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Prioritizing the Key Determinants behind Gaza Children's Engagement in the Labour Market

ترتيب أهم المحددات المسببة لالتحاق أطفال غزة بسوق العمل

Rania Mansour Abu Al Ouf

Supervised by

Dr. Wael Hamdi Al-Daya

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of the requirements for the degree of
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إقرار

أنا الموقع أدناه مقدم الرسالة التي تحمل العنوان:

Prioritizing the Key Determinants behind Gaza Children's Engagement in the Labour Market

ترتيب أهم المحددات المسببة لالتحاق أطفال غزة بسوق العمل

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ترتيب أهم المحددات المسببة لالتحاق أطفال غزة بسوق العمل

Prioritizing the Key Determinants behind Gaza Children's Engagement in the Labour Market

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نائب الرئيس لشئون البحث العلمي والدراسات العليا

أ.د. عبدالرؤوف علي المناعمة



Abstract

The main objectives of this study stem from the fact that it attempts to introduce the phenomenon of child labour and its major determinants. This study mainly aims to prioritize key determinants of child labour as the most compelling to a child to join the labour market of Gaza. The researcher uses the qualitative research methodology. Data of the study is collected by the tool of semi-structured interviews. Using the purposive sampling technique, the researcher interviewed thirty child labourers by individual interviews. The Constant Comparative Method is utilized to analyze data of the qualitative research. This method applies an inductive strategy to explore the above mentioned objectives of the study following a bottom-up approach. The findings of the study are based on the emerged patterns during the data analysis process. They are categorized under two main factors: Push and pull factors that trigger off many of child labourers' decisions to engage in child labour activities in Gaza. The results of the study prioritize the determinants behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market in sequence: Wars and conflicts, family dynamics, self-actualization, poverty, contribution to the family, and work conditions and attractions. This study recommends that potential implementation of the labour laws and monitoring by the interested entities are of the key factors to eradicate child labour in Gaza. Besides, a regular survey should be conducted to determine and control the phenomenon's magnitude and pervasiveness in our society.

Key Words: Child labour, determinants, qualitative methodology, the CCM method, prioritizing, push& pull factors.

الملخص

هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى التعرف على ظاهرة عمالة الأطفال، وبيان أهم محدداتها وذلك بغرض ترتيب هذه المحددات حسب أوقى دافع للأطفال للخروج لسوق العمل في مدينة غزة. استخدمت الباحثة منهج البحث النوعي حيث تم جمع بيانات الدراسة بواسطة أداة المقابلات شبه المنظمة. وباستخدام العينات القصدية، أجرت الباحثة مقابلات مع ثلاثين طفل عامل من خلال مقابلات فردية. من جهة أخرى، تم تحليل بيانات الدراسة باستخدام المنهج المقارن المستمر، والذي يستخدم لتحليل بيانات البحث النوعي وذلك باتباع استراتيجية بحث استقرائية أو استكشافية تتدرج من إجراء دراسات على الهدف وصولاً لأفكار عامة أو ما يسمى بأسلوب من أسفل لأعلى. وتستند نتائج الدراسة على الأنماط المتكررة التي ظهرت خلال عملية تحليل البيانات، وهي تصنف ضمن بعدين رئيسيين هما: عوامل الدفع وعوامل الجذب التي أثرت على قرار الأطفال العاملين بالانخراط في أنشطة عمالة الأطفال في غزة. رتبت نتائج تحليل هذه الدراسة المحددات الكامنة وراء التحاق أطفال غزة بسوق العمل وفق التسلسل التالي: الحروب والنزاعات، مدى التفاعل بين أفراد الأسرة (ديناميكيات الأسرة)، الرغبة في تحقيق الذات، الفقر، المساهمة مع الأسرة، ظروف العمل ومدى انجذاب الأطفال نحوه. وتوصي الدراسة بأن يكون تنفيذ قوانين العمل والمتابعة من الجهات المسؤولة من أهم عوامل القضاء على عمالة الأطفال في غزة. وبالإضافة إلى ذلك، ينبغي إجراء مسح منتظم لتحديد وضبط حجم هذه الظاهرة ومدى انتشارها في مجتمعنا.



﴿قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا^ص

إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ﴾

[البقرة : 32]

They (Angels) said: “Glory be to You, we have no knowledge except what You have taught us. Verily, it is You, the All-Knower, the All-Wise.”

Dedication

To my loving, caring and inspiring husband: Mohamed S. Adas ... for the boundless patience, support and encouragement

To my lovely kids: Kareem, Mira, and Anas who bring warmth to my heart, and brightness to every day of my life...your love is what gives me the strength to go on....

To my dear parents... getting to this stage in my life has taken a lot of hard work, but it is nothing compared to how you worked and sacrificed for me. You are the number one reason of my success in life.

To my brothers and sisters who believe in me and my potentials... I'm so lucky to have you all around...

To all the children of Palestine...

To Gaza children,... I dedicate my research to you and I believe that one day your suffering will come to an end....

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List of Abbreviations

A.L.O	Arab Labour Organization
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CCM	Constant Comparative Method
CPNs	Child Protection Networks
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
DCIP	Defense for Children International-Palestine
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPEC	International Program to Eliminate Child Labour
INGOs	International Non-governmental Organizations
IRB	Institutional Review Board
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MAS	The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute
MoHE	The Ministry of Higher Education
MoH	The Ministry of Health
MoI	The Ministry of Information
MoL	The Ministry of Labour
MoSA	The Ministry of Social Affairs
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
oPt	Occupied Palestinian Territory
PA	Palestinian Authority
PCBS	the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PCDCR	Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution
PNCTP	Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme
RECLISA	Reducing Exploitive Child Labour in Southern Africa
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labour
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour

Chapter 1

Introduction

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

"Children are a bit like chickens – they need to be kept safe, guided, fed and loved", an aphorism said by a Nepalese grandmother of four young children. This quoted simple saying captures millions of worldwide parents' wisdom. Even without formal knowledge of the Convention on the Rights of the Child or child development principles, most parents recognize that children have rights: love, protection, welfare, care and development. Since children are the most vulnerable groups in societies, they should be provided the highest attention and care. Unfortunately, child labour makes it impossible (UNICEF, 2001, p.18).

Today's children are technologically talented, keen for knowledge and they cope quickly. So, they are in a pressing need to a political mechanism in order to enable them debate their basic issues. Hopefully, this goal is achieved by 2019; the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Unfortunately, children are ignored by the global leaders. Actually, millions of disadvantaged children's lives are blighted despite international laws' concerns of child protection. Recent data reveals that there are about 150 million child labourers (5-14 years old) around the world. Therefore, their future will be jeopardized (UNICEF,2016).

Mahmoud et al. (2016) also argue that despite the growing concerns in the last 30 years with the law on child rights, its enforcement has been stunted in some countries. The reason is supposed to be certain discrepancies with culture and religion of those countries. Children do have rights which are stated in the Convention that clearly underlines child protection: survival, development, protection, and participation. Unluckily, children are deprived of these rights when they work.

According to Edmonds and Pavcnik (2005), low-income countries is the place wherein most of child laborers of the world exist. These countries face difficulties estimating the number of working children due to insufficient labor market's data. It has been maintained that one of poverty's symptoms is the prevalence of child

labour. Besides, it is revealed that numbers of children employed by their parents exceed those employed elsewhere. Too, high-income countries share a common opinion that child labor is almost considered as a form of child abuse in the developing countries.

As stated by Dryden (2009), the problem infecting today's children is child abuse and neglect. It is and continues to be an overwhelming epidemic. Moreover, the abuse of child labour is a more serious issue all over the world than child labour itself (Akyol and Sali, 2010).

Al-Hassan and Abubakari (2015) consider that children of the world are abused due to their vulnerability. Their vulnerable status in the labour market stems from the fact that children do not enjoy work privileges, leaves, medical insurance beside lacking the bargaining power and social security.

According to estimates from the International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), there are around 120,453 million child labourers between the ages five to fourteen, constituting about more than two thirds of the 168 million children involved in child labour from around the world. These children are deprived of their basic rights, mistreated and employed for prolonged hours and under bad or hazardous conditions (ILO-IPEC,2013).

To add, Putnick and Bornstein (2015) state that child labour can be a barrier to one of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDG 2); achieving universal primary education by 2015. This view has been supported by the ILO's *the World Report on Child Labour*. It is confirmed that working in earlier stages of life obstructs the child's education. What's more, it hampers the acquisition of skills and competencies needed in adolescence period and minimizes opportunities in securing decent work in future.

It has been realized that the two policy pillars: education and social protection, are to be stressed out to combat child labour. Ensuring a compulsory, quality and free education prevents children from premature involvement in the labour market and hence helps families to invest in their children's education. Besides, the social protection expansion can be helpful to face social and economic instability and thereby preventing children from joining the labour market as a means of the

household survival strategy (ILO, 2015). In this regard, Hindman (2014, p.13,part1, section 1) confirms that children's contribution in the household is often seen as a "survival strategy".

Furthermore, as reported by Webbink et al.(2012), there are two hidden forms of child labour: household chores and family business work. Such works are often ignored in employment statistics. Too, these forms are attributed to demographic, cultural and socio-economic factors. It has been also discussed that a broad evidence shows that all forms of child labour hamper the child's school attainment.

The "Bonded Labour" is also another form of child labour which has been prevalent since ancient times. It implies that debts are transferred to children in case parents are not able to pay back loans or perform work due to illness or old age (NWOKORO et al., 2011).

Moreover, in 2006, the ILO as the most dominant source of child labour's statistics worldwide since 1990s, undertakes achieving the goal of the elimination of the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) by 2016. Nonetheless, this goal needs to reinvigorate both national and international efforts against the issue of child labour (ILO-IPEC,2015).

In its second Global Report, *the End of Child Labour Within Reach*, the ILO (2006) maintains that understanding the concept of child labour goes hand in hand with its causes. A supply and demand approach is conceived as a better mechanism since child labour is seen as a market forces' product.

According to the consultant of the South African NGO; Reducing Exploitive Child Labour in Southern Africa (RECLISA), Riba (2006) evokes a supply-demand formula which are the market production forces. The ILO has employed this formula to analyze the causes of child labour. Therefore, it resonates to many of labour professionals and economists.

In the last decade, the elimination of child labour in the global supply chains has attracted much attention from researchers. In this regard, Zutshi et al.(2009) discusses that under unfavorable work conditions, of all exploited workers, children are often the first to be hurt. For this reason, they need to be protected against work

exploitation. However, children care is often offset by the tempting profit in the global market.

Similarly, Xu et al.(2015) maintains that the search for cheap labour has increased global firms' demand for child labour. However, this has been impeded due to information technology, media advancement and third- party organizations. If exposed to the public, child labour, could be harmful to both suppliers and manufacturers.

On December 3rd-4th, 2015, In a conference held in Sharm El Sheikh, *the Arab Labour Organization* (A.L.O) declares that children and youth represent about (50%) of the Arabs; nearly 280 millions of the Arab population. It is also estimated that (15 percent) of all children in the Arab States are child labourers. This estimation excludes children working in family-based business, agriculture, and streets.

In the Arab States (i.e., Yemen, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory "oPt"), even though child labour's estimate is not high compared to the global average, it is a key priority. Child labour and youth unemployment are seen as strongly linked issues, as yesterday's child labourers are today's jobless youth (aged 15-24 years old) (ILO, 2016).

In Syria, wherein the most horrible humanitarian crisis of the time occurs, hundreds of thousands of children and adults are killed, and more thousands of children are forced to face the escalating violence under dehumanizing conditions. The Syrian children resort to child labour and its worst forms as a coping mechanism in the five years of war and conflict. Therefore, the incidence of child labour is in rise due to the exhaustion of other coping mechanisms and the insufficient human assistance. As a result, the toll on children is massive as they work as paid and unpaid, employed and self-employed as a way out under comprehensive push and pull factors touching all the spheres of life (TdH,2016).

In fact, two hundred years since Dickens's depiction of child labourers in early nineteenth century in Great Britain and children still work and their numbers are staggering. Charles Dickens immortalized those children in his fiction and wrote about their fate as being one of them when he was a child (Hindman, 2014,pp.520-528).

Actually, the macabre images of child labourers in farms and factories of the developed world are almost diminished as driven by technological change. Nonetheless, the problem persists these days in developing countries due to the rapid growth of population, poverty, unemployment, low wages, family size, and globalization (Osment, 2014).

1.2 Research Problem (Problem Statement)

As families in Gaza struggle to survive, children are forced to the labour market. Hence, the number of child labourers in Gaza is doubled over five years ago. Based on this investigation carried out in January to April by the Defense for Children International-Palestine (DCIP) in 2016, it is revealed that child labourers in Gaza are vulnerable to dreadful work conditions. These conditions have an adverse effect on the Gazan child's cognitive and physical growth and maturity. In fact, in 2004, the Palestinian Child Law No. 7 set that child employment under the age of 15 is illegal. Besides, an engagement in hazardous work is forbidden to those less than 18 years old. Nonetheless, the situation actually heats up especially aftermath the 2014's Gaza assault. Children of Gaza are compelled to flock to the pits to scavenge through the garbage for the still-usable and re-sellable stuff, not mentioning the prolonged working hours in hazardous works like fishing just to get a scant earnings. Despite the State of Palestine's ratification to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on April 2014, the phenomenon of child labour still persists due to inadequate enforcement to both local and international laws. This alarming situation provoked the United Nations (UN) to question whether the Gaza Strip would fit for human habitation by 2020 or not?! (O'Rourke, 2016).

