Tanzania local field research team.

“Most cases are abandonment” (RA3-TZ-23-A);

“Most of the complaints from women are related to child support services” (RA3-TZ-24-A);

“The number of cases involving children I have dealt with are proceeding in court and daily cases related to children are rape cases, sexual exploitation and bad touch and sucking the private parts such as penis. Children’s cases are also physical violence and child trafficking for child labour. Most cases involving women are related to denial of children support and marriage conflicts” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“I have never received any case complaint related to online sexual exploitation. I think this is because the communities are not aware about online sexual exploitation” (RA3-TZ-24-A);

“Most of the boys cases after interviewing them who are victims of sodomy are highly related to learning from online sexual videos on YouTube where the perpetrators are showing children such videos to teach them and later on are doing it to them and later they are practicing it with their peers. However, for the girls most of the cases are rape cases and persuasion is used often to manipulate the girls into acts” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“Boys are highly involved in OCSEA and most of them are addicted. This is due to the influence by their friends to watch porn and look at nude pictures. While girls are facing abuse threats, nude pictures and videos are being sent to them, which causes depression to them” (RA3-TZ-09-A);

“Most of the cases attended and relating to OCSEA are the trafficking cases whereby most of the girls are being trafficked by the agents of trafficking who use telephone conducts to communicate with the parents and guardians for the children to come to [location] to work as a domestic worker which later on made them to be sexually abused by the employer” (RA3-TZ-03-A);

“Some of the children are abused by their friends who learn sex online” (RA3-TZ-26-A);

“Most of my cases weren’t assessed whether they involve OCSEA as they were referred to other partners as soon as they were reported” (RA3-TZ-10-A);

“Most of my clients are from rural areas, they are not exposed to the digital world” (RA3-TZ-14-A);

“Most of the children are been contacted through their cell phone” (RA3-TZ-08-A);

“Tanzanian children are undergoing harms and abuses through people nearby who take care of them and what they need to get is education” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“There is an increasing number of sexual exploitation cases from home and schools as well as in children’s shelter houses. This happens among children, the older children do it to the younger ones” (RA3-TZ-48-A).

Participants also commented on the levels of awareness of OCSEA as an issue:

“Most victims of online and offline sexual exploitation are not aware that they were abused. Therefore, more knowledge and information about sexual abuse is required” (RA3-TZ-37-A);

“There is no clear understanding of online sexual exploitation, therefore it is not considered as a problem” (RA3-TZ-23-A);

“This is due to the use of smartphones, which enables the perpetrators to contact children” (RA3-TZ-45-A);

“It [OCSEA] is not a common form of abuse in the community and people are not aware that it is risk as other forms” (RA3-TZ-27-A).

Scenarios

Participants were presented with four scenarios depicting situations in which at least one offender victimised a child through different modes of online sexual abuse and exploitation. After being provided with definitions of 'OCSEA', a 'perpetrator' and a 'facilitator' earlier in the survey, the participants were asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed or disagreed that the child was a victim and that the offender had committed an OCSEA-related offence.³ These questions were designed to elicit insights about how participants assessed different forms and situations of OCSEA. It should be noted that responses are likely based on a combination of the participant's knowledge on the issue, including how these issues may (or may not) be defined in law in a country, as well as influenced by social norms and beliefs. Irrespective of the basis for responses, the results indicate areas that are well understood (sometimes almost unanimously) and others where training and consistent messaging is needed to ensure consistent responses.

A four-point Likert scale was used to assess agreement with statements for the scenario questions. Where interesting indications in differences occurred, we note them, but otherwise combined 'slightly agree' and 'strongly agree' together and 'slightly disagree and strongly disagree' together, resulting in binary agree/disagree categories for the analysis presented here.

³ Names for the scenarios were changed to common names in each country for the translations but have been edited in the analysis to be consistent across all the DH reports.

Scenario 1

Palila pays a 16-year-old younger relative, Tamah, to undress while filming and later posts it online. Mamo, who does not know Palila, watches this interaction online from home 30 miles away.

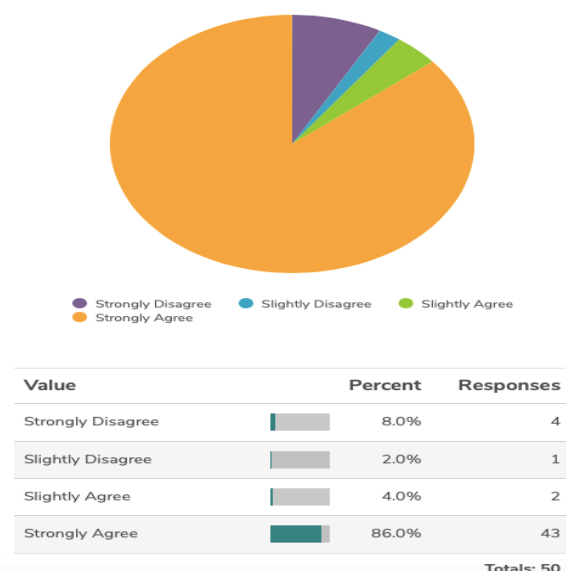


Figure 3. Do you think Tamah is a victim of OCSEA?

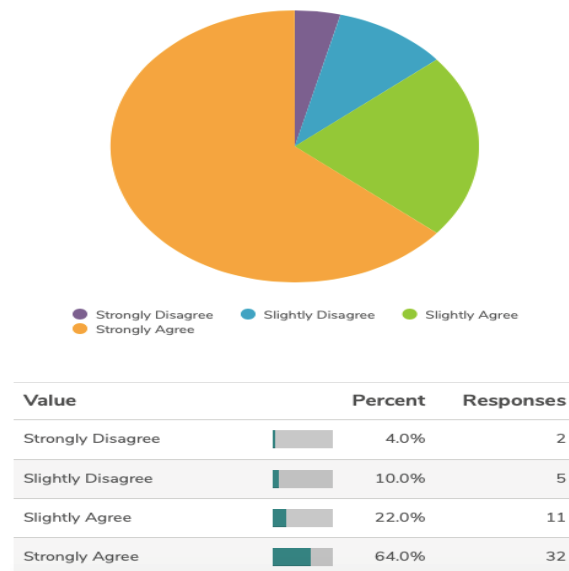


Figure 4. Do you think Mamo has committed an OCSEA-related crime?

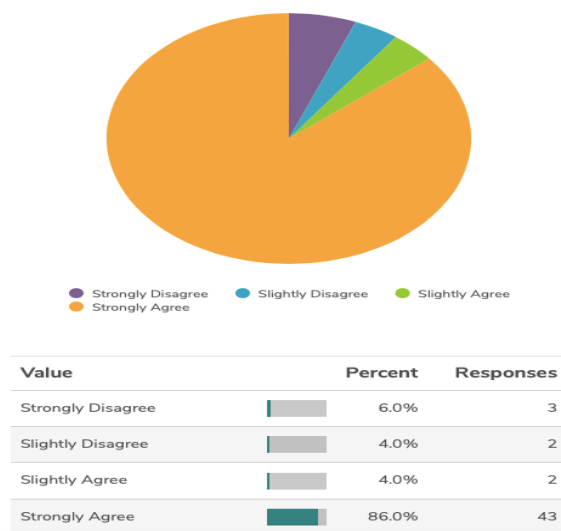


Figure 5. Do you think Palila has committed an OCSEA-related crime?

Nearly all of the participants agreed that the child (Tamah) was a victim of sexual exploitation and that the adult (Palila) who paid and filmed her had committed an OCSEA-related crime (n=45, or 90%). As we can see in Figure 3 and Figure 5, 5 participants (10%) disagreed with those statements.

Of the three circumstances in this scenario, participants seemed to struggle the most to identify if the remote third-party viewing the material had committed an OCSEA related crime – though this was still skewed towards agreement. Out of 50 participants, 11 (22%) only slightly agreed that Mamo had committed an OCSEA-related crime and 7 (14%) disagreed (Figure 4).

While none of the participants who disagreed with the statements provided additional comments, some of those who agreed mentioned:

“Most of the time they are recording because they made victims trust them” (RA3-TZ-38-A);

“Legal issues should be very strict and make sure those suspects are arrested and jailed for 30 years” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“Palila was not supposed to record a child and Mamo was not supposed to watch the video” (RA3-TZ-09-A);

“To watch such a video is an offence because indirectly you are supporting torture and victimising the children, by doing so the perpetrators can monitor the number of viewers” (RA3-TZ-35-A);

“Violence and sexual exploitation include taking nude photos and recording children’s photos and posting them online without knowing the negative effects on children” (RA3-TZ-36-A).

Scenario 2

Kaimi is a 17-year-old student. Kaimi has struggled to make good grades this year and is worried that Uli, a teacher who is a close family friend, will tell Kaimi's dad. Kaimi offers to send Uli naked pictures if he promises not to talk to the family. Uli accepts.

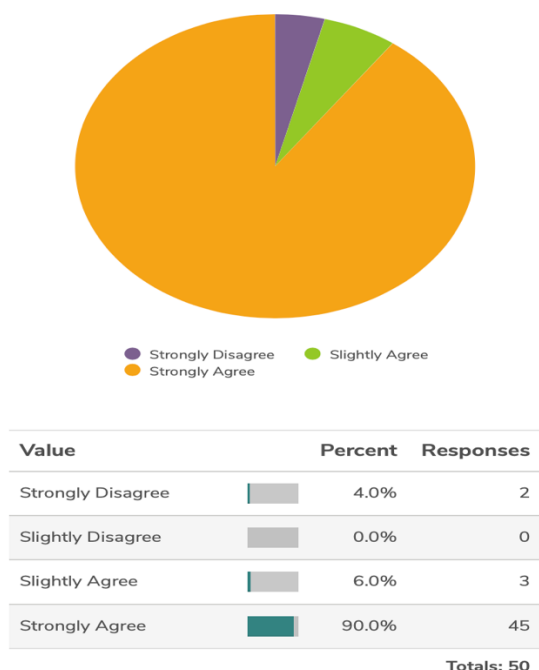


Figure 6. Do you think Kaimi is a victim of OCSEA?

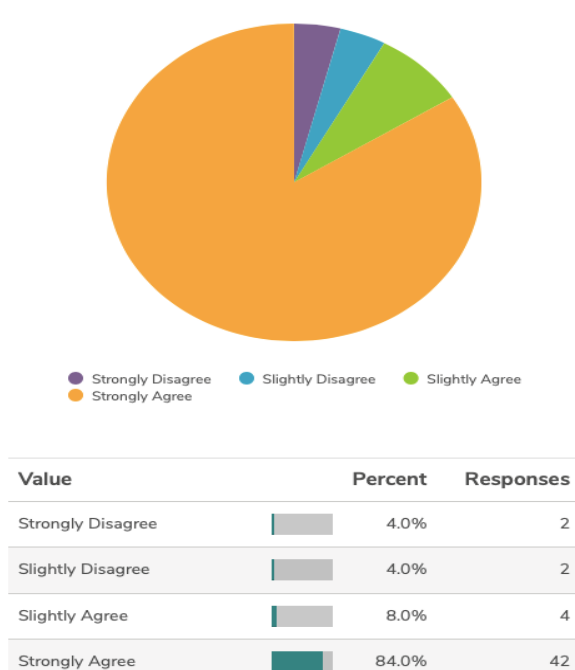


Figure 7. Do you think Uli has committed an OCSEA-related crime?

48 participants agreed that the student (Kaimi) is a victim of OSCEA (96%) and 2 strongly disagreed (4%) – see Figure 6. As Figure 7 indicates, 46 respondents agreed that the teacher (Uli) in the position of power has committed an OSCEA related crime (92%) and 4 participants disagreed (8%).

When given the opportunity to share additional comments on this scenario, participants discussed:

“Fear and intimidation are things that lead to the sexual exploitation of children” (RA3-TZ-38-A);

“People do not understand how to use technologies and engage in distributing pictures online without fear because they do not know about the impacts of doing that” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“Being ignorant of law is not a shield for the perpetrator to be not guilty of what he/she does. The teacher accepting nude photos is the criminal offender and this might lead to tempting the teacher to have sexual relations with students” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

One participant who slightly disagreed that the teacher committed an OCSEA-related crime mentioned:
“Photographer/ photo taker is the perpetrator” (RA3-TZ-21-A);

“Photos are spreading online because there are no strict laws to prevent it” (RA3-TZ-47-A);

“Kaimi is a victim, she is affected by online sexual exploitation, she is affected psychologically that results in her failing in her academic performance. Therefore, she needs comfort, love and care so she can change her behaviour. Mr. Uli is her teacher, who is supposed to guard and advise Kaimi on the right path so she can improve her studies even asking her why did she drop in her academic performance” (RA3-TZ-37-A);

“Sending and receiving nude photos - they are both guilty of distributing the photos” (RA3-TZ-35-A);

“Some students fear to fail exams hence they offer sex to teacher” (RA3-TZ-19-A).

Scenario 3

Sam is a 10-year-old whose family struggles to make ends meet in their rural village. Sam's uncle, Alex, has a good government job and has always given money to help the family out. Recently, Uncle Alex wrote a message to Sam on Facebook asking to have a secret meeting at his house. When Sam arrives, Uncle Alex asked Sam to sit on his lap and began touching his private parts.

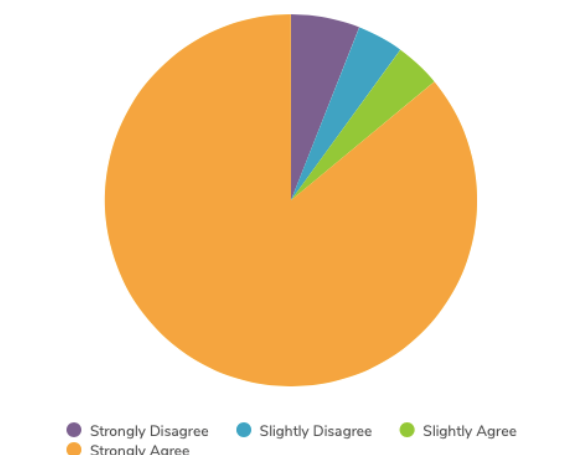


Figure 8. Do you think Sam is a victim of OCSEA?

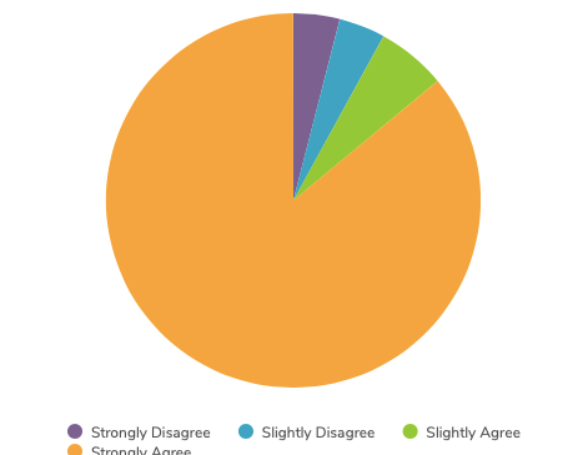


Figure 9. Do you think Alex has committed an OCSEA-related crime?

As Figure 8 shows, 90% of participants (n=45) agreed that 10-year-old Sam is a victim of OCSEA and 10% disagreed (3 respondents strongly and 2 slightly).

Nearly all respondents (n=45 - 90%) agreed that the adult (Alex) has committed an OCSEA-related crime and 8% disagreed (n=4) – see Figure 9.

When given the opportunity to share additional comments on the scenario respondents who strongly agreed with both statements noted:

“According to family morals and the law, adults are not allowed to touch children in their private areas. It is a criminal offence and part of sexual exploitation” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

“Apart from economic reasons, ignorance is also the problem” (RA3-TZ-43-A);

“Sam is a victim of online sexual exploitation because he is coming from a poor family background. He needs social and psychological support and his family needs to know about the sexual abuse that he went through. Mr. Alex, Sam’s uncle, used his economic power to sexually abuse Sam by bribing him with money” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“Children shouldn’t be worried about reporting a suspect who wants to go against his/her body. Therefore, children should be trained well on being confident to report anytime” (RA3-TZ-46-A)

“The act of sharing messages and meeting it makes you also become a criminal” (RA3-TZ-35-A);

“Poverty is a major reason for the children exploitation” (RA3-TZ-38-A); In another part of the survey one respondent added: *“Most of the children are finding it hard to refuse when perpetrators have a lot of money and this highly depends on the environment and economic status of a victim’s family. Most are likely tempted due to poverty” (RA3-TZ-21-A).*

One respondent who slightly disagreed that the adult committed an OCSEA-related crime said:

“It’s better for children to be given courage and opportunity to express themselves whenever there is bad conduct going on in their lives, If Sam had sexual exploitation education he could have never allowed the meeting with his uncle without his parents’ consent” (RA3-TZ-37-A);

Scenario 4

Joe is 16, and his girlfriend Lucy is 15. They have been dating for a year and regularly have sex. Sometimes, when they can't be together, they send photos to each other of themselves naked. Joe's friend Matt knows about this and breaks into Joe's phone and forwards naked pictures of Lucy to a group of their friends.

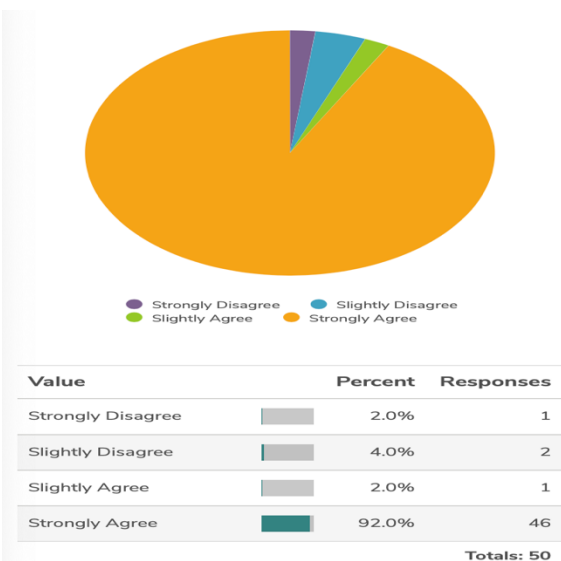


Figure 10. Do you think Lucy is a victim of an OCSEA related crime?

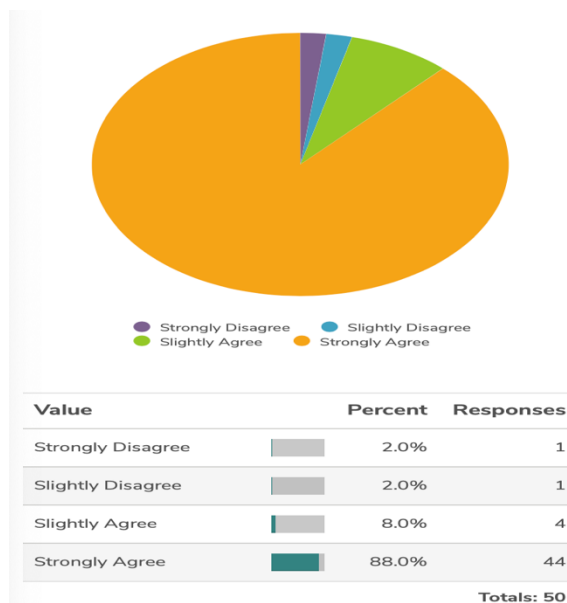


Figure 11. Do you think Joe is a victim of an OCSEA related crime?