Based on the above discussion, despite being a well known phenomenon, grasping the world's attention, the child labour phenomenon still has no consensus concerning its main determinants especially in the Gaza Strip area. As far as the researcher knows and based on a wide range of literature, the notion of child labour is exemplified as a more varied, country and context-specific. It seems that child labour is spurred by a series of interrelated push and pull factors. Such factors range between: poverty, war and conflict, and family dynamics to factors like: Contribution to family, self actualization, and work conditions and attraction. Therefore, this study

aims at determining the drivers behind having children of Gaza engaged in the labour market. These drivers are to be prioritized in a county basis in Gaza city and based on the push-pull mechanism. To sum up, this study is expected to fill much of the existing gap and findings are expected to explore more of the child labour's main drivers in Gaza.

1.3 Research Questions

The research questions undergirding this study are:

– **The Basic Question**

What are the main causes that influenced Gaza children the most, to be in the labour market?

– **The Secondary Question**

What is the ranking (prioritization) of these causes?- the first , the second, the third, ...etc.

These questions are intended to generate responses and bring on board factors that push (force) children into workplace as opposed to those that pull (lure) them.

1.4 Research Methodology

The current study uses the qualitative research design. Semi-structured interviews are used to determine the key factors behind child labourers' engagement in the labour market of Gaza. Abu Aisha (2013) expresses that a prepared list of themes and concepts is previously prepared including the study questions that are to be answered during the timeframe of the interview. Too, Latif et al.(2016) state that from among a group of methods of analyzing data, the most proper method can be the thematic analysis. In this particular method, the research comes up with themes obtained during the process of data collection following a bottom up approach. Therefore, this study employs the thematic analysis based on the Constant Comparative Method to analyze data of the research.

– Study Population

In fact, there are no obvious statistics concerning the size and distribution of child labourers in the Gaza Strip. This does not allow to specify a definite number of the study population. That's why it has been decided to select a purpose sample of child labourers in Gaza. Anyhow, based on estimations of the PCBS (2016), children in the Gaza Strip from those of the age group (10-15 years) constitute around 319,850 thousand of children. Estimations of child labourers in the Gaza Strip show 1.9%. Therefore, the target population is approximately 168,342.

– Study Sampling

The sampling size comprises 30 respondents of child labourers of Gaza. The researcher employs a purposive sampling technique which is a non-probability method. It includes a randomly selected "information rich cases" based on the researcher's stipulated criteria (Abu Aisha, 2013).

– Study Themes

The literature is rich with a number of factors influencing the child and household's decision regarding child labour. Of these, the more convenient factors to Gaza environment have been selected and arranged by the researcher to act as the study main (dimensions) as follows:

A. Push Factors: (Poverty, Wars and Conflicts, and Family Dynamics).

B. Pull Factors: (Contribution to the Family, Self Actualization, Work Conditions and Attraction).

The study model is represented in the following figure:

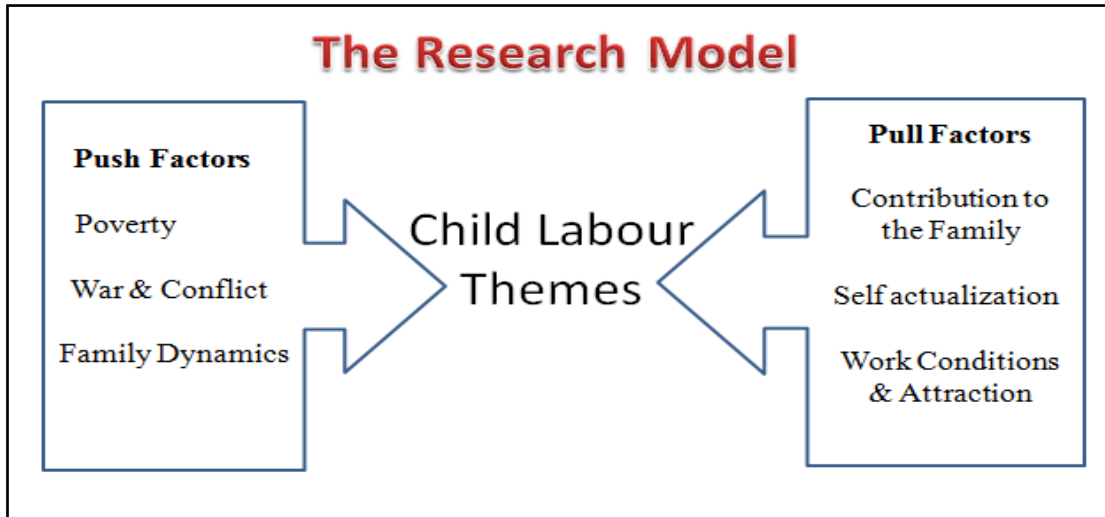


Figure (1.1): The Research Model
Source: Articulated by the researcher (2016)

1.5 Propositions Development

As discussed earlier, a manifold number of determinants that provoked Gaza children to join the labour market have been identified in the literature of this study. Based on this, the following propositions have been postulated as follows:

- 1. Proposition (1): Poverty** is the first determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.
- 2. Proposition (2): Wars and Conflicts** is the second determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.
- 3. Proposition (3): Family Dynamics** is the third determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.
- 4. Proposition (4): Contribution to the Family** is the fourth determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.
- 5. Proposition (5): Self Actualization** is the fifth determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.
- 6. Proposition (6): Work Attraction and Conditions** is the sixth determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

1.6 Research Objectives

Some previous studies investigated reasons behind children's engagement in labour market, but few of them considered the conceptual ambiguities inherent in categorizing child labour drivers as either “push” or “pull”.

Therefore, the primary concern of this research is to reflect on the main "push and pull" factors that trigger off many of child labourers' decision to engage in child labour activities in Gaza.

The study also includes the following sub-objectives:

- To identify the main drivers that have the prominent influence on child labour incidence in Gaza.
- To attempt to develop an in-depth understanding, raise awareness, and strengthen the knowledge base about a prevalent phenomenon in the Palestinian community and labour market; mainly in Gaza.
- To generate information on major characteristics of child labour in Gaza.
- To utilize the 'push-pull' mechanism to gauge the underlying factors that prompt children aged (10-15) to join the workplace.
- To uncover relative household's dependency on the child labourers.

1.7 Research Importance and Contribution

The study draws its uniqueness and importance from focusing on the following aspects:

- It endeavors to define the main determinants of child labour in Gaza and to employ the "push and pull" mechanism into an interdisciplinary type of a research.
- It finds out the vulnerability factors which push and pull the children to work.
- It taps some hidden issues in the literature of child labour in Gaza that could provoke future investigation.
- It provides quantitative and qualitative data, statistics, analysis and study tools which may enable other researchers, organizations and decision makers to design policies and programs for addressing this phenomenon.

- It works as an exploratory and a cross-disciplinary study combining: business, public policy and administration, social sciences and economics.
- It follows the bottom-up approach in an effort of hearing from child labourers themselves and letting them speak out their predicament.

1.8 Research Limitations

The main limitations of the study included a lack of a recent baseline data to determine the main drivers of child labour in Gaza, the absence of studies tackling these factors, no constant consensus to report the phenomenon especially the only reliable one is belonged to the PCBS which provides statistics only to children aged (10-17) years. Other significant institutions like MoSA reports that the last data concerning the issue of child labour in the Gaza Strip dates back to 2009, based on an interview with a main personality from Family and Childhood Program- MoSA (Jirjawi, personal communication, September 15, 2016). Besides, the scarcity of local researches that cover child labour based on push-pull mechanism despite being employed in many of the international laws and studies. Most importantly, the researcher finds a difficulty providing a specific sample of children on county basis due to the lack of statistical resources, not mentioning the difficulties faced to gather children of specified age group and of different areas in Gaza in one place to serve the study purposes.

Most importantly, the researcher tries as much to avoid subjectivity in such a type of data analysis. Hence, results cannot be generalized on a large scale population. Besides, time limitation was a significant constraint since the time schedule was predetermined according to the implementing institution and the interview participants' availability. Moreover, the study results are not meant for other types of child labour like hazardous or worst forms of child labour (WFCL).

As for the participant child labourers, some of the children denied being child labourers despite the fact that they are actually selected from a group of working children. Children's reactions spring up from their fear of being illegal or for fear that they are to be forced to be back to school. Besides, the researcher experienced challenges in having the children to stick to time for the interviews. Some of the children have many times complaint that they could have been in their works

collecting money, which is more beneficial to them as not being accustomed to such interviews.

Also, there were difficulties in arranging for meetings since most of the children are either self-employed or work in the invisible informal sector i.e. do not have fixed working hours. It is also worth mentioning that interviewing child labourers needs more patience especially with younger children who were bored and naughty sometimes. Some do not figure out the benefit of such interviews, while others express cautiousness in speaking their personal experiences which requires more effort, time, and concern from the researcher.

1.9 Research Outline (Structure)

This study comprises of six chapters. Each chapter starts with an introduction and concludes with a chapter brief summary. **Chapter One** introduces the prevalence of child labour worldwide, states the study problem, questions, methodology, objectives, originality, limitations, and the overall outline. **Chapter Two** is the literature review chapter. It presents the conceptualization of child labour, a theoretical review of child labour's theories, and the economics of child labour. **Chapter Three** provides a contextual overview of the incidence of child labour in Palestine, mainly in the Gaza Strip, and an outline of key determinants of child labour in the Palestinian context. **Chapter Four** looks over the most relevant previous studies and represents the researcher's comments and the research gap. **Chapter Five** sets up the research methodology by means of applying the CCM data analysis technique. **Chapter Six** concludes with the research findings and recommendations.

1.10 Summary of the Chapter

This is an introductory chapter where all elements of the study are first introduced to the reader. It comprises the research background, problem statement, questions, methodology, model, propositions, originality, limitations, and the overall research outline. The chapter highlights the main components to be discussed in the next chapters and sets the scene for the forthcoming discussion.

Chapter 2

Literature Review

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the notion of child labour is defined based on the international, local definitions and according to the Islamic perspective. The chapter also highlights a wide range of relevant theories that are found to be a good basis to a sharper insight into child labour's determinants used in the study. Additionally, this chapter introduces a thorough understanding to the economics of child labour in terms of supply and demand and with reflection on push-pull formula as the (push) represents the (supply) while the (pull) represents the (demand). This mechanism has been widely employed by economists and practitioners to uncover the main drivers underlying the phenomenon of child labour.

2.2 Defining Child Labour

2.2.1 Child Labour Globally

With reference to the ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999, No. 182, Article 2) and based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the ILO (2011) defines any individual under 18 years old as a "child".

The meaning of 'child' is subject to certain worldwide differences. For example, a child in developing countries is defined based on his/her social responsibility, while in Europe a child is defined by age (Rahman and Khanam, 2012).

As for child labour, the most cited definitions of child labour in the Google Scholar's search engine belong to Basu and Van and Baland and Robinson. The child could be either a child labourer or not according to Basu and Van (1998)'s definition which was supported by many studies of Basu later on. As for Baland and Robinson (2000), child labour is the time allocated to work meaning that a child's time is divided to "working" and "not working" (ILO-IPEC & Edmonds, 2009, p.4-5).

In 2011, NWOKORO et al. define the notion of Child Labour based on the ILO-IPEC's definition as:

work situations where children are compelled to work on a regular basis to earn a living for themselves and their families and as a result are disadvantaged educationally and socially; where children work in conditions that are exploitative and damaging to their health and to their physical and mental development; where children are separated from their families, often deprived of educational training opportunities; where children are forced to lead prematurely adult lives (p.12).

The ILO (2011) also makes it clear that not all activities performed by children under 18 years are considered child labour. Some works, whether paid or unpaid, fit the child's age and development. They can also be helpful in developing the child's knowledge, sense of responsibility and maturity. It has identified the term "light work" as a work that is permitted and carried out by children aged 13-15 years. In line with the ILO Minimum Age Convention (1973, No. 138, Article 7), this work is unlikely to harm the child's health, growth, or hinder child's schooling or vocational training.

In 2007, the UNICEF criticizes the ILO's definition of child labour due to ignoring domestic work wherein girls are mostly engaged. However, the UNICEF definition of child labour is extended from the ILO's but it captures all types of works that could be performed by a child.

In this regard, Bukht (2009) argues that there is no definite consensus for child labour's definition. Some claim that when the work is hazardous and carried out outside the household, it is no more a child work as it becomes a child labour. However, Bukht confirms that this definition can be confusing. Working in the family's businesses or farms can have an adverse effect on the child when impeding his/her education or based on the nature of the work itself. So, there is nothing to be done to avoid children's transfer from child work to child labour.

Rahman and Khanam (2012) differentiate between the terms (child work) and (child labour). As for the former, it includes household activities and domestic chores. Child work is characterized by being light as it doesn't obstruct child's

schooling or affect child's health negatively. The minimum age set for this type of work is 12 in developing countries and 13 in other countries. As for the latter, it denotes a type of work that is almost diminished in developed countries while still persists in the developing countries. Child labour, nonetheless, is characterized by a widespread occurrence in a given society and the global economy. It casts its adverse implications on children in both short and long terms as they discover their stolen childhood when they grow up!.

Child labour involves push and pull factors; forcing situations against tempting ones, contrary to child work that can be part of a child's social development process (ILO-IPEC, 2009).