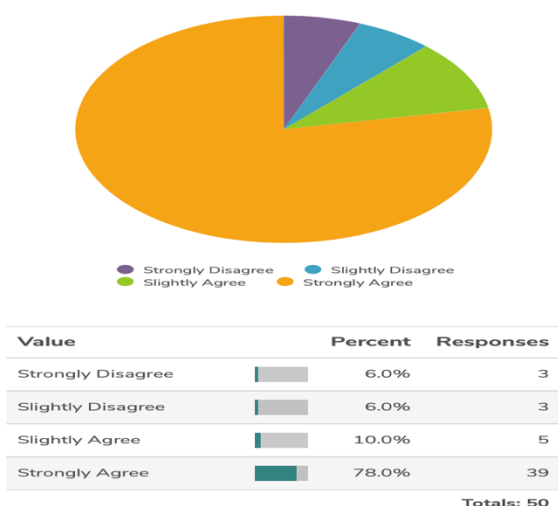


Figure 12. Do you think that Joe has committed an OCSEA related crime?

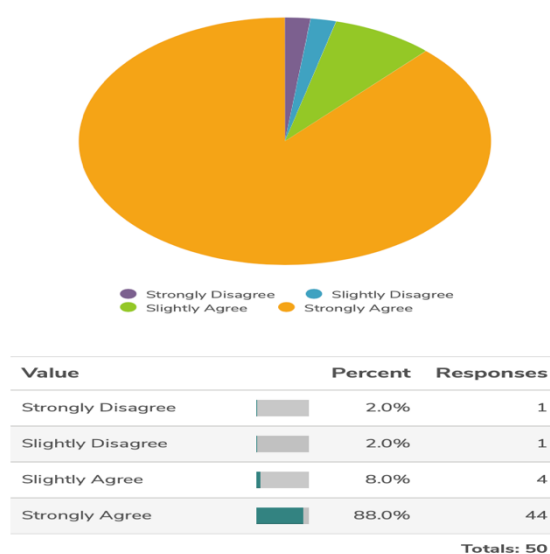


Figure 13. Do you think that Matt has committed an OCSEA related crime?

As Figure 10 indicates, 94% of respondents agreed that Lucy is a victim of OSCEA (n=47) and 6% disagreed (n=3).

Nearly all of the participants agreed that Joe is a victim of OSCEA. 96% of respondents agreed (n=48) and 4% (n=2) disagreed. At the same time, 88% of participants (n=44) also agreed that Joe has committed an OSCEA related crime. 6% of participants (n=3) slightly disagreed, and 6% strongly disagreed (n=3).

96% of respondents agreed that Matt has committed an OSCEA related crime (n=48) and 4% disagreed (n=2).

When given the opportunity to share additional comments on this scenario, participants added:

“According to the law, Joe and Lucy are children, if they had a person to teach them about online sexual exploitation, they wouldn’t be victims, rather together with their friend Matt, they could teach other children about it” (RA3-TZ-37-A);

“Children should get education on proper use of Technology to avoid or manage OCSEA” (RA3-TZ-40-A);

“Education is needed that you cannot trust people online. People have to be educated on how to use technologies effectively without committing crimes and being suspects. They need to be protective physically and socially” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“Internet system have destroyed morals to children who are online watching nude videos and photos” (RA3-TZ-38-A);

“It is not allowed to send nude photos, it’s a criminal offence and sexual exploitation that leads to physical and psychological effects to victims such as depression, stress and emotional breakdown and trauma” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

“It’s a criminal offence to send photos/pictures without consent from the photo owner” (RA3-TZ-35-A).

Summary

Participants overwhelmingly correctly identified the children as victims and the adults as offenders across the four scenarios. However, in two questions there were some divergences.

The first question related to the scenario (Scenario 1) in which an adult paid his 16-year-old female relative to undress while he filmed it and later posted it online. In this scenario, an unrelated individual, Mamo, who did not know the child or the other adult, watched the interaction online from home 30 miles away. Nearly all of the participants agreed that the child was a victim of sexual exploitation and that the adult who paid and filmed her had committed an OCSEA-related crime. However, out of 50 participants, 11 (22%) only slightly agreed that the unconnected adult viewing the abuse online had committed an OCSEA-related crime and 7 (14%) disagreed (5 slightly and 2 strongly) – Figure 4.

The second related to the scenario (Scenario 4) in which a 16-year old male, Joe, and his 15-year-old girlfriend, Lucy, who have been together for a year and were having regular sex and sometimes were sending each other naked photos. In that scenario, Matt, Joe's friend, broke into Joe's phone and forwarded naked pictures of Lucy to a group of their friends. The majority of participants agreed that Lucy and Joe were victims of OCSEA and that the boy breaking into the phone and sharing images had committed an OCSEA related crime. However, 88% of frontline workers also agreed that the same Joe - that they had said was a victim - had committed an OCSEA-related crime (Figure 12). While technically two children consensually photographing themselves naked is the crime of 'creating child sexual abuse materials', there is an ongoing debate about this characterisation. For example, if the images had remained between the two consenting parties, harm may not have been experienced. In a 2020 study on self-generated sexual content, it was found that children thought sharing such images could even provide advantages in their relationships and/or increase their self-esteem.⁴ On the other hand, when the materials are forwarded without consent, they may end-up circulating the web and being acquired by offenders.⁵ Additionally, the normalisation of children sharing sexual images, videos and sexualised online conversations may lead to victims underreporting because they may fail to perceive what is happening to them as abusive or exploitative.⁶

⁴ ECPAT Sweden. (2020, May). ["I början vart det lite läskigt men nu är det vardag" En rapport om yngre barn och egenproducerat material.](#) [Translated from Swedish].

⁵ Bracket Foundation. (2019). Artificial Intelligence: [Combating online sexual abuse of children.](#) 10.

⁶ Palmer, T. (2015) [Digital Dangers: the impact of technology on the sexual abuse and exploitation of children.](#) Barnado's. 35.

Vulnerabilities

Based on their knowledge and experience, participants indicated whether they believed a list of factors about the child and about society increased children's vulnerability to general sexual exploitation (i.e., all kinds) and more specifically to online forms of sexual exploitation and abuse.

- **Factors about the child identified as increasing vulnerability to general sexual abuse and exploitation.**

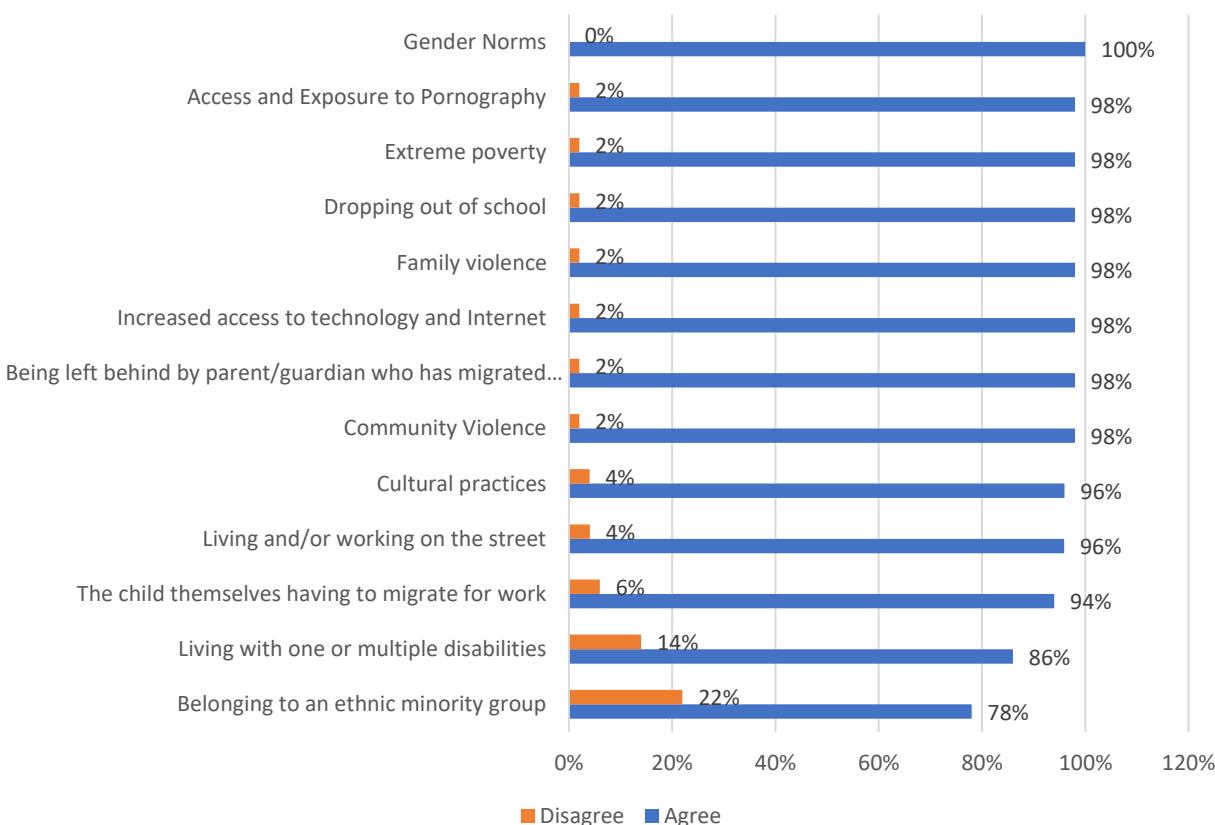


Figure 14. Participants' perceptions of factors about the *child* impacting children's vulnerability to general child sexual exploitation N=50*