Hindman (2014, part 2, section 2, p.216) mentions an analysis of the different types of child labour's environments, mainly in Ghana. These types range from family- based relations, where the child labourer has a strong connection to the household, to "exploitation-based" relations. The latter is the focus of this research and it means child labour in workshops, apprenticeships and other works outdoors. There is also another type depicted by a big division from the household: work in factories and on building sectors.

Based on the classification of the international resolutions and conventions, the World Vision (2015, p.7) refers that child work is classified into three categories. These categories are: child employment, child labour, and the worst forms of child labour (i.e. hazardous works).

Child Employment is a generic definition of child labour as the formal or informal type of work including outdoors and indoors work. Conversely, **Child Labour** is a work that " deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development.". As for **Hazardous Work**, it refers to the most illegal, unbearable and harmful type of child labour morally, physically, and psychologically.

In 2016, Latif et al. define child labour as making use of a child's energy and competence at work instead of studying. It is also stated that child labour cannot be an absolute term as it has a vast number of definitions based on cultures and different societies.

Based on Nashwan (2013), despite being the universal charter for the rights of the child, the Convention on the Rights of the Child neither specifies a minimum working age for a child, nor the working conditions, nor the working hours, nor the worst forms of child labour. As for the Arab Charter on the Rights of the Child, article 12 is stipulated to child protection from any economic exploitation. The Arab labour Convention no.18 stated in 1996 stipulates (13 years) as a minimum working age despite permitting work under this age.

2.2.2 Child Labour Locally (in the Palestinian Legislation)

In its launched report of the Status of the Rights of the Palestinian Children - 2014, the PCBS (2015) reports that going in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child's definition, the Palestinian Law on the Rights of the Child states that every individual under the age of 18 years can be defined as a child. So, the Palestinian Labour Law identifies a child as a "juvenile"; who can be any individual between 15 and under the age 18 years. Under this law, only wage workers are protected while children working in family farms, for example, are excluded. It's worth mentioning that Article 14 and Article 93 of the Palestinian Labour Law ban child labour under the age of 15. However, the minimum age to work was stipulated for the age group (15-17 years) and under certain regulations and conditions that ensure children's safety and protection from exploitation.

2.2.3 Child Labour in Islam

Olowu (2008) proclaims that Muslims derive the Islamic legal framework (i.e. Al Shari'a) from the Holy Qur'an, Al Sunnah, Al Ijma'" consensus", and Al Qiyahs" analogy". This Islamic literature, ethics and laws encompass a full-fledged constitution for child development and protection over more than a thousand years ago. It is to be inferred that the Islam constructs a protective shield around the child since being a fetus till birth.

Abd-Allah (2004) mentions that childhood period includes the prenatal period and this is in line with Islam's definition as well as the UNICEF's. Some specify this period from birth to puberty as supported in Qur'an : " and afterward We bring you forth as infants, then (give you growth) that ye attain your full strength" 22:5 Al Hajj

(the Pilgrimage). Others maintain that according to psychologists, adolescence period comes gradually before puberty and it describes the teenage years between 13 and 19 (i.e. the transitional stage from childhood to adulthood). However, the physical and psychological changes occur in adolescence may start earlier, during (9 – 12 years). This stage of life inflames the sense of self-identity and independence.

According to Islam, the stage of life when an individual can be designated duties is the puberty period as mentioned in surat An Nour: 59 " But when the children among you come of age, let them (also) ask for permission, as do those senior to them (in age): Thus does Allah make clear His Signs to you: for Allah is full of knowledge and wisdom". Here, the age (18 years) is not specified by theologians as the end of childhood since a child may reach the age of puberty earlier. This corresponds with the UNICEF, not specifying the age (18 years), referring this to cultural considerations.

Hussein (2013) Begins his study with surat Al Kahf (the Cave):Verse (46)"wealth and sons are allurements of the life of this world". This verse shows that a child is a gift from Allah to comfort and please the parents. Therefore, parents should provide care and concern and be thankful for this blessing.

In 2005, the UNICEF in cooperation with Al Azhar-Al Sharif point out that a child's right in living a decent life is set down by Islam. It is the father's responsibility to sustain the child's both kind and in kind needs. Allah, the Almighty said:" The duty of feeding and clothing nursing mothers in a seemly manner is upon the father of the child." (Al-Baqara (The Cow); verse 233). Therefore, child labour must not be encouraged whether involuntarily or due to ignorance as manifested in the Qur'an: "Allah desires for you ease. He desires not hardship for you." (Al-Baqara (The Cow); verse: 185).

To add, the UNICEF (2012) mentions that Islam teaches Muslims that children under the age of 7 should be treated with compassion and kindness. Those from the age (7-14 years) should be treated with much concern and care, and those aged (14 and above years) should be treated as intimate friends.

Furthermore, Munir (2014) mentions that prophet Mohammed peace and blessings be upon himself (pbuh) vindicate the immature from responsibility; he

states " the child until reaching maturity". Too, all types of child abuse and exploitation are prohibited in Islam as Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) says:"He is not one of us who doesn't show tenderness to the young...etc".

Economic exploitation in the form of child labour is not but a type of exploitation to a child. This may entail assigning harmful jobs to a child endangering his/her life. In this context, parents are warned against employing children as parents must disburse on their children as much as they afford. Allah, the Almighty says:"Allah doesn't lay responsibility on anyone beyond his capacity". The only case when a child reaches puberty that he is allowed to accept a work contract or terminate it. It is only in this stage of life that the guardian has the right to let the child go to the labour market. By doing so, the Islamic law is doing its best to exterminate the incidence of child labour and work exploitation.

Rezqallah (2015) confirms that Islam ensures child protection and preserves child's rights especially protecting the child from work exploitation. It has been clearly stated by our Prophet Mohammed that children must not be assigned duties for fear of thievery; thus protecting them from such vice.

Besides, Islam outlines various duties of parents including the provision of education to their children. In a publication of the Islamic Relief Worldwide, Abu-arqub (2009) emphasizes the importance of the provision of education to children in the Islamic law. The command "Iqr'a" (i.e. read in Arabic) is stated in the first verse in the Qur'an revealed to Prophet Mohamed (pbuh), " Who has taught (the writing) by the pen. He has taught man that which he knew not".

According to Azzam and Al Mawajdah (2007), child labor can be accepted in Islam on the condition that Islamic principles are applied and the work casts no harm to the child labourer. The type of work accepted should serve the end of raising and educating the child and must not harm the child whether morally or physically. What's more, the guardian of the child must agree to the type of work carried out and the wage specified.

This view has been supported by Al Shahrani (2010) who maintains that hundred years ago, the Islamic Sharie'a has laid down the inclusive rules of child

work contrary to the international laws which are modifiable through the course of time.

Children are to be taught on what is permissible and impermissible to grow as good Muslims. In her study, Tveten (2016) says that Islamic informants stress that children should be satisfied with whatever their household's conditions are. The upbringing of children on satisfaction and self-sufficiency prevents them from having to work to get things which are beyond their reach in their normal life.

2.3 Theoretical Review

This section introduces a theoretical review and models explaining child labour in correlation to a number of demographic and economic factors contributing to the decision behind sending children to the labour market. Mainly, it summarizes theories that explore which factors have the most influence on household's decisions to send their children to work. It would be an essential part to discover the root of this complex phenomenon and the underlying causes. The following theories cannot be recognized as the only existing ones. As far as the researcher thinks, they are the most suitable and relevant for this study.

Two of the well-known theories behind family's influence on child labour are the "luxury axiom" and the "substitution axiom" (Basu and Van, 1998). In the theory of luxury axiom, Basu and Van (1998) state that parents send the child to the labour market if and only if the household income-household expenditure- declines into a critical level or lower than the household's subsistence level. By this way, Basu and Van focus mainly on the supply of child labour based on the analysis in the book by (Hindman, 2014). This means, families may bridge the earning gap by putting their children to work. According to Nielsen and Dubey (2002) this was described as the "subsistence hypothesis".

Basu and Van (1998) also claim that a child's leisure time "non-work" is considered a "luxury good" once the poor household cannot afford consuming it, except when the household income rises. This implies that the child of a non-poor family is less likely to become a child labourer.

On the contrary , the child labourer is withdrawn from the labour force on the condition that the household income increases adequately. A similar conclusion is reached by many as (Basu, 1999; Basu, 2005; Basu, 2006; Basu and Tzannatos, 2003; and Genicot, 2005).

Likewise, the theory of substitution axiom which denotes that when a family has more adults, adult labour replaces child labour. Thus, child labour can be substituted by adult labour. Nevertheless, Grootaert (1998) found that mother's work, mostly in household enterprise in urban Côte d'Ivoire, is not substituted by daughter's work rather than being complementary. Mothers would share their daughters the household care activities as daughters are involved in the household enterprise the same as their mothers'.

In this regard, Basu and Tzannatos (2003) illustrate a view that contradicts the common suppositions in literatures which portrayed child labourers as "nimble fingers"(i.e., using children to weave carpets because children have more nimble fingers than adults). As an elaboration, "the nimble fingers theory" was the held view for a long time. It explains the existence of an increased proportion of child labourers. It denotes that the demand for child labour was based on child's certain characteristics and was refuted later by many (ILO-IPEC,2007).

Income redistribution has its effect on child labour in both poor "low-productivity" and wealthy "higher-productivity" countries. Based on Swinnerton and Rogers (1999)'s "distributive axiom", the unfairness in the distribution of non-labor income (i.e., the in-kind income) exacerbates the instance of child labour. Subsequently, in 2001, Rogers and Swinnerton alter the above analysis and reinstate that in poor economies, equal distribution of wealth is not always sufficient to eliminate child labour if it is not enough to bring the poorest households out of poverty. This could have an inverse effect as some families still have to send their children to work. As for higher- income families, they may undergo lower income as a result of equal redistribution, hence their children may become child labourers.

Conversely, the "well-off" economies have enough comprehensive income to help in the mitigation of child labour. The only reason child labour could exist there

would be unequal income distribution. So, the unequal distribution of income due to productivity gaps could explain the phenomenon of child labour in this context.

Nevertheless, Ranjan (2001)'s view actually contradicts with Rogers and Swinnerton (2001)'s. He implies that the greater the income inequality, the greater the incidence of child labour stressing the role credit markets play in this context.

Child labour as a consequence of family-dynamics is a big caveat in child labour's literature. The main concern here is the "Dynamic Child Labour Theory" (Hindman, 2014, p.5,part 1, sec.1). Basu (1999) develops the scheme of a "child labour trap" in which he argues that as a child, a person can either go to school (i.e., acquire human capital) or work. Poor parents usually push their child to work full-time. Here, the child is inclined to work for a living on the cost of education. Becoming an adult, the child labourer grows up with limited skills and a scant wage. Consequently, he has to send his children to work. So, an increase in child labour normally hampers the acquisition of human capital.

Baland and Robinson (2000) assume that, without education, the child labourer suffers the implications on future earnings and deficiency in social and cognitive abilities. In this way, not investing in human capital of children, means to employ them as a mechanism of transferring household resources from the future into the present, rather than from the present to the future.

To support, in a study by Abu-Ghallow (2014), he refers to Mincer's human capital theory in 1958. The theory maintains that the earning of a skilled worker is expected to increase throughout time and age. It is assumed that accumulating education and skills(i.e. human capital accumulation) helps to increase workers' productivity and their wages in competitive markets.

In this context, Dessy (2000) defines the time outside of schooling as child labour. This view was supported by many as Dessy and Pallage,(2001); Jafarey and Lahiri, (2002 & 2005); and Rogers and Swinnerton,(2004). Thus, it is assumed that a child's nonworking time could be spent on studying otherwise the more the child works the more his productivity as an adult diminishes. Accordingly, child labour inhibits child's education and adult's earnings.

This also has been supported by Basu and Tzannatos (2003) that when a child labourer grows up, his/her children are expected to be child labourers as well. However, if a child escaped labour market, i.e., received schooling, then his/her children are more likely to go to school. Additionally, Emerson and Souza (2003) assert this point and mention that by repeating this through generations, families would be stuck in the so called child labour trap and then would be involved in the vicious cycle of poverty.

Notwithstanding, In 2007, Emerson and Souza postulate that child labour is a general term, offsetting the trade-off between child labour and human capital accumulation correlated to adult labour market outcomes. They maintain that child labour involves dual effect and it could be a double-edged sword. From one point of view, child labour inflicts a negative effect by impeding schooling, health, one's reputation, and adult's wage in the labour market. Contrariwise, child labour may not always be negative as it may appear on the surface. Life experiences and skills, vocational training, labour market strategies, sustaining educational expenses ,etc. are some of the acquired benefits that cannot be negligible.

The household characteristic is a significant demographic variable in child labour supply. As stated by Grootaert and Kanbur (1995), a larger household size and fertility increases the likelihood that one of the children will work. To illustrate, a large family size usually entails a child's earlier entry into labour force due to fewer human capital investment resources.

Actually, this has been put forward since the Beckerian "quality-quantity tradeoff theory". It signifies that households tend to value children as assets. Parents decide whether to invest in the quality or quantity of their children. Thus, fertility rate and human capital investment in children are substitutes in this theory. To explain, choosing to have a big number of children increases the possibility of less investment in quality education and vice versa (Becker and Lewis 1973).

This has been demonstrated later by Dessy (2000) who argued that child labour and high fertility rates are a consequence of communities with lower levels of human capital that are likely to be caught in the so called "under –development traps". It means that fertility is high and hence child labour is abundant.

To elaborate, Grootaert (1998) summarized household's characteristics' influence on child labour in two aspects: Demographic and economic. The former includes: Family size and structure, number of children by gender and age, the age of the head of the family as to explain family's life cycle. The latter includes: Household's assets possession, employment status of mother, area of residence (i.e. urban or rural), and self-employed family members.

Emerson and Knabb (2005) establish their formal theoretical view that families anticipate that their children have to work. Therefore, families tend to have more children. Interestingly, due to having this big number of children, families feel the persistent need to send children to work. By doing so, households of higher fertility rates help to create the so called "poverty trap" in the long run.

Further, according to Emerson and Knabb (2007), the fertility rate declines when household income increases which translates into a child labour decrease as well. Also fertility is not only affected by the parental income but also by the parents' human capital. To explain, parents are induced to increase fertility by having more children and choose to send them into the labour market. Their ability to invest in their children is constrained by virtue of their families' large size. The logic behind this is the fall of parent's human capital within "the poverty range". So, parents will under-invest in the human capital of their children.

In other words, it depends on parents' belief that if the return to education was low for them then it is expected to be low for their children and vice versa. This "cycle of poverty" will come to an end once the economy reaches "the prosperity range" which is supposed to break the child labour chain. This simply means that the return to education outweighs the forgone earnings from child labour. It is also revealed that the education of the father has the greatest impact on reducing child labour based on data from Brazil. This may bring out why sons participate in the labour force higher in rates than daughters do.

Likewise, D'Alessandro & Fioroni (2016) develop their theoretical model where they explained the vicious cycle between child labour and inequality. They infer an interrelationship between child labour and fertility. According to their theory, there are the skilled and the unskilled parents. The former have a low fertility

rate and tend to send their children to schools. As for the latter, they are depicted with higher fertility rates and tend to send their children to work as they do not invest in education. This means more unskilled workers are supplied to the labour market the thing that reduces unskilled wages. This disparity between high and low skilled creates a vicious cycle and perpetuates inequality for generations.

Poverty correlation with child labour has been questioned in recent literature despite the fact that a wide range of previous literatures maintained that they are inexorably linked. Ray (1999) conceived a positive association between poverty and child labour and a negative one between poverty and education. He elaborated that parental education has a negative effect on child labour supply. Besides, countries differ in the value placed to education. For example, Peruvian parents are more willing to send their children to schools than Pakistani parents.

In 2007, the ILO/IPEC-SIMPOC exhibits the "Risk Theory" to provide a rationalization to the incidence of child labour with relevance to poverty. This theory proposes that there are two types of risks that hit human beings. They are either man-made like war, unemployment,...etc. or natural like illness, earthquakes,...etc. Actually such adversities shock individuals unexpectedly causing deep poverty. Thus, since the poor are commonly the most vulnerable to risks and the least having accessibility to risk management mechanisms, poor households tend to supply child labour in order to minimize risk and act as a protection instrument.

Ranjan (2001), however, shows that poverty alone is not the main reason behind child labour. Credit constraints "imperfection" combined with poverty can give rise to such phenomenon. Ranjan stated that when families have access to international capital market and the market rate of interest is less than the return on education, children are sent to schooling. However, families are forced to send their children to work when household's income is below a certain threshold in case of no credit market availability. So, if families are able to borrow to smooth the household's budget, poverty would not be a barrier to a child's education. What happens here is that neither is the family allowed to borrow to provide for the child's living and education nor is the child allowed to borrow to compensate his parents' investment in his/her education.

Too, Blunch and Verner (2000) posit a positive link between poverty and harmful child labour (i.e., conflicting with child's human capital accumulation). Interestingly, their findings uncover the likelihood that girls are more susceptible to harmful child labour than boys. This was rendered to "a gender gap" in child labour related to poverty that mirrors cultural norms in Ghana. To illustrate, boys are encouraged to receive schooling while girls are expected to "subsidize" the human accumulation of their siblings by joining the labour market. This pronounced gap was actually observed in 1998 by Grootaert. He mentions that in urban areas in Côte d'Ivoire, it was less likely that girls enroll at schools or even combine schooling and working. They would rather drop out of school and engage in household tasks.

Similar to the previous discussion on the "gender gap", Edmonds and Turk (2002) observe "gender differences" between boys and girls regarding child labour. A girl is withdrawn from school for the sake of having her other siblings schooling instead is a common scene in Vietnam. Also, girls generally exceed the legal hours of work than boys considering the household chores, family business and outside work.

In 2014, Abu-Ghallow discusses Becker's (1974) theory of "social interaction" with relevance to the behavior of the Palestinian society and whether parent's wages or unemployment force children to the labour market or not. Using the concept of social income, which means that all incomes consumed and earned by the family as one unit, Becker establishes that the head of a family is the one who cares about family's welfare. Therefore, he transfers general purchasing power to all other members of the family.

To elaborate, in case of one member of the family cares about other members; consequently, all other members would payback this care and would be willing to maximize family opportunities too. So, the interdependency of the Palestinian family on one another suggests that the family reacts positively to "externalities" or changes that affect the social income. In this respect, when the head of the household suffers a decline in income or an unemployment, other family members are expected to join the labour market as a substitution to such changes thus maintaining family's utility. Thus, family members act as "utility maximizers" of one another.

Children's tendency to work plays some role in child labour considering the household bargaining power. In 1995, Moehling's finding using household data from early twentieth-century urban America was referred to in Basu (1999). It is suggested that a large share of household resources is allocated to child labourers than non-laborer children. However, Moehling model shows that the bargaining power of a family member depends no more on a member's share of the household income. This usually translates into the idea that in the household, the bargaining power depends heavily on the income one earns. So, "the unitary model" that means there is one decision maker "one agent" in the family is no more in some literatures. The reason is that a person's power (including the child labourer) is weighted depending on how much income a person actually brings to the household. Hence, the theory implies a correlation between child labour and the income earned.

Fatima (2013) refers to this unitary approach as "the benevolent dictator model". It means, it is often assumed that one decision maker who is mostly a male would make decisions regarding goods consumed by the household. Anyhow, her study shows that this model was criticized by many economists. Thereby, household's preferences should be taken into consideration by resorting to "collective models". They give space to different preferences by different decision makers and they do not require certain "household index".

In 2015, Clott employs the Rational Choice Theory (RCT) which unfolds that individuals have options or preferences and choose the most preferred one. The main logic behind the RCT is that individuals tends to make rational choices that optimize their advantage and profit. He investigates one of poverty's manifestations (i.e., schooling) and the trade-off between education and child labour. He also theorizes certain preferences and constraints including: school attendance, rural, age, gender .They help to explain the households' decisions to send children to work in rural areas in Nigeria, receive schooling, or both.

In their theory of "exploitative child labour", Rogers and Swinnerton (2008) identify "exploitative" child work as a work that is to some extent harmful to a child labourer. In the labour market, a child labourer may be exploited due to imperfect information parents have on risks that their child could come across. Parents think

that their decision to have their child go to labour market is in the child's best interest while they actually have been misled. They are motivated by the promise of a well-paid work. They suppose that a child would be better off working than staying at home.

However, parents feel like they are deceived when the child gets a low wage the thing that pin down the benefit of child labour. Firms which employ children take advantage of this ambivalent situation. In one hand, they offer competitive wages to induce households to supply the market with child labourers. On the other hand, they employ children under exploitative and binding conditions.

As the theory of specialization shows, a family may choose to invest in one child rather than all the children. Horowitz and Wang (2004) presume that it is wise to invest in one child's education, not all the household's children's education. Thus, it would be better off when families practice "specialization". The reason is that due to the limited income, parents cannot invest equally to children in the household. As a result, this educated child helps in stabilizing the household's income and gives a chance to the household's investment on the human capital of the other siblings.

It is worth mentioning that this study draws back to the push-pull model that is basically originated from the push-pull factors' theory. The classical "Push-Pull" theory is commonly used in migration studies and is derived from the field of economics. Many scholars have amended and developed this theory (Xiangjing, 2009).

According to Stanojoska and Blagojce (2012), this theory highlights the significance of migration especially to young people to escape economic stress, conflicts and wars, political unrest, social inequality, poverty, higher unemployment rates...etc. However, it is not necessarily they all migrate safely as some may find themselves subject to abuse, trafficking, and exploitation instead.

The economic theories of migration have been first represented by Ernest Georg Ravenstein in (1880s). To him, people usually tend to migrate due to economic reasons; thus he maintains that migration is controlled by push and pull factors. Bad conditions give a reason of pushing people out while good conditions especially in terms of wages and works pull them out to an appealing distance.

Subsequently, in the year 1966, Everett Lee reformulates Ravenstein's theory and argues that certain conditions and life situations affect the way people react to push and pull factors.

As for the new economics of labour migration theory, the household as a noneconomic factor shows that migration is a strategy to reduce households' financial risks. To sum up, push factors take place due to unfavorable conditions: economic volatility, unemployment, fewer opportunities...etc. On the other hand, pull factors induce people to move to another destination seeking better opportunities (Ravenstein, 1885 & Lee, 1966 cited in Martiskova, 2013).

To support, Gurcinaite (2014) analyzes key push and pull factors causing labour force intra-migration in Europe. Based on E.S. Lee's theory that has been lately named "push-pull" factors theory, migration process involves four categories: factors relevant to the destination area, factors of the origin area, intervening obstacles, and personal characteristics. As for Gurcinaite, the factors of the main concern can be economic (i.e., unemployment rates and benefits and wages) and non-economic (i.e., language, distance and population).

It has been concluded that the main pull factor in migration process is the average wages.

2.4 The Economics of Child Labour

2.4.1 Child Labour-Supply and Demand

The UNICEF (2007) asserts that taking in account households and employers' behaviors, child labour is grasped as a product of market forces-supply and demand based on Marcus's view in 1998.

Too, in its draft resolution presented at the 18th International Conference of Labour Statistics, the ILO-IPEC (2007) reports the underlying supply and demand factors in explaining child labour. The Supply factors include: Poverty, social norms, culture and community values, parental altruism, credit and capital markets, economies in transition, quality of education, and income distribution. As for the demand factors, the report adds up: Children's differentiated market, labour market's structure, efficiency wages exceeding market wages, technology impact, comparative

advantage and trade sanctions, the household assets portfolio, and non-economic activities (household works).

Rahman and Khanam (2012) investigate child labour's causes based on the market mechanism; supply and demand. According to their study, children normally work as a result of household's decisions. However, children willingness to work, children separation from their families, wars and disasters,...etc. are reasons where the decision to send a child to work is not the household's.

The supply determinants are a big motivation to families to send their children to work along certain socio-economic factors. These determinants include: poverty, household's vulnerability, parents' education, family size and fertility, and adults' unemployment...etc. Too, the demand determinants are those that make children an attractive workforce to employers: technology and innovation, children's special abilities in performing certain jobs, a cheap workforce, children' low bargaining power, and poor enactment of child labour's legislations...etc.

Further, Fatima (2013) discusses the supply and demand determinants of child labour at three interrelated levels: micro, meso, and macro.

In micro level, decisions about children's participation in the labour market are made in the household, mainly, due to household's bad economic conditions. Households here tend to supply child labor to the labour market. Consequently, child labourers are demanded by employers who seek cheap and unskilled workforce in "under-developed" countries. The definition of the household here varies from the international UN's definition as a place where a group of individuals live and eat, to a place where they share residence, food, consumption, production, income source, and investment.

In the meso level, the child, the family and the employer are all affected by the labour market indicators. These indicators are claimed to cast a demand effect on child labour. They include: labour market status, adult unemployment rate and wage, size of the informal sector. For example, the increased rates of the unemployed adults in an area suggests that adults will search for work even of a lower wage. Therefore, the demand for child labour will be lowered. However, low adult wages at household's level has an opposite effect on child labour. It is also argued that a large

number of children are engaged in the informal "family-based activities", especially in the agriculture sector. This informal sector generates the demand for child labour. Another face of the informal sector is the sub-contracting of labour for production process. Firms tend to resort to this informal mechanism in order to reduce costs and keep away from labour standards. Thus, the degree of economic segmentation between formal and informal sectors cannot be ignored considering its effect on child labour.

The macro level explores the interrelated impact of the socio-economic, legal and political conditions on child labour problem. The main focus here is on globalization; the trade openness and export. At this level, globalization helps to boost income of poor households by generating work opportunities and raising wages. In one hand, this means that the supply of child labour declines assuming that poverty is the key driver.