*Note: The 'Living and/or working on the street' score is based on 49 responses

As Figure 14 shows, there was a broad consensus among the respondents regarding their ideas about which of the possible factors about the child can increase vulnerability to sexual abuse and exploitation in general in Tanzania. The highest agreement was found around the 'gender' factor – 100% of frontline workers agreed it impacts children's vulnerability to child sexual exploitation in Tanzania. The majority of factors were rated by 94%-98% of respondents as influencing children's vulnerability to child sexual exploitation: 98% agreed that access and exposure to pornography, extreme poverty, dropping out of

school, family violence, increased access to technology and Internet, being left behind parent/guardian who migrated for work, community violence; 96% agreed that cultural practices and living and/or working on the street increased children’s vulnerability, and 94% agreed the child themselves having to migrate for work increased their vulnerability. Interestingly, all respondents (100%) agreed that gender norms impact children’s vulnerability in Tanzania. Two factors with the lowest agreement (however, still very high) were belonging to an ethnic minority group – agreed by 78% and living with one or more disabilities – agreed by 86%. ECPAT’s partner indicated ethnicity/ethnic groups are not strong determinants for abuse here.⁷

Additionally, when respondents were given the option to comment on other sources of vulnerability in their country, which may not have been included in the survey options, they noted the following:

- Drug abuse
- Family living with a relative like uncle, cousin
- Marriage conflicts, polygamy, pre-marital children
- Mental problems
- Being an orphan
- Parents’ divorce
- Peer pressure and groups
- Religion
- Boarding School systems
- Child labour
- The power of perpetrator against a victim

Additionally, two participants mentioned:

“Marriage conflict is the factor contributing to online sexual exploitation due to parents poor relationship, parents are living with grudges and using sarcastic words, parenting children without love and affection leads to parents conflict shifting their discontent and anger to children run away from home and seeking love and attention to other people such as neighbours or to the streets that leads to exploitation” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“A child's behaviour is due to the environment the child is in, children are not mature enough to control their behaviour unless they get guidance from adults. Power and trust that children have to adults may break or build them” (RA3-TZ-41-A).

- **Factors about the child identified as increasing vulnerability specifically to OCSEA**

⁷ Personal communication from Tanzania local field research team

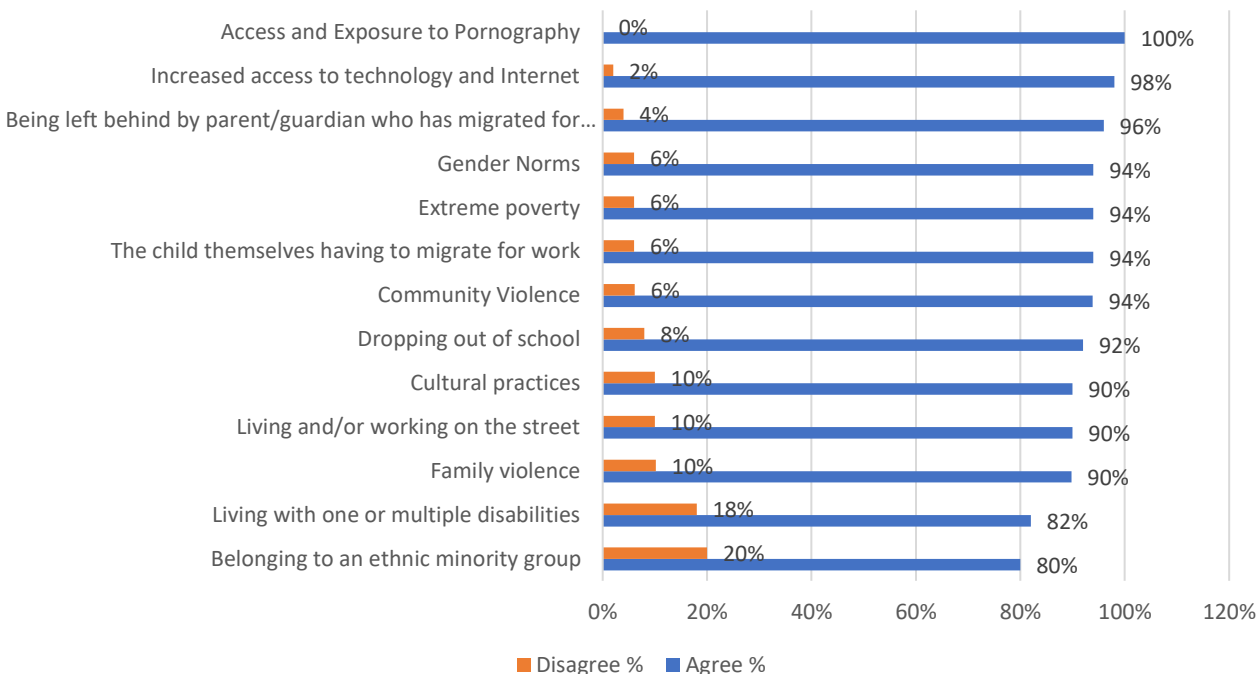


Figure 15. Participants' perceptions of factors about the *child* impacting children's vulnerability to OCSEA.
N=50*

*Note: The 'Family violence' and 'Community violence' scores are based on 49 responses

Similarly, as in the case of children's vulnerability to general child sexual exploitation, respondents were in strong agreement in terms of what factors increase children's vulnerability to OCSEA (Figure 15). As we can see above, almost all options were ascribed values of agreement exceeding 90%. Smaller consensus (however still high) was found around the same factors as in child sexual exploitation – belonging to an ethnic minority group (80% agreed) and living with one or multiple disabilities (82% agreed).

When respondents were given the option to comment on other sources of vulnerability to OCSEA in their country, which may not have been included in the survey options, they mentioned similar factors as in cases of general child sexual exploitation:

- Child labour
- The trust that the children have of the perpetrators
- Dressing immorally
- Drug abuse
- Exposing children in bars and night clubs
- Family living with a relative
- Marriage conflicts
- *"Misconception about freedom of expression that you can do whatever you feel without consideration"* (RA3-TZ-35-A)
- Parent's divorce

- Peer pressure and groups
- Polygamy
- Religion
- Lack of understanding of online sexual exploitation

When participants were asked about the **similarities and differences in children’s vulnerability when considering online forms of sexual exploitation and abuse in comparison to general sexual exploitation**, they noted the following:

Similarities:

“It is almost similar because, the facilitator uses vulnerability as trap to perpetrate their abuse” (RA3-TZ-27-A);

“The vulnerability is similar to sexual exploitation because both are aimed to abuse the children, physically and mentally” (RA3-TZ-18-A).

Differences:

“OCSEA is more online sexual exploitation, that means all over the world will watch the video or picture of the victim” (RA3-TZ-33-A);

“Vulnerable children exposed to sexual exploitation are different from OCSEA due to low accessibility to smart accessories that expose them” (RA3-TZ-42-A).

- **Factors about the society identified as increasing vulnerability to general sexual abuse (any types)**

When asked, “in your country, indicate if you think the following factors about society can increase vulnerability to sexual abuse and exploitation in general” – survey respondents reported the following factors as sources of vulnerability to sexual exploitation in general:

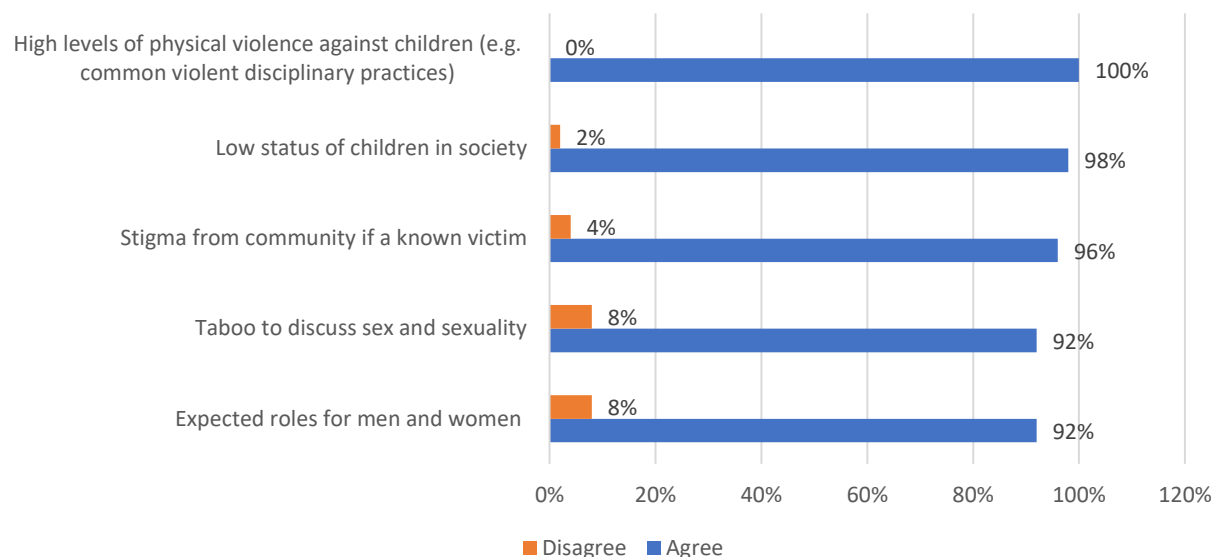


Figure 16. Participants' perceptions of factors about the *society* impacting children's vulnerability to general sexual exploitation and abuse. N=50

Nearly unanimous consensus was found among the respondents regarding their ideas around which of the above factors about society can increase vulnerability to sexual abuse and exploitation in general. 92% agreed that expected roles for men and women (8% disagreed slightly, 0% strongly) as well as taboos around discussing sex and sexuality (6% disagreed slightly, 2% strongly) in Tanzania influence vulnerability to child sexual exploitation; 96% agreed that stigma from the community has an impact; 98% agreed to low status of children in society as a factor increasing vulnerability and 100% to high levels of physical violence against children.