On the other hand, the increase in income is but only one channel through which globalization articulates. The increased demand for exports may cast its adverse effect. In this context, children either participate in exporting sector or replace adults due to job switch by employers. By doing so, adults unemployment increases, the thing that minimizes their ability to bargain for fair wages, as a result of the increased demand for child labour. Figure (2.1) provides an inclusive summary to child labour's contributing factors as follows:

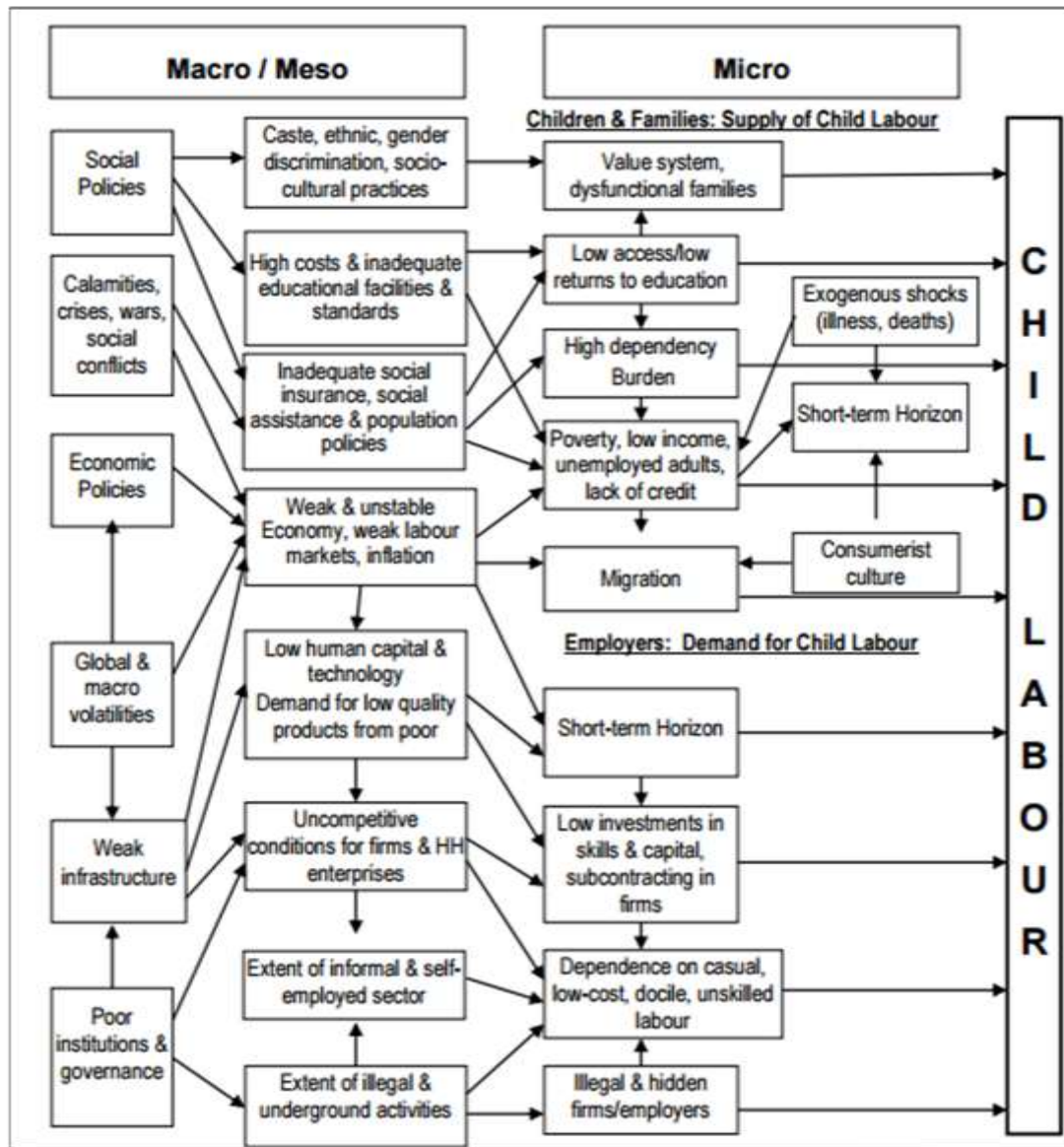


Figure (2.1): Child Labour's Contributing Factors

Source: (Fatima, 2013)

In his book, Hindman (2014, part 1, section 2, pp.57-58) refers that economists usually classify child labour causes into supply and demand. The supply of child labour depends on the households' decisions to send their children to work. He adds that most of the international organizations such as the UN, the ILO, and the UNICEF recognize that children of poor families tend to work lest their families starve. So, parents are left with no choices.

Conversely, some argue that their children will be better off working than staying home. Those parents justify that employers could deal with children even better than parents themselves do. Of course, this reveals how greedy and abusive they are. Another view states that it was the norm in earlier ages in England sending children to work to develop an autonomous character. Accordingly, one or some of such manifestations helps to aggravate child labour in the society from the supply side.

As for the demand side of child labour, it is a common belief that firms tend to maximize profits and minimize costs by employing children who are considered the cheapest workforce in the labour market. Too, technology and innovations play a big role in demanding child labour. The accelerated production processes and the division of labour need more workers and enforce more work disciplines and procedures. It is argued that employers find it easier to supervise child labourers than adult workers in this regard. Also, it is found more profitable and productive replacing the costly and skilled labour workers (i.e. adults) with the cheap and unskilled (i.e. child labourers). So, the low-wage economy suggests the less likelihood that households would "pull" their children out of the work force. However, doing so, helps adults' wages to increase and helps adults to sustain their households instead of children (part 1, section 1, p.4).

2.4.2 Child Labour-Push and Pull Formula

In 2013, AGORDZO pronounces that the circumstances triggering off child labour can be classified into "push" , "pull", and "push-pull" factors. Push factors are the main drivers for children to work in order to generate income to their households. These factors include but not limited to: Poverty, socio-cultural influences, child labour "inherited" from family history, parental neglect, and the desire for schooling. However, Pull factors refer to things that appeal to children and tempt them to join the labour market. These factors can be peer influences, the desire to obtain some money like others in the same age, and the pressing need of belonging. As for the third type, push-pull factor is manifested only in households headed by a single parent, mostly a mother.

AGORDZO constructs the following figure (2.2) to elaborate on his classification:

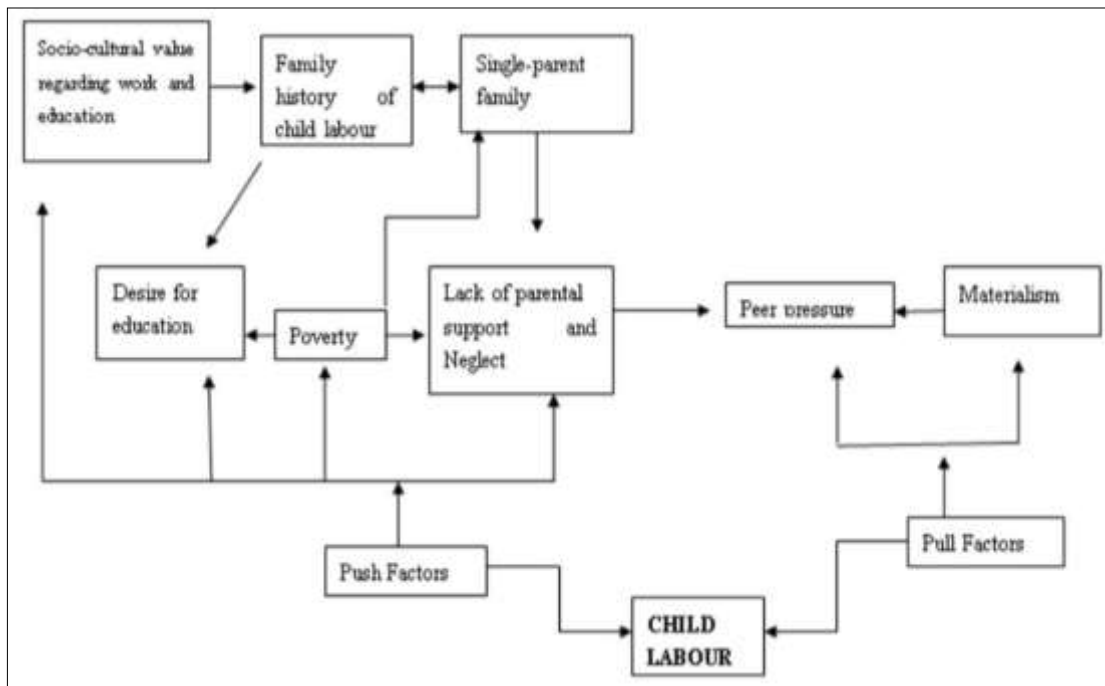


Figure (2.2): Child Labour's Push & Pull Factors
Source: (AGORDZO, 2013)

This economic push and pull view was supported by the World Vision (2015) pointing out that children are subjected to child labour's push and pull causes. In one hand, children could be pushed to the labour market due to poverty or some social reasons, while they could be pulled by employers' demands of submissive and low-waged labour.

According to Riba (2006) push and pull factors cannot be explained in a simple way due to their complexity and intricate relationship. In other words, taking into account other factors like socio-cultural traditions, socio-cultural structures and limited educational opportunities for example may explain the incidence of child labour better than rendering it only to the factor of poverty. To add, Riba uses determinants like: Poverty, higher mortality rates caused by HIV and AIDS, food insecurity, and educational system to express 'push' factors. She also explains the 'pull' factors using: Children's desire to work, social attitudes and expectations, low risks to employers, and subcontracting and outgrower schemes in agriculture.

Stanojoska (2012) adds that push and pull factors help to explain how human rights, living conditions, society and other things affect people. She maintains that "structural factors" that are relevant to market depression, economic insecurity, globalization, conflict and war, social inequality...etc. help to understand individual's vulnerability. "Proximate factors" like weak education , poor enforcement of laws, corruption plus other factors intensify a better understanding of the incidence of human trafficking. For this reason, it becomes a well known fact that such factors push individuals to search for better opportunities in another place that usually takes advantage of people's wishes for an improved living. So, the theory of push-pull factors can make good use of both factor groups especially in terms of transnational or domestic migration.

To elaborate, when poverty strikes, families tend to escape it by reducing costs of childcare and education. Most importantly, female children specifically are the first to be pulled out of schooling in times of hardships and financial crisis like in late 1990s and later in 2008. Thus, the situation creates a good atmosphere for traffickers to recruit and exploit the most vulnerable (i.e. children). Actually, this theory is of importance to the place of origin to tap weakness points and to the place of destination to maintain proper migration strategies.

Abu-Ghallow (2014) also confirms that pull factors can be resembled as the most powerful market forces, while push factors represent the severe economic need.

Furthermore, Guan (2014) adds that push factors are aroused due to a motivational system's damage, that's why, they are called motivational factors. Nonetheless, pull factors represent attractions or advantages of a certain venue.

As Girma (2016) puts forth, push factors represent the lack of opportunities in certain socio-economic situations. They are also factors that result in people's displacement due to freedom constraints, political and economic turmoil, unemployment, overpopulation and other reasons. On the other hand, pull factors attract individuals seeking for better opportunities elsewhere. In the same context, some are forced to migrate due to difficult situations imposed on them; unfortunately, they are pushed unwillingly into a not promising future.

In its child labour book series: *Corporate Social Responsibility for Farmers, No. 1.*, the ILO-IPEC (2009, pp.4-5) reports that poverty is considered a strong push factor for child labour that can be transgenerational.

Besides, Bukht (2009) mentions that the causes of child labour can be classified into: '*push factors*', '*pull factors*', and '*interactive factors*'. Causes that push a child to work for living and income include: poverty, parental divorce, death of the breadwinner, natural disasters...etc. On the other hand, being a cheap workforce can be a main pull factor to employers. As for the interactive factors, they include: a child's vulnerability, parental neglect, psycho-social stresses, peer group influence,...etc.

In his study of child labour at hotels and restaurants, Ojha (2014) discusses that if there is any problem that strikes the child's household, the child finds difficulty to adjust. So, there are two factors behind having the children in the labour market: push and pull factors. Poverty and family breakdown represent the push factor. However, escaping conflicts, seeking better life, being overloaded with household's works, being motivated to work in restaurants and hotels sectors...etc. are considered pull factors inducing child labourers to leave their homes. Most importantly, a percent of (31.34) of hotels and restaurants' child labourers have no aim of life due to their illiteracy which is considered the strongest pull factor forcing children to have to work in search for that aim.

2.5 Summary of the Chapter

This chapter puts forth that there is no global definite consensus for the term "child labour" concerning minimum working age, working hours, and working conditions. However, locally the child minimum working age is stipulated at (15-17 years). In Islam, the "puberty period" is the age of life when an individual can be designated duties. This period comes after the transitional adolescence period (13-19 years). The chapter also anatomizes basic child labour theories and models. Moreover, it sheds the light on child labour's economics based on the supply and demand formula: Push and pull factors.

Chapter 3
Child Labour in the
Palestinian Context:
Magnitude and Dimension

Chapter 3

Child Labour in the Palestinian Context: Magnitude and Dimension

3.1 Introduction

This section provides a wide-ranging information on the prevalence of child labour's phenomenon in Palestine: The West Bank and The Gaza Strip. It is expected to show the phenomenon's dimensions and magnitude and to provide an overview to the Palestinian children's extent of vulnerability and suffering.

The chapter focuses on child labour in Gaza as the area of main concern in this study. The section also represents an inclusive elaboration on the Palestinian labour market and the key particulars. Besides, a group of key determinants that induce Gaza children to join the labour market are detailed extensively.

3.2 Child Labour in Palestine

3.2.1 Child Labour in the West Bank

In Palestine, as a result of the accelerated economic, social and political changes, child labour is growing to an issue of debate. Child labourers are divided into three categories according to the place of work: The West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the settlements area-(where the Palestinian Authority (PA) couldn't regulate and monitor child labour).

In the West Bank, child labourers less than the age 15 make up nearly 38.5% from the age group of (5-17) years old. Too, child labourers' percentage of the age group (10-14) stand at 32.5%. Findings indicate that about 40.8% of child labourers of the age group (5-17 years old) work in agriculture while 20.2% work in trade, hotels and restaurants. Interestingly, females are the majority of labourers in the agricultural sector comprising 80.7% of female child labourers while males only constitute about 35.3% of male child labourers of the same age group. Actually, the agriculture sector attracts more child labourers due to the traditional methods used in production and work, huge dependence on cheap labour, the desire to reduce agricultural costs, and the fact that most of the agriculture projects are household

projects owned by families which provides for an appropriate atmosphere for the phenomenon (Zayd, 2002).

Too, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) (2004) reports that in the Palestinian Territory, working children represent 3.1% of all children aged (5-17 years old): (3.8% in the West Bank). Findings show that two thirds of children (71.0%) work in the labour market due to economic need.

In fact, political conflict affects the economic conditions and the labour market in the West Bank dramatically. As the number of closure days increase, child labour probability increases as a result of worsening the economic conditions. An increase by 10 days in the number of border closure days in a quarter increases child labour's probability by (16%). This conflict's significant consequences include: a drop in the local wage and the household income, a negative effect on the employment status of parents, and a decline in school attendance (Di Maio and Nandi, 2013).

According to Nashwan (2013), the population in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt) is roughly 4.42 million people, (2.72 million) are in the West Bank with a percent of (63.4). Too, the Palestinian society is characterized of being young as children under 18 years old represent 47.6 percent of the population. Child labour in the West bank is affected deeply by the Israeli's policies and procedures in a way that obstructs the growth of the Palestinian economy, causes higher unemployment and poverty rates, and drives children to the labour market. It is also claimed that the main reasons influencing children's decision to go to the labour market include: large family numbers, non-educated parents, living in a single-parent home, family's average monthly income compared to poverty line and the consumption patterns.

Most importantly, the surveyed child labourers, in Nashwan's study, state that they go to the labour market to satisfy their needs representing (50%), (49.5%) to boost family income, (28.9%) to overcome poverty and unemployment , (33%) to bypass poor academic achievement, a percent of (22.6%) to become skilled at a profession, and an estimation of (14.7%) to respond to parents' pressure. Furthermore, a percent of (63.5%) of the surveyed children refer that joining the labour market was their own decision, while (22.4%) of them refer it is their fathers'.

Based on Abu-Ghallow (2014), in the West Bank, around (27%) of the total population represent refugees and they include higher rates of younger people than non-refugees. Abu-Ghallow suggests that child labour's possibility is higher in refugee camps and cities compared to that in rural areas due to lack of family productive assets. Also, results of Abu-Ghallow's study revealed that parents' employment has its positive effect on child labour. However, parents' income has a negative effect. All in all, families in the West Bank send their children to labour market if their income declines not considering parents' employment status. That's to say, child labour in the West Bank could be encouraged by the low pay rates or the inadequately paying jobs even though parents are employed.

In this regard, the PCBS (2015) illustrates the estimation of child labourers in Palestine of (10-17 years old) as follows:

Table (3.1): Percentage of Employed Children (10-17) Years in Palestine by Region and Sex, 2015.

Region	Sex		
	Males	Females	Total
West bank	10.8	0.5	5.7
Gaza Strip	5.2	*-	2.8
Palestine	8.5	0.4	4.5

* (-): means there are no enough observations in this section

Source: (PCBS, 2015)

This table shows the higher percentage of child labourers in the West Bank than the percentage of the Gaza Strip. This can be due to the limited work opportunities in the Gaza Strip than those in the West Bank. Besides, it makes obvious the insignificant percentage of female child labourers in both areas.

In 2016, the results of the labour Force Survey conducted by the PCBS reveal that (3.7%) of the Palestinian children aged (10-17 years) are child labourers: (5.0) percent in the West Bank and (1.8) percent in the Gaza Strip.

3.2.2 Child Labour in the Gaza Strip

According to the PCBS (2016), the projected number of Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip are around 1.91 million. Refugees residing in Gaza make up about (66.7%) percent of the Palestinian total population. The average household size in Palestine is 5.2 persons; of them, 5.7 persons in the Gaza Strip. Besides, the Gaza Strip is believed to be a highly populated area and overwhelmingly youthful. It has a population density of 5,154 persons per square kilometer that is 10 times more than the West Bank density of 519 people per square kilometer. Also, the Gaza Governorate itself is considered to be the largest Governorate in the Gaza Strip with an estimation of 645,205 of population (i.e. 13.4%). Its population density is 8,719 (Capita/km²). Gaza city alone comprises a population estimation of 583,870 which is the biggest urban locality of Gaza Governorate.

The estimated average age of the population in Palestine is (20 years); 21.2 years in the WB and 18.4 years in the Gaza Strip. The age group (0-14 years) comprises around (39.2%) of the total population with a percent of (36.9%) in the WB and (42.8%) in the Gaza Strip.

In 2016, in its last press release of the National Child's Day, the PCBS has estimated the number of children in Palestine, in the year 2015, who are 18 and younger with 2,165,288. In the Gaza Strip, the number stood at 908, 238, of which the males constitute about 464,106 and females are about 444,132.

The following table shows the population distribution in Palestine by age groups, region, and sex since (2015) as follows:

Table (3.2): Population Distribution in Palestine by Age Groups, Region, and Sex since 2015:

Gaza Strip		West Bank		Age Group
Females	Males	Females	Males	
150,909	157,906	193,147	202,010	0-4
122,405	127,709	169,067	175,268	5-9
108,911	114,142	159,208	165,940	10-14
61,907	64,349	94,071	98,339	15-17

Source: (PCBS, 2016)

Based on table (3.2), it is inferred that the age group (14-15 years) covers around 96,797 (in thousands) children in the Gaza Strip. Subsequently, the age group (10-15 years) is about 319,850 children which is literally the concerned age group of this study.

Most importantly, the PCBS (2016) reports the percentage of child labourers in the age groups (10-14 years) as 2.0%, (15-17 years) as 9.0%. As for child labourers not schooling, they represent 15.5% in the former age group while 33.7% in the latter of all those who are not receiving education since 2015. Conversely, child labourers of the former age group who still go to school represent (1.6%) and (3.6%) for the latter age group of all estimated children who receive education in Palestine.

Besides, the results of the second quarter of the Labor Force Survey (LFS) conducted by the PCBS (2016) reveal that (3.7%) of the Palestinian children aged (10-17 years) are child labourers: 5.0 percent in the West Bank and 1.8 percent in the Gaza Strip. Surprisingly, the third quarter of (July-September) round of the same year discloses that the estimation of child labourers in Palestine of the same age group stood at (4.5%); (6.3%) in the West Bank and (1.9%) in Gaza Strip.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of children aged (10-17 years) by labour force status and region based on the ILO definition in both the second quarter (Q2) and the third quarter (Q3), 2016 as follows:

Table (3.3): Percentage Distribution of Children Aged (10-17) Years by Labour Force Status and Region:

Labour Force Status	Region					
	Palestine		The Gaza Strip		The West Bank	
	Q2	Q3	Q2	Q3	Q2	Q3
Employed	3.7	4.5	1.8	1.9	5.0	6.3
Unemployed	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.2	1.5
Outside Labour Force	95.0	93.7	96.7	95.8	93.8	92.2
Total	100		100		100	

Source: Articulated by the researcher based on the LFS (Q2-Q3) of the PCBS (2016)

Additionally, based on the UNESCO (2016)'s overview of the Palestinian socio-economic report of the third quarter of the year, the Palestinian labour market indicates a labour force participation rate of those aged (15 and above) as (46.7%) in the Gaza Strip while (45.7%) in the WB. However, for those aged (15-19 years) it denotes a percent of (22.5%) in the WB and (17.2%) in the Gaza Strip.

In 2014, Abu- Ghallous discusses the fluctuations of wages and labour force interaction in Palestine in the period that has witnessed severe economic precariousness and political unrest between the years of 2000 to 2011. Based on the assumption that the bulk numbers of refugees are younger than non-refugees, Abu - Ghallous maintains that a percent of (41%) of refugees in Palestine are under (15) years old in 2012's statistics. The refugees represent around (67%) of the total population in the Gaza Strip; a percent that goes beyond the WB's.

To add, the study indicates that being a male and an elder child has a positive effect on a child labour's occurrence. It is also revealed that wives' education contributes strongly to their participation in the labor force additional to fertility rate that has its positive effect as well. Abu-Ghallous concludes that the decline in the labour market affects females workers and children in a negative way. To illustrate, the Palestinian economy is better off to invest in females' higher education to help

impeding child labour. It is also mentioned that the return to education is higher in the Gaza Strip than that in the WB. Yet, it seems that male labourers only can benefit of education effect as lower wages minimize females opportunities in the labour market even if they have the required qualifications. Thereby, about two thirds of the educated labour force will be absent from the Palestinian economy in the long run.

In the Gaza Strip, it is maintained that parents' employment has no effect on child labour as a result of inadequate jobs in terms of quality and quantity. Most importantly, the year 2006 witnessed an economic instability after the Palestinian legislative elections that resulted in an accelerated child labour supply going in line with adults' wages decline in the Gaza Strip. The explanation is that as the unemployment rates are augmented, the economic needs are rising, more children and women are obliged to join the labour market. Thus, labour supply is increased pushing wages downward.

Too, in the occasion of the International Day Against Child Labour, the Democracy and Workers Rights Center (DWRC) in partnership with Terre des Hommes-Lausanne and Save the Children, and with the support of Swiss Solidarity, present a baseline study on the determinants of child labour in the Gaza Strip.

In this study, Nashwan (2013) investigates the phenomenon of child labour in the Gaza Strip. Throughout the findings, it is revealed that despite the fact that the legislation of the local organizations of the Palestinian society is in line with international standards, the lack of child labour's law enforcement and abidance in addition to insufficient child protection mechanisms contribute in jeopardizing the lives of children in the Gaza Strip. Accordingly, every possible effort is stressed out to curb the widening tide of this phenomenon which its robust graveness is striking. The study also indicates that the number of children in Gaza city reaches (568,888) out of a total number of (1,433,029) in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank according to the population Census of 2007.

Results show that the average number of child labourers' family members is (8.3) persons which is considered to be high due to the high fertility rate in the Gaza Strip. For this reason, households' higher dependency levels and vulnerability are increased creating an encouraging atmosphere for children to work. Other reasons

might be losing one or both parents, an old aged or ill breadwinner, parental divorce, family disputes, low education level of parents, unemployed or low-income parent, and household's poverty or low income which is mostly below the poverty line allocated to a family of five members as (1870) NIS.

To add to the situation, an estimated percent of (27.6%) of child labourers in Gaza city work as street vendors, (23.8%) work in industry plus (23.0%) work in construction. These findings come across the reality that children under the minimum working age of (15) do the same works as those (15-18 years), which literally violates The Palestinian Law on the Rights of the Child, the Palestinian Labour Law; article 93, and article 1 of Decision No. (1) of the year 2004 that prohibits child's employment in harmful or hazardous works as determined by the Palestinian Minister of Labour.

Most importantly, the study by Nashwan refers to children's responses concerning reasons of joining the labour market of the Gaza Strip. Family pressure represents (1.5%) of the children, (84.6%) contribution to family income, (63.8%) provision for personal needs, (47.7%) due to poverty and unemployment, (16.9%) the desire to learn a skill and the same percentage due to lower school achievement (p.74).

In 2015, Al Tawashi discusses that child labour has a negative impact on child's knowledge, skills learning, talents and abilities which are a key ingredient for national and individual economic development. She also maintains that child labour in Gaza does not only limit the development of child's potentials but also harms the very economies around and imposes its effect upon future generations.

In an exploratory study by Veronese et al. (2015), the findings attest that the socio-economic determinant casts its unfavorable effect on child's education in the Gaza Strip. To elaborate, economic constraints and lack of economic resources undermine children's educational opportunities. What's more, even with parents' full acknowledgment of the importance of education to a child's development and encountering adversity, higher fertility rate which translates into a big number of

children in the Gazan family, can be a key determinant hindering the provision of adequate education to all of those children.

Furthermore, school environment and curriculum worsen the situation. Even though the Palestinian Authority's guarantee of the provision of 100% scholarization process, poor resources, teachers' inadequate level of professionalism, the difficult curriculum that neither fits the Palestinian context nor children's age, and limited extra-curricular activities at schools contribute to obstruct the education process and children' access to quality education. Nevertheless, Palestinians continue to break records of higher rates of educated people living in hotspot areas in spite of the disruption of the overall conditions.

As for Simard-Gendron and Bignami (2015), despite the fact that the Palestinians are considered of the best educated among the Arabs, they are of exceptional fertility rates in the Arab world. Thus, it is hypothesized that mass education can be a significant determinant in fertility decline and has its negative impact with reflection to women' education, employment status, and fertility behavior. Results show that even educated women in Gaza tend to have more children than those in the West bank who show a tendency to limit the number of children. It also has been discussed that living in a conflict and warlike area, Palestinians resort to higher fertility due to nationalism considerations, death vulnerability and as "a long-term security" strategy.

Also, based on the theory of the demand for labour, it is inferred that higher levels of fertility mean a waged labour force certainty in future which is practically insecure due to the massive changes in the Palestinian labour market. Moreover, living in a transitional state for decades perpetuates hesitation regarding fertility decisions. Besides, acting as a survival mechanism, minority groups tend to have fertility rates that exceed those for the majority groups. Locality reason is also inspected and findings show that living in urban areas have a negative effect especially on children due to bad housing conditions and the availability of vast opportunities for women unlike rural areas. All in all, the higher fraction of educated women and their status in the labour market are found to contribute to the depress of fertility in the Palestinian society.

Over and above, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor (Euro-Med Monitor) (2017) reports an escalated rate of poverty in the Gaza Strip as 65%, and abject poverty of 21 percent. The unemployment rate is approximated to 43.2% in the Gaza Strip, while it stood at 18.7% in the West Bank. It is also estimated that people in Gaza show higher dependency rates. Eighty percent of the total population in the Gaza Strip depend on the UNRWA and other local and international aids.