When respondents were given the option to comment on other societal sources of vulnerability in Tanzania, which may not have been included in the survey options, they noted the following:

- Early marriage taboo
- Lack of positive parenting
- Polygamy
- Poverty
- Tradition that only mother is responsible to talk with girls
- Traditions and customs of some tribes. E.g. Use of Lisale leaf (Lisale leaf is part of a broader traditional approach to conflict resolution called "Muhali," whereby the leaf, in some settings, is a token to make amends. Muhali happens when one family/person has been wronged by another – and they will agree to rectify the situation – through, for example, marrying off a girl, giving a cow/money/other gift. The leaf here is symbolic but also thought to take on a special power).⁸

⁸ Personal communication from Tanzania local field research team.

- Factors about the society identified as increasing vulnerability specifically to online forms of child sexual exploitation and abuse

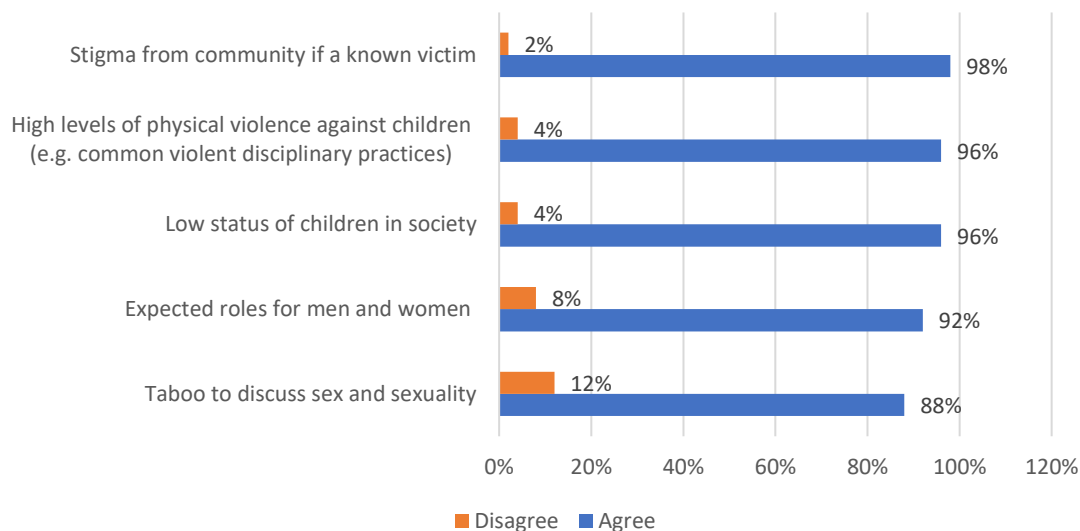


Figure 17. Participants' perceptions of factors about the *society* impacting children's vulnerability specific to OCSEA. N=50

A broad consensus was also observed when participants were asked to identify if the same factors are sources of increased vulnerability to online sexual abuse (Figure 17). 98% agreed that stigma from community increases the vulnerability, 96% that high levels of physical violence against children and low status of children in society have an impact, 92% thought expected roles for men and women and 88% that taboos around discussing sex and sexuality influence children's vulnerability to child sexual exploitation.

Factors about society additionally mentioned by participants that increased children's vulnerability to OCSEA were:

- Poor education about gender
- Community violence
- Early marriage taboo
- Poverty
- Family separation
- Increased use of technology
- Lack of openness
- Traditional practices

When participants were asked specifically **why societal factors increase vulnerability to OCSEA differently to sexual exploitation generally**, they often did not talk about differences, but rather the risk factors and impact of the crime in general, particularly:

- Poverty: *“Most children that are abused, especially sexually exploited, it is due to poverty. For instance, a child can be convinced with little gifts because her/his parents can’t afford to provide to him/her”* (RA3-TZ-37-A);
- Influence from western countries: *“Because most of the teenager in our country adopt things from western countries”* (RA3-TZ-08-A);
- Low status of children in the society: *“Mostly they contribute a lot in making children to feel inferior! Children are not given a freedom to share issues with parents or relatives. (RA3-TZ-10-A); “The society needs to give rights to children, the right to be listened to, because when the parent or guardian is harsh the children are afraid to express their concerns and challenges they face and his/her presence doesn’t matter. In order to prevent sexual exploitation, the community needs to learn to listen to children”* (RA3-TZ-48-A);
- Cultural practices: *“Some tribes traditions and customs are affecting the process, for example they are using leaves (Lisale) to apologise to hide family shame/secrets instead of reporting cases. They finish it within a family by paying traditional penalties such as alcohol, without considering the negative impact of the abuse to a child”* (RA3-TZ-29-A);
- Society’s ignorance to the issue: *“When the society ignores the abused children, the rate of abusing will be increased at that society”* (RA3-TZ-18-A).

Reporting

In order to explore what influences decisions about reporting cases of child sexual exploitation and abuse, participants were asked to indicate whether they believed particular social and cultural factors influenced reporting on general child sexual exploitation (all kinds) and specifically related to OCSEA in Tanzania.

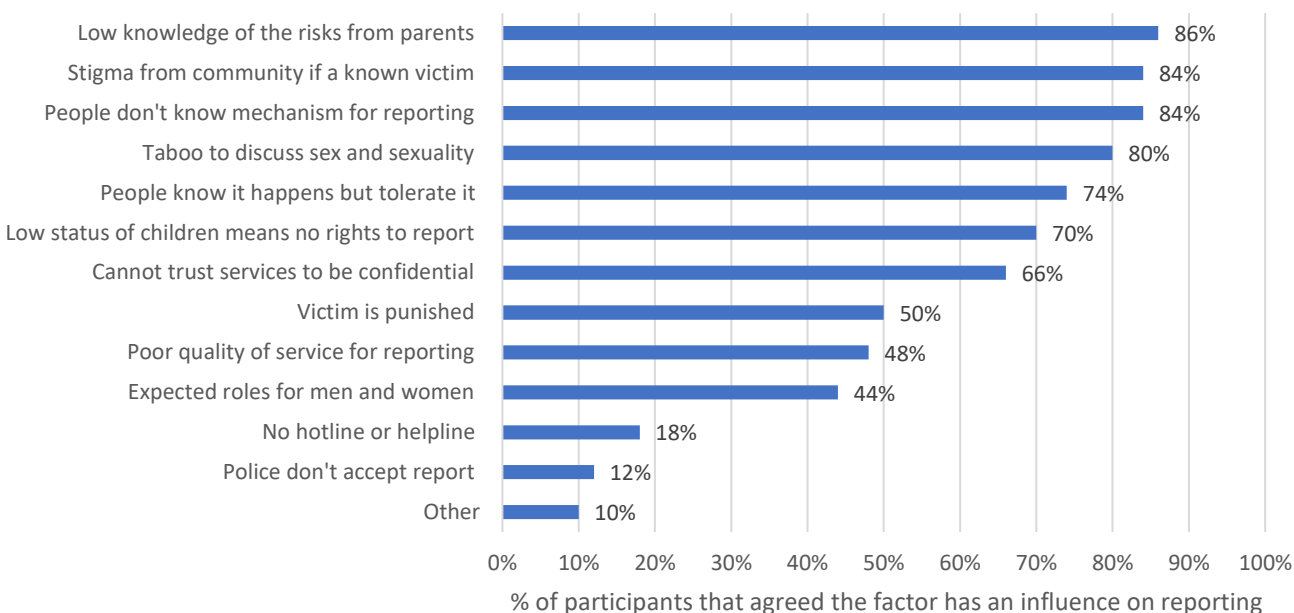


Figure 18. Social and cultural influences on reporting *child sexual exploitation in general* , N=50

Figure 18 shows that low knowledge of the risks from parents (86%), stigma from the community (84%), not knowing the mechanisms for reporting (84%) and taboos around discussing sex and sexuality were perceived by frontline workers as the main factors influencing reporting child sexual exploitation. Around half of participants perceived punishing the victim (50%), poor quality of services for reporting (48%) and expected roles for men and women (44%) as factors influencing reporting in Tanzania. Factors rated by respondents as having the smallest influence from the listed factors were police not accepting reports (12%) and no hotline or helpline (18%) – which is interesting, since a member of ChildLine (helpline in Tanzania) was administering the survey.

Outside of what was reported above, other factors mentioned by participants that influence reporting child sexual exploitation in general included:

- Bribes from perpetrators
- Children not being aware of child abuse
- Lack of education
- Fear of breaking the relationship among their dearest and community

When asked, “in your country what prevents reporting specifically about OCSEA?”, survey respondents reported the following factors as reasons which prevent the reporting of OCSEA:

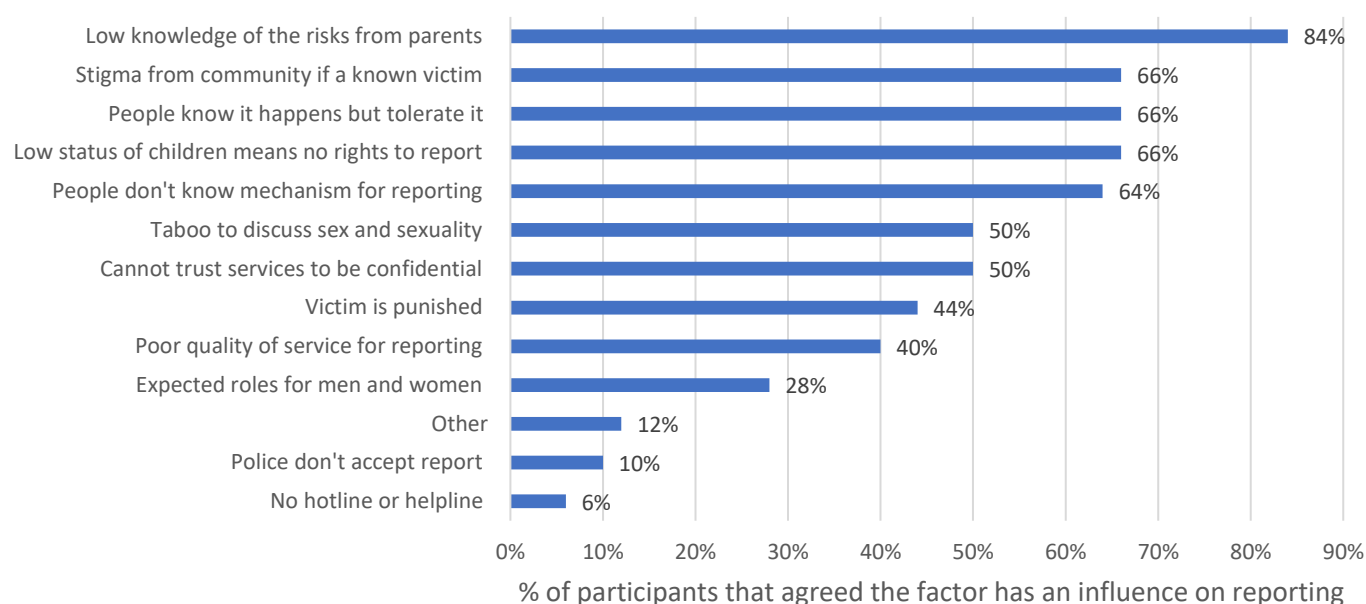


Figure 19. Social and cultural influences on reporting OCSEA, N=50

In the case of OCSEA, as we can see above, respondents reported slightly different values for what prevents reporting OCSEA in Tanzania compared to factors influencing the reporting of child sexual exploitation in general. While low knowledge of the risks from parents (84%) was still found to have the highest influence on reporting, a smaller number of frontline workers selected stigma from the community (66% compared to 84% for child sexual exploitation), people not knowing the mechanisms for reporting (64% compared to 84% for child sexual exploitation) and interestingly, taboos around discussing sex and sexuality (50% compared to 80% for child sexual exploitation) as factors influencing reporting OCSEA. 66% of respondents reported that, in Tanzania, people know OCSEA happens but tolerate it and that low status of children means they have no rights to report. Half of the participants thought the fact that services cannot be trusted to be confidential and slightly less than half that punishing the victim (44%) and poor quality of service for reporting (40%) influence reporting OCSEA. 28% (compared to 44% in case of child sexual exploitation) thought expected roles for men and women determine reporting. The least agreed upon barriers to reporting OCSEA in Tanzania were the same as for general child sexual exploitation - no hotline or helpline (6%) and the police not accepting the reports (10%).

Other factors additionally named by participants as understood to influence reporting OCSEA included:

- Corruption from perpetrators
- Avoiding family separation

- Lack of understanding/knowledge: *“Such cases are not reported due to low rate of understanding in the society”* (RA3-TZ-47-A); *“Parents don’t have the knowledge to prevent their kids from OCSEA hence it is difficult to report”* (RA3-TZ-09-A) ;
- Fear/shame: *“Key informants are afraid to report such cases for them to be known in their community, so they choose to stay quiet and tolerate the exploitation that happens within their community. The victims are also afraid that the perpetrators will take legal action towards them so they deciding to tolerate the exploitation, more education is required on these issues”* (RA3-TZ-37-A); *“Other parents see it to be shameful to report the cases of their children”* (RA3-TZ-13-A).

One participant commented on the absence of technology in rural areas of Tanzania: *“I have not experienced OCSEA in my area of jurisdiction because its rural and my community is not exposed to technology”* (RA3-TZ-14-A).

A worker from a community-based organisation added: *“Boys might find hard to report about sexual exploitation cases due to the fact that most reported cases are for girls”* (Participant ID; RA3-TZ-47-A).

Another NGO-worker commented: *“There is no punishment for perpetrators”* (RA3-TZ-38-A), which might also deter people from reporting.

Availability of Support

Social support workers were asked to evaluate the overall availability and quality of medical, psychological, legal and reintegration services for child victims of OCSEA.

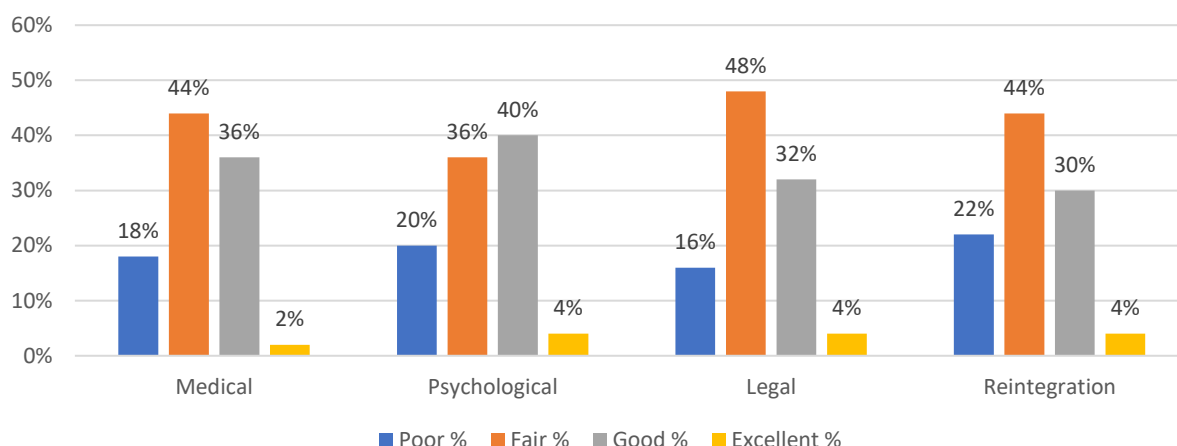


Figure 20. Perception of Availability of Services

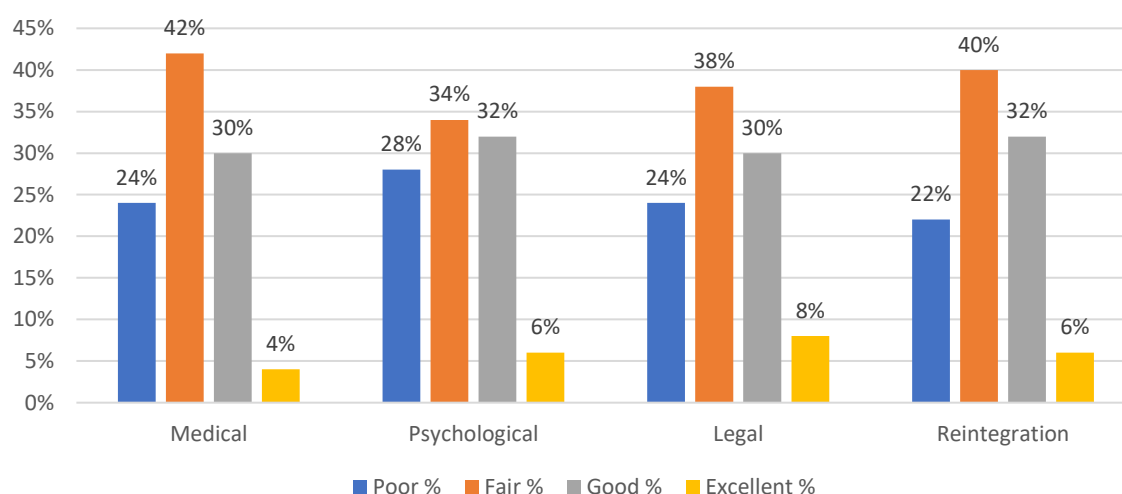


Figure 21. Perception of Quality of Services

Figures 20 and 21 show fairly consistent rating between all services. 'Fair' ratings were selected most often followed by 'good' ratings for both the availability and quality of services. 74%-80% rated the availability of services as fair or good and 66%-72% the quality as fair or good. The quality and availability of psychological services was rated by 28% and 20% of respondents as poor. This is an interesting finding, since 96% of frontline workers reported to offer such services in their organisations.

When respondents were given the option to explain their appraisals of the quality and availability of services above they noted:

“It’s normal, for the legal system to take its time however it’s discouraging when the perpetrators are bailed out and allowed to spend time with their family while the case is still ongoing. This freedom makes the perpetrators escape/run away from the law. In some district they have child protection systems, the treatment is good since they are free for the victims to access medical treatment in hospitals without charges” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“More support is needed from other countries” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“Psychological counselling services should be given to communities like any other accessible social welfare service” (RA3-TZ-35-A);

“There are no such services because people are unaware about online sexual exploitation” (RA3-TZ-47-A).

To better understand what affects the availability of support services for children, respondents were asked to indicate to what extent they believed particular factors had influence on the availability of services for child victims.