In the same context, Abu-Hamad et al. (2014) refer that the ongoing poverty, fragility and vulnerability has drastically impacted the route of children's development in Gaza. It is assumed that socio-economic and psychological stresses can be more harmful to children equally like poverty itself. Abu-Hamad et al. identify the social protection in a country as a tool to alleviate the vast spheres of suffering of the poor by a cluster of public actions. Cash assistance and welfare programs are some of the examples within this comprehensive strategy.

Nonetheless, despite comprising the higher proportion of society, children, including those of disabilities, are not the main focus of the Palestinian Social Protection Strategy that is approved in 2010 by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). It is concluded that child right's to protection against abuse, exploitation and neglect should be included as fundamental elements of this strategy.

The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS)(2016) reports that there is a relative decline in younger population (those 15 and below) in the Palestinian territories with a ratio of 39.7% in 2014. This decline is referred back to the decline in fertility rate that causes changes in the age structure of the Palestinian population, and changes in the family size that is reduced to 5.7 members in Gaza on average.

In its report of Training Provision and Employment in Palestine, MAS (2016) maintains that dependency rate is the highest in the Gaza Strip due to the fact that its population is notably young. Those under the age of 14 represent a percent of (43%) of the Gaza population. As for the household structure, the nuclear families in Gaza represent (84.4%), extended families represent (15.6%) only, (3.4%) represent a family of one person, and 8.1 percent represent persons who live in woman-headed

families. It is added that the average household density in Gaza reaches 1.8 person/room, while the high household density (i.e. three individuals in one room) is (14%).

Furthermore, the formal education in Gaza comprises primary and secondary grades then comes university and college education. Primary and secondary students represent 474,698 students, while higher education students represent 213,581 students in 2012-2013.

3.2.3 Features of the Palestinian Labour Market

The Palestinian labour market faced the challenge of real wages decline, caused by high unemployment, slow growth in the private sector, and high inflation (UNRWA, 2011).

Since mid-2007, the Gaza Strip has been subjected to an Israeli blockade that has restricted free movement of people and goods through the border crossings. Consequently, this has caused chronic shortages of essential goods additional to an economic downfall. Most importantly, The Gaza Strip has been also targeted by three major Israeli military operations in 2008-2009, 2012, and 2014 which resulted in thousands of Palestinian casualties, among whom children. In its turn, this has resulted in a massive destruction of infrastructure and many political, social, trade and economic establishments. It is reported that thousands of Gazans became homeless, while major reconstruction of health facilities, water networks and schools has yet to begin. Due to the blockade, the reconstruction process has been slow and incomplete, and the economy has never been able to recover (MAS, 2015).

Alongside the blockade, a buffer zone (i.e. a military no-go area) has been established alongside the border with Israel to prevent the Palestinians from reaching agricultural lands within this zone or in its proximity. As a result, the unemployment rate in the Gaza Strip has risen to (41.6%) by the second quarter of 2015. It is also estimated that (5.0%) of children aged 10-17 years in Palestine are employed with rates of (6.7%) in the West Bank and (2.5%) in Gaza Strip. The labour force participation rate of persons aged 15 years and above was (45.7%). The percentage distribution of employed persons in the Gaza Strip is: Employer (3.0%), self-employed (13.8%), wage employee (79.3%), unpaid family member (3.9%). Too,

findings of those working in public sector represent (37.8%), in private sector (54.4%), in other sectors (7.8%) (PCBS-FLS, 2015).

Based on MAS (2016), it is reported that the imposed restrictions and the three assaults on Gaza over the past years result in a large increase in unemployment rate and lead to stifle the economic potential. It is reported that out of the 396,000 persons in the labour force of Gaza, there is a number of 129,000 who are unemployed representing (32.6%). Findings show that the highest unemployment rate exists in Rafah Governorate while the lowest rate is in the Gaza Governorate. It is also indicated that the unemployment rate is higher among refugees than non-refugees.

As for wages, the average weekly working hours for Gaza's workers is 37.0, the average monthly working days reach 23.4, the average daily wage is 63.4, and the median daily wage is 50.0 in the final quarter of 2015.

Further, the agricultural sector is considered a "low-yielding" sector despite the fact that one-third of Gaza's land is utilized for agriculture. This sector mostly is family-owned farms wherein workers are not commonly paid. Wages in this sector decline to (23.1) NIS on daily average. Similarly, sectors of commerce, hotels, hunting, and fishing are low-waged sectors as affected by the blockade and movement restrictions. For example, in the fishery sector, about (90%) of Gaza's fishermen are classified into poor or very poor due to the imposed restrictions on coastal zone accessibility. This minimizes employment opportunities in such sectors and affects labour demand due to wages.

As an elaboration, Razia (2009) identifies unemployment as a lost opportunity of using economic resources that are expected to increase growth rates, rise the production level, and improve the living standard. It is also established that of the main characteristics of unemployment in Palestine are the low academic level, and the age group (15-24) which is of the highest rate in the Gaza Strip. Razia adds that the unemployment's adverse effects include but not limited to: the increase in dependency, economy drain, corruption, and shrinking workers' unused skills through time.

In 2014, Jildeh et al. denote that the higher unemployment rate in Palestine, particularly in the Gaza Strip (72%), helped the wide prevalence of children in the

labour market. Additional to that, the higher density of refugee population in the Gaza Strip and the increased fertility rate.

3.3 The Determinants of Child Labour

3.3.1 Poverty

The ILO (2011, pp.9-10), confirms that poverty plays a substantial role as a driver to child labour. In fact, the incidence of child labour can be seen as a part of the vicious cycle of poverty. Child labour brings about a cycle where skilled workers' income is not adequate to meet their families' provisions. Thus, breaking this cycle requires defeating poverty by encouraging families to fetch for better income opportunities, and generate new income sources. Also, by promoting children's schooling. Otherwise, poverty will continue through generations.

Based on the ILO (2014), more than one-fifth of the Palestinians live in poverty. Most of other Palestinian households live close to the poverty line. As of 2011, two-third of the Palestinians suffer the dynamics of a food shortage, an unemployment, low wages, and the lack of job opportunities; all act as factors that push children to work. Besides, low wages in Palestine urges child labourers to work extra hours to compensate for the low earnings.

To support, the Euro-Med Monitor (2017) reports that by the end of 2016, the unemployment rate in Gaza reached (43.2%), poverty rate reached (65%), abject poverty stood at (21%), and food insecurity reached (72%).

With reference to Abu-Hamad et al. (2014), more than the percentage of (27%) of the Palestinian children are considered poor. They add that Gazans tend to recognize poverty as a synonym of despair and lack of opportunities rather than the inability of meeting basic demands. It is also confirmed that maintaining a social protection program can be fruitful in improving child's health, nutrition, and education against vulnerabilities.

In 2016, the PCBS reported that 193,505 of children in the Gaza Strip received cash assistance during the year 2015. In the same year, 9,021 of children who suffer from chronic diseases also received cash assistance.

Clott (2015) maintains that prioritizing the correlation between poverty and child labour was a global trend in the previous literatures. According to him, poverty represents lacking the social, economical and political aptitudes in society. He conceives poverty based on its manifestations rather than being bound to wealth and income.

Further, Al-Hassan and Abubakari (2015) confer that in countries of higher rates of poverty, parents are induced to send their children to work whether intentionally or unintentionally to generate income for the household.

However, Johansson (2009) discusses that there exists a diverse and obscure relation between poverty and child labour. If poverty is the key determinant behind child labour, so; the same pattern should be perceived all over the world. Nonetheless, it is found that children of well-off families are more expected to work. One simple reason is because of the many work opportunities available to them.

Coulibaly (2016) points out that many of both theoretical and empirical studies show that poverty is the key driver of child labour. However, this view has been challenged by many. To some, land ownership wherein children work for their families is considered a significant child labour factor.

To support, Webbink (2013) makes clear the effect of land or livestock ownership (i.e. wealth) on child labour's incidence. Households that own land or livestock give rise to child labour as children are more often demanded to work in family farms. This phenomenon is identified by economists as "the wealth paradox".

3.3.2 Wars and Conflicts

Al kafri (2002) confirms that the probability of Palestinian children to join the labour market increases in political and economic distress times. As maintained by Dryden (2009):" It is the fault of adults when children end up in areas of natural disasters and catastrophes or zones of military combat operation ..."(p.1).

Moreover, Nandi and Di Maio (2010) assert that due to conflict intensity, many households suffer an economic shock that results in inducing many children to work.

Based on UNICEF (2016), around 500,000 students were not able to return to their schools in the school year 2014/2015 due to the damage inflicted in many schools during the Gaza assault in 2014.

Also, the report by Euro-Med Monitor (2017) demonstrates that during the previous three wars (2008-2014) on Gaza, the lives of 3,745 Gazans were claimed, 3,303 children were injured and one-third of those children suffers disability characterized of long term. Besides, a number of about 58,000 homes were partially or fully destroyed during attacks. In 2014 alone, 18,000 houses and 26 schools needed reconstruction. As a result, it is reported that more than 70,000 people of Gaza suffer internal displacement.

3.3.3 Family Dynamics

Latif et al. (2016) states that inadequate family relations or decision making, the collapse in households' values, and the deficiency in providing the needed protection to a child, usually result in child labour.

As stated by Johansson (2009), some children are sent to work instead of schools because parents are ignorant of the school importance to their children. It is added that child labour is caused by low household's values as children are sent to work for materialistic reasons. Other dynamics include large family size which entails the likelihood of child labour, also the one-headed family which represents a threat to the security of the family income.

In the same context, Rahman and Khanam (2016) argue that vulnerable households contribute to child labour due to the lack of coping strategies to face shocks: Death of a parent, unemployment, illness, poor health, low income, capital market constraints. Parental illiteracy feeds into the problem as most of the child labourers around due to illiterate parents.

In this regard, Nashwan (2013, p.75) states that many factors like: Family size, higher number of dependants, polygamy, parental separation, father's age contribute to the incidence of child labour in Gaza. Nashwan's study proves that a percent of

(75.8%) of the child labourers in the study confirm parental satisfaction on their children's current work.

To illustrate, Abu-Hamad (2014) maintains that shocks faced by households in Palestine: Death of the breadwinner, health problems, disability, and income loss, all contribute to push children to quit schooling, suffer household's increased stress and violence, and lose future opportunities as a consequence. Moreover, it is stressed that economic instability like the unemployment usually translates into stress and violence among parents, siblings, and parents and their children in the same family. As a result, household's discipline practices towards children are depicted of yelling, shouting, slapping, using inhumane verbal violence, and physical punishment.

Furthermore, the study of Abu-Hamad et al. discusses Gazan children's self-esteem and perceptions of their: Clothes, households, work, and school items. Findings reveal that (66.2%) of the study sample feel ashamed of their clothes.

3.3.4 Contribution to the Family

Latif et al. (2016) refer that children of the developing world usually tend to work and are driven to this out of their innate need to support their families. Riba (2006) asserts that in some households, children are expected to work. In this sense, children feel obliged to help their families.

Based on the theory of child labour as a contribution to the family by Boyden, Ling and Myers (1998), Johansson (2009) maintains that children either go to work voluntarily or out of being requested to go. Also, many of child labourers feel good when offering help to their families during economic hardships. Most importantly, many children suffer an underlying fear to be left alone or become not backed up by their families. Too, child labour laws' enforcement may deprive children from offering support to their families and get an income, from the children's perspective.

In 2004, the study by Said (pp.44-45) on *the Children of Palestine in the Labour Market* finds that Palestinian children are willing to contribute to their family income due to many reasons. These reasons may include: meeting household's basic demands, improving household's living standard, helping an unemployed or ill father, feeling loved by the father, gaining value in the family, saving money for

future plans,...etc. Some feel that their sense of responsibility of contributing to the family stems from their problem solving potential (p.64)

3.3.5 Self-Actualization

In support, Latif et al.(2016) maintain that many children are motivated to go to work by their own will. Poverty is not a main motivator in such cases since children of the developing world may want to take part in work the same as middle-class children of the industrialized countries do.

Johansson (2009) asserts that some children tend to work out of their inner need to become educated, independent, competent, and wealthy when they grow up. Psychological and economical “independence” are two contexts relevant to this matter. As for the psychological independence, some children feel the need that they want to be given the opportunity to satisfy their pocket money without receiving parental support. Economic independence, however, refers to a child's feeling of the urgent need to satisfy an income pushed by impoverished conditions. Interestingly, some children go to work for fun or to seek social communication.

Moreover, Riba (2006) adds that children have aspirations to gain self esteem among peers and reach certain levels of success, that's why; they go to work. This has been confirmed by Said (2004), some children work out of the desire to socialize. Some others are tempted by peers, while there is a group who think that to work is their inescapable fate. Too, some children have developed an exaggerated image of themselves. They think of their abilities to make decisions, escape punishment and breach laws in some cases. This thought is influenced by money accessibility and freedom of spending.

In Nashwan (2013)'s study on child labourers of the Gaza Strip, he refers that a percent of (33.1%) of the study respondents show that they are sent to work in response to father's decision, (5.0%) forced by mothers, (4.1%) by both, while (53.7%) of the children go to work by their own decision.

3.3.6 Work Attraction and Conditions

Riba (2006) refers to child labourers as: " children are perfect employees-the cheapest to hire, the easiest to fire and the least likely to protest" (Green, 1998, p:35).