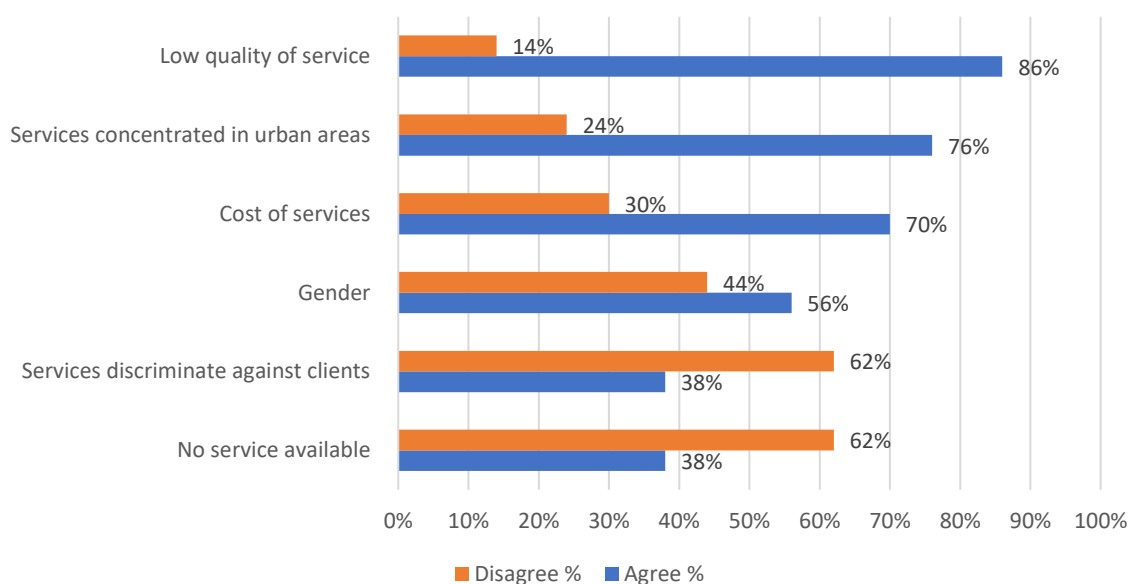


Figure 22. Factors affecting the availability of support services for child victims of child sexual exploitation

Figure 22 above indicates that factors perceived as having the biggest influence on the availability of support services for children recovering from child sexual exploitation was low quality of services (86% agreed) and the location – 76% agreed that the fact that services are concentrated in urban areas has an influence on the availability of services. 70% of frontline workers also perceived the cost of services as an important factor. Slightly more than half (56%) of frontline workers agreed that gender has an impact on

the availability of services for child victims of child sexual exploitation. 62% disagreed that factors such as no availability of services and discrimination against clients affect the availability of help for child victims of child sexual exploitation in Tanzania.

Participants mentioned additional factors such as:

- Bureaucracy
- Culture
- Lack of Child Care professionals
- Lack of knowledge about services
- Inadequate laws
- Polygamy
- Stigmatism/ Tradition and customs

When participants were asked to indicate to what extent those same factors affect the availability of support services for child victims of OCSEA, the results were mostly similar (Figure 23), with a few slight differences.

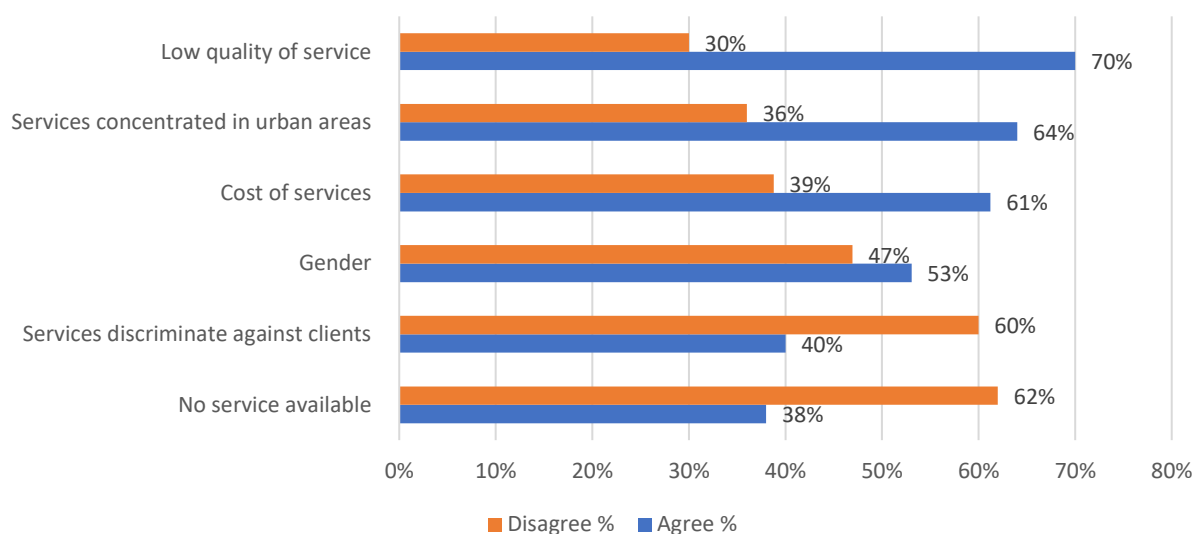


Figure 23. Factors affecting the availability of support services for child victims of OCSEA N=50*

*Note: The 'cost of services' score is based on 49 responses

Fewer participants agreed (70% compared to 84% for child sexual exploitation) that low quality of services influences the availability of support for child victims of OCSEA. 64% (compared to 74% for child sexual exploitation) agreed that services are concentrated in urban areas and 61% (compared to 70% for child sexual exploitation) that the cost of services influences their availability. As in the case of child sexual exploitation, around half of the respondents agreed that gender affects the availability. Similarly, 62% disagreed that no availability of services and 60% that discrimination against clients affect the availability of help for child victims of OCSEA in Tanzania.

Respondents mentioned additional factors such as:

- Bureaucracy
- Ignorance of rights to access services
- Poverty
- Stigmatism

When given an opportunity to share additional comments about the availability of services, frontline social support workers mostly talked about the lack of awareness of the support services: *“Community is unaware about where to access such services. It takes long time to access service”* (RA3-TZ-37-A); *“Ignorance of their right to access various services”* (Participant ID RA3-TZ-35-A), but also that even if some services exist, they’re often inadequate: *“Especially in Tanzania, we need more accurate services from the service providers so as to help children”* (RA3-TZ-46-A); *“There is a lack of enough child support professionals and community ignorance on child protection”* (RA3-TZ-36-A).

Investigations and Convictions

Participants were asked to estimate the amount of OCSEA cases they managed in the last 12 months and determine approximately how many of those resulted in investigations and convictions. It should be noted that these indications were merely estimates, not reliable counts of official cases.

33 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, they had managed at least one OCSEA case, and out of those 33, 29 indicated that this resulted in a complaint filed to the local police/judicial authorities (total 444 cases estimated).

25 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, at least one of the cases they managed resulted in an investigation (total 319 estimated).

20 participants indicated that in the last 12 months, at least one of the cases they managed resulted in a conviction (total 216 estimated).

It should be noted that these numbers might not be accurate due to the lack of strong understanding of what OCSEA is among some participants, even though they received the definition and said that they have worked with OCSEA cases. The ECPAT partner felt like the respondents may have conflated, for example, exposure to pornography with OCEA in some cases, while also not recognising some of the particular facets of what constitutes OCSEA. Hence, this helps to explain part of the contradiction we see with participants in RA3 saying they've encountered many cases but then the inability of many actors within these same institutions being able to identify OCSEA cases for other components of this study.⁹

⁹ Personal communication from Tanzania local field research team.

Law Enforcement and Government Support

In order to understand frontline social support workers' perceptions of responses by local law enforcement on the issue of OCSEA, respondents were asked to answer, "Based on your work which best describes local law enforcement's: 1) awareness of OCSEA crimes; and 2) response to OCSEA crimes. Their responses to this question are depicted in Figure 24.

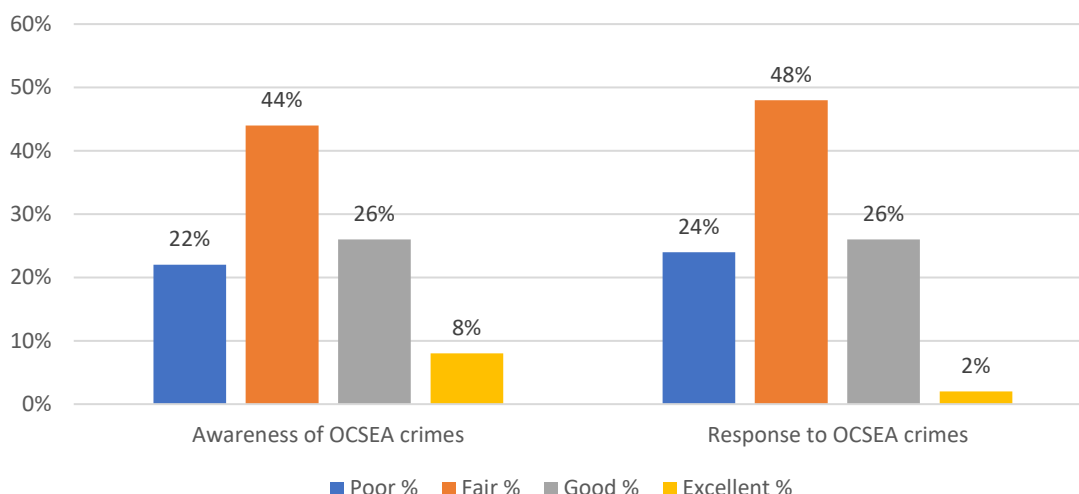


Figure 24. Participants' perceptions of local law enforcement awareness and response to OCSEA

Local law enforcement's awareness and response to OCSEA received similar ratings – in both cases the 'fair' rating was selected most frequently – 44% of respondents rated awareness as fair and 48% the response as fair. That was followed by 'good' ratings – 26% both awareness and response and 'poor' ratings – 22% rated law enforcement's awareness as poor and 24% response to OCSEA as poor. Only 8% rated the awareness as excellent and 2% the response as excellent. It should be mentioned that almost half of the sample represented government-run organisations, which may have more interface with law enforcement.

Respondents were given the option to provide additional comments to qualify their answers above. Again, they indicated very little awareness of OCSEA in the country: *"There is little knowledge about online sexual exploitation against children"* (RA3-TZ-35-A); *"Some in law enforcement don't know the concept of OCSEA"* (RA3-TZ-19-A). The need for training was also highlighted: *"More training on OCSEA is needed"* (RA3-TZ-46-A) as well as a need for increased efforts in fighting OCSEA: *"The country with other organisations has to do more efforts in combating online sexual exploitation"* (RA3-TZ-38-A).

To better understand the ratings above, participants were next asked about their perceptions of the quality of efforts to address OCSEA (Figure 25).

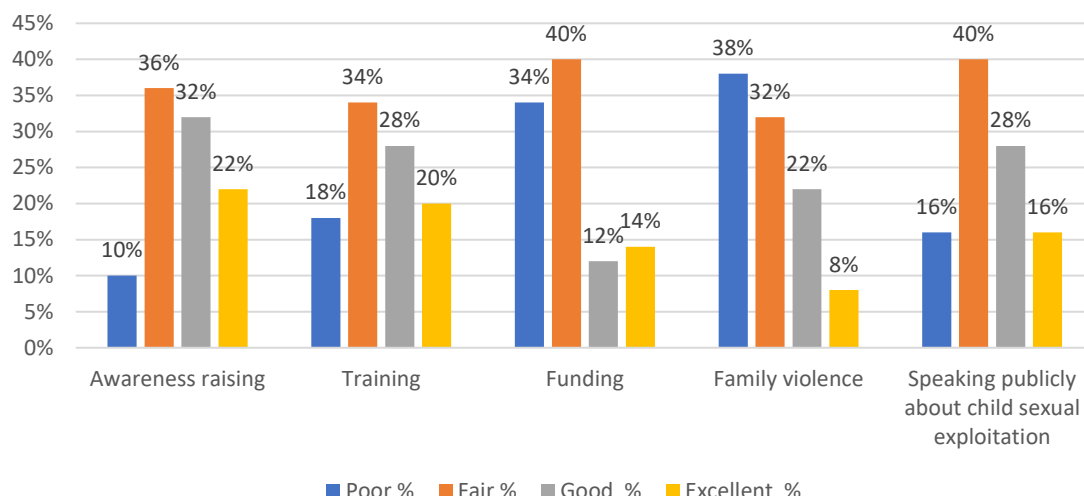


Figure 25. Participants' perceptions of quality of government efforts to address OCSEA

As Figure 25 shows, the quality of efforts to fight family violence as well as funding received the lowest ratings. Combating family violence was rated by 38% as 'poor', by 32% as 'fair', 22% selected the 'good' rating and by 8% as 'excellent'. Funding was given 'poor' ratings by 34% of respondents, 'fair' by 40%, 'good' by 12% and 'excellent' by 14%. Speaking publicly about child sexual exploitation, awareness raising efforts and training were given mostly 'fair' or 'good' ratings. 68% rated governments efforts to speak publicly about child sexual exploitation as fair (40%) or good (28%), 16% as poor and 16% as excellent. Similarly, 62% rated training efforts as fair (34%) or good (28%), 18% as poor and 20% as excellent. While throughout the survey frontline workers mentioned the lack of awareness about OCSEA in Tanzania, 54% still rated governments awareness raising efforts as good (32%) or excellent (22%); 36% gave 'fair' and 10% 'poor' ratings. In terms of what other efforts participants thought the government should undertake to address OCSEA, one participant commented: *"Government should hire experts on cybercrime to catch the perpetrators"* (RA3-TZ-38-A), with another adding: *"There are more areas to working against sexual exploitation. Government should cooperate with private industry and NGOs to combat online sexual exploitation against children in Tanzania"* (RA3-TZ-36-A).

These mostly poor/fair findings are particularly interesting, since approximately half of the respondents worked in government-run organisations.

Next, frontline social support workers surveyed were asked to assess the collaboration on OCSEA between non-government sectors such as NGOs, tourism companies, Internet companies etc. The results are illustrated in Figure 26.

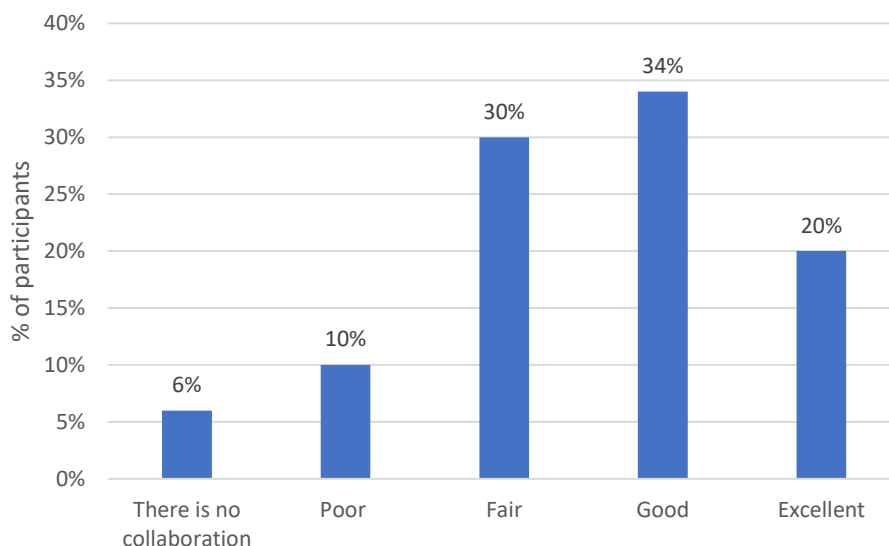


Figure 26. Participants perceptions of collaboration on OCSEA between non-government, N=50

The majority of frontline workers reported the cooperation to be good (34%) or fair (30%). That was followed by ‘excellent’ ratings by 20% and ‘poor’ ratings by 10%. 6% reported that there is no collaboration between non-government entities.

One participant working in a government-run organisation commented: *“Cooperation among the service providers exists but there are some challenges on insufficient equipment, legal systems and other organisations are valuing profits rather than dignity”* (RA3-TZ-29-A).

Public Awareness

Lastly, the survey attempted to ascertain the levels of public awareness around the issues of OCSEA in Tanzania. In order to do so, frontline social support workers were asked to subjectively appraise young people's awareness, parent's awareness and the general public's awareness of OCSEA – their responses are illustrated in Figure 27.

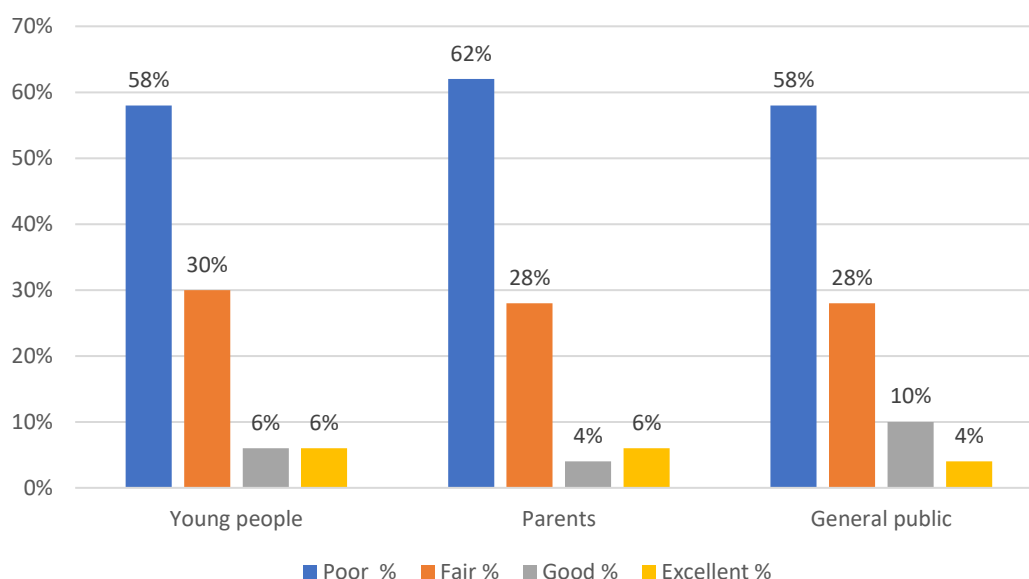


Figure 27. Awareness of OCSEA

The majority of frontline social support workers described young people's, parent's and the general public's awareness of OCSEA as either poor or fair, which is consistent with their comments throughout the entire survey. 58% rated young people's awareness as poor, 30% as fair, 6% as good and 6% as excellent. Parent's awareness was rated by 62% as poor, by 28% as fair, by 4% as good and by 6% as excellent. The general public's awareness was given 'poor' ratings by 58% of respondents, fair by 28%, good by 10% and excellent by 4%.

Respondents were given the option to provide additional comments to qualify their answers above. Some of the responses included:

Lack of knowledge on OCSEA:

"There is little knowledge about online sexual exploitation" (RA3-TZ-35-A);

"Most of the communities don't know about OCSEA" (RA3-TZ-19-A);

“Online sexual exploitation and abuse is a new phenomenon in our country, communities are unaware of it, more knowledge is required to reach all in government sectors and services, NGOs and faith based organisations to be informed on online sexual exploitation” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“There is low understanding about online sexual exploitation against children. Government should cooperate with other organisations to educate community about it” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

“Some of parents don't know if their children can access sex videos online” (RA3-TZ-19-A);

“There are challenges in fighting against sexual exploitation, with especially little knowledge in the community” (RA3-TZ-36-A);

“To some extent the society should be blamed for staying quiet when the children are exploited online” (RA3-TZ-35-A).

Need for awareness raising/education:

“Build better understanding about OCSEA issues among communities” (RA3-TZ-47-A);

“Society needs more education and information about OCSEA” (RA3-TZ-39-A);

“There should be a strategy to raise awareness to the public about child violence and child abuse especially in the most vulnerable areas” (RA3-TZ-06-A)

“Societies are in need of awareness raising about parenting” (RA3-TZ-46-A);

“Some communities are not aware on the negative impacts of such acts, therefore more education is required and legal amendments on granting bail to online sexual abuse perpetrators to be allowed out during the cases – it is really discouraging the informants” (RA3-TZ-29-A);

“Online sexual exploitation has a negative impact on children including affecting the child psychologically but benefits perpetrators and thus violence. There should be steps to be taken to educate children about online sexual abuse” (RA3-TZ-37-A).