In Nashwan (2013)'s study, a percent of (87.5%) of children's employers say that children do not suffer work illness in a way to downplay work negative effect on child labourers.

Jildeh et al. (2014) point up that since mid-2000, the Palestinian Labour Law permits those aged 15 and above to work but under certain stipulated work conditions and restrictions. Some of the families even consider that child labour does not violate the rights of the child rather than being "a positive form of solidarity". Of course, this makes it more easy and preferable by employers to employ children especially those who are schooling and youngsters. Employers' rationale is because children are naive, easy to manage, more conformant to rules, paid less than adults, and unaware of their rights.

It is also maintained that tools, methods and equipment of work are mainly designed for adults and are ill-fitting to child labourers. Thus, child labourers face a greater risk of work accidents, injury, and fatigue. The common work injuries based on the type of work that the Palestinian child labourers suffer from are classified as: Back pain more in those who work in family based business "Household work" and agriculture, muscle pain for workers in construction/building, deep wounds or scratches for workers in maintenance, bone fractures and eye sores among workers in cleaning, and burns are frequent among workers in workshops like carpentering, mechanics, or aluminum.

Findings of this study reveal that the prevalence of work injuries existed more among child labourers in the 6th grade (for those who attend school) with a percent of (82.6%) of the study sample, while child labourers from Gaza Strip who work for more than three hours a day make up (44.8%). What's more, Gaza children are found to work more in retail trade (i.e. street vending, grocery stores, food establishments) with a percent of (54.9), those who work in tool maintenance work stand at (3.6%), while those who work in movement of goods constitute (3.0%).

3.4 Summary of the Chapter

This chapter provides a definitive diagnosis of the causes and consequences of child labour within the Palestinian context. It shows a variety of vulnerabilities that can be of long-lasting effects on children's wellbeing, and are exacerbated by the protracted political conflict. Further, the chapter scrutinizes the magnitude and effect of child labour determinants as country –specific and is determined by many factors; for example, cultural, political and economic factors, market characteristics, and wages patterns. Actually, it is referred that more than (27%) of the Palestinian children are poor. Hence, the approximate percentage of child labourers in Gaza is (1.9%), the unemployment rate is (43.2%), and poverty rate is (65%). Central to this literature are the key factors behind child labour in Gaza: Poverty, wars and conflicts, family dynamics, contribution to the family, self actualization, and work conditions and attraction.

Chapter 4

The Previous Studies

Chapter 4

The Previous Studies

4.1 Introduction

In this section, the researcher's main focus is on studies that are directly relevant to the subject matter of the research. The chapter provides an inclusive and concise summary of the main objectives, findings, recommendations and contribution of the studies. Studies are arranged geographically in this chapter as: local, Arab, and foreign studies.

4.2 Local Studies

Al-Shami & Aita (2001):" Child Employment in Palestine: An Empirical Field Study".

The study aims at identifying the main causes of child employment in Palestine, its effects and how to address it. This study is quantitative in nature and tends to test four hypothesis of the research subject matter. The results of the study demonstrate characteristics of child labour phenomenon in Palestine, main drivers for child labourers to leave their schools and join the labour market and child labourers' work satisfaction. The sampling of the study constitute of child labourers from the West Bank in two age groups: (10-14 years) and (15-17 years). As for the data collection tool used is a survey that includes 45 questions.

Findings of the study reveal that the majority of child labourers are in the age group (15-17years). In terms of sex, male child labourers represent (92%) and female child labourers represent (8%). Also, it is revealed that of the key derivers encouraging children to work is financial. More than 50% of the children admit going to work for wage. Another reason underlying the phenomenon is that more than 73% of child labourers belong to families of 6-8 members. Most importantly, one third of them admit going to work to learn a skill. Other reasons of significant effect as well include: Child order among siblings, employed adults in the family, health status of family bread winner, breadwinner's education,...etc. Further, 88% of the children express their willingness to schooling which can be a good indicator.

The study recommends an inclusion of the child's rights in the developmental plans and strategies. Moreover, work times and wages should be clearly stipulated and enforced to prevent child exploitation. Child rights and labour laws should be applied and monitored by policy makers.

Al-Kafri (2005): "Child Labour and Schooling in the Palestinian Territory".

The main concern of this study is to figure out the main causes behind Palestinian children's decisions whether to continue schooling, work, or study and work. It is maintained that the phenomenon of child labour is pertinent to the Palestinian labour market's structure. Its dependency on economic support dates back to 1940s due to the adverse effect of occupation. The study uses the analytical survey that allows disseminating results of the Gaza Strip and West Bank. It also employs two methods of data analysis: sequential-response model method, and the probit model to analyze data of child labourers aged (10-17 years). Also, the study attempts to show a general profile of the child labourers in various areas and sectors in Palestine and Israeli settlements along encountered dangers.

The study implies that the Intifada (political factor) casts undesirable effect on certain determinants: The head of the household's education and employment status and the number of unemployed adults within one family. Also, it is revealed that family size resonates poverty in its vast effect on child labour. That's to say, the increased numbers of children aged (7-18 years) in the Gaza Strip increases the probability of children joining the labour market.

Interestingly, females are found to receive schooling more than males. Hence, school conditions are of key reasons that obstruct education rather than poverty which shows no significant effect on education. Besides, increased numbers of drop-out children increase the possibility of those children to join the labour market. Too, the Palestinian labour law is found to allow in an indirect way child labour in family enterprises not considering bad implication on education status. In this context, parents' level of education affects child labour but should be controlled in the long run. Vulnerable and impoverished children should be provided alternative educational opportunities like vocational training.

Thabet et al. (2006):" Effect of Trauma on Palestinian Children's Mental Health in the Gaza Strip and West Bank".

The study represents a range of traumatic experiences that children living in wars and conflict areas suffer from. The main focus of the study is to expose to children subject to traumatic experiences of wars in Gaza and the West Bank. The study sampled 199 of children in Gaza: 102 males and 97 females, and 150 from the west Bank and the children aged (6-15 years). Data collection occurs during the Al-Aqsa Intifada by a team of experts and professionals. The data is measured by traumatic event checklist and questionnaires. The study also applies descriptive statistics methodology of analysis.

The main findings of the study disclose that children of Gaza (36.9 %) are diagnosed of suffering post traumatic consequences of war more than children in the west Bank. Reasons of this can be socio-economic hardships exemplified in low household's income (52.8%) due to breadwinner's unemployment rated at (29.1%), and large family size in the Gaza Strip (8 and more children). Thus, suffering post traumatic effects can be a common feature of the low-income households in Gaza.

The study recommends studying the impact of traumatic experiences considering children's environment. The need to improve the socioeconomic status of families is also highlighted. The study further calls upon establishing well-equipped mental health clinics to help children exposed to trauma.

Abu Zayed (2010):"Job Satisfaction and its Relation to Child Labourers' Psychological Compatibility in the Middle Governorate".

Abu Zayed tends to examine the relationship between job satisfaction and psychological compatibility among child labourers aged (9-15 years) from the regions: Dair El Balah and Zawaidah. Correlation labs and the T-testing are used for data analysis and testing. The underlying importance of the study is to shed the light on the main profile of child labour in the Gaza Strip and to reduce its adverse effects. The study sampling comprises (80) of child labourers and the used methodology is quantitative; the descriptive analytical methodology.

In this study, the researcher identifies work satisfaction in relation to the value of work from child labourers' perspective. Work satisfaction here entails: Child satisfaction on employer, work conditions, type of work, work peers, and work wage. Psychological Compatibility means here: Child labourer's social interaction with others and with the outside environment. This can be examined via child's self autonomy, developing coping strategies, degree of aggressiveness, and team work abilities. Children are selected from areas of factories, cafeterias, agricultural lands where in a big number of child labourers exist and have similar demographic characteristics. They are school drop-out children, not working in household's businesses.

Findings reveal that job satisfaction, mainly; satisfaction on the employer and work conditions can be a chief pull factor. Be these conditions environmental, social or relevant to work time, all contribute to pull or push the child and affect his/her psychological compatibility. Also, wage can be a significant variable that gives value to the child's work through his family contribution and support, raises the self esteem, and exceeds education value to a child. Low quality education, repeated failure, the need to learn a craft, and unaffordable school costs all induce these children to work. Moreover, statistics show that child labourers tend to choose jobs with less education qualifications as they maintain good relations with work employers or peers rather than school peers.

The researcher recommends that the interested institutions have to work seriously in the issue. The MoL has a role in following up drop-out students and sending them to special vocational centers instead. The MoI has to launch advocacy campaigns to raise awareness of child labour's consequences among families. The MoE's role is to refine school curriculum, provide quality education and teachers, ensure free compulsory education for all, and prepare regular-basis survey of child labour.

Abu-Ghallow (2012): "Child Labour Supply in Palestine: Trends and Perspectives".

The study aims at analyzing the effect of household's income decline on child labour supply in Palestine. The study adopts the longitudinal analysis to review

trends of change in employment and unemployment rates for two age groups:(10-14years) and (15 and above). These changes have been studied along income and output growth trend, and school dropouts.

This study has revealed that most child labour force is classified as unpaid family members. Significantly, more than two thirds of child labour force is existed in the agriculture and commerce/retail sectors. This finding has indicated that a wide range of child labourers is concentrated in family owned establishments (land, small retail businesses, shops, professional services).

Further, the researcher maintains that there is no positive relationship between school dropout rates and child labour supply in Palestine. Also, children are not engaged in work to compensate an adult's unemployment, rather it's the increase in family business that depends heavily on child labour. In other words, where adults are willing to accept low payment jobs, children are required to run the family business. Therefore, one of the main findings is that the relation between child labour supply and adults' labour supply in Palestine is a complementary relation, which is an unprecedented relation. As an elaboration, the degree of dependency on child labour force in family income generating activities and businesses (vending, shop, land) guarantees success in that business. So, the increase in job opportunities results in an increase in child labour. Most importantly, it seems that there is no trade off relation between child labour supply in Palestine and education. In other words, school drop- out rates are not affected by economic conditions.

Nashwan (2013): "Determinants and Consequences of Child Labour and Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Gaza Strip".

The main objectives of this study are to assess child labour determinants and consequences, identify child labour's main categories, explore the work fields of children in Gaza Strip, and investigate the phenomenon's impact. The study scrutinizes data using a mixed methodology of quantitative and qualitative. The employed data collection tools include surveying 683 child labourers from, 129 children's employers, and 124 households. The qualitative tools used are in-depth interviews and 22 focus groups of child labourers, their parents, and 5 separate meetings to other relevant parties.

The study results show that family size is considered one of the most important drivers of child labour in Gaza, one-headed household comes next, parental education, higher unemployment rate of households' breadwinners. Most importantly, almost all child labourers' households' income drop under poverty line (901.5 NIS). Further, most of the child labourers work in agriculture (19.3%) which endanger their lives due to pesticides exposure, gravel collection (17%), street vendors (16.8%), manufacturing (16.7%), fishing (5.7%). Findings reveal that children tend to join whatever available jobs due to the lack of work opportunities. This supports the results that almost all works they join are under WFCL. Additionally, findings indicate that the average wage reaches (128.12 NIS/month), average daily work hours (7.7 hours/day), a percentage of (42.8%) of child labourers are not allowed to have weekly holidays, more than two thirds of child labourers' families do not receive MoSA assistance, while (55.5%) receive UNRWA assistance.

The study recommends that interested entities work to reduce numbers of child labourers from those under minimum age of work, a hotline and a box of complaint should be specified to receive cases of employer's exploitation to children at work, the MoE has to play a vital role to bring drop-out students back to school, public awareness campaigns are to be promoted, social protection systems must be reformed to provide the needed comprehensive assistance to the poor families, family planning programs are to be encouraged, child labourers under 15 should be criminalized for violating the minimum stipulated age for work, and imposing penalties on employers who violate labour laws.

Abu-Ghallow (2014):" Labor Force Participation and Wages in Palestine for the Period 2000 to 2011".

This dissertation includes three chapters investigating: Adult employment and family's income effect on child labour supply, husband's income and employment effect on wives' labour force participation, and the return to education and wage inequality in Palestine. The first chapter is our main concern. Here, the researcher tends to investigate whether the decline in parents' wage and unemployment would induce the child to join the labour market. Income-related variables are developed and a multiple regression model is used to test family income and adult's

employment effects in both the Gaza Strip and West Bank. Data source utilized is based on PCBS's surveys to test the period(2000-2011). This period is selected due to the major political transformations that took place affecting the economic activities of people. The data set are divided into two: (2000-2010) and (2011). Each set includes a 45 rounds with a sample size of 7,559 households/round. So, the study only examines data relevant to children aged (10-15 years) only.

Findings, particularly, in Gaza Strip show that parents' employment type has no relation to child labour. To explain, there are limited fulltime job opportunities in the Gaza Strip and there is a lack of adequate payment as well. Most of parents there either work in the family business(unpaid work) or in irregular jobs since jobs lack both the quality and quantity of sufficient payment. So, parents' income has a lower effect on child labour. Besides, results show that educated parents have many work options than less educated. One of the interesting findings of the study reports that despite a higher number of adults workers inside a family, children still go to work. The reason is referred to characteristics of Palestinian households. Too, child's age casts its effect on the incidence of child labour. The probability of sending elder children to work is more than those of younger ages. The study concludes that child labour is a result of the deterioration in the labour market, low wages and job opportunities' decline.

The researcher recommends incorporating household's spending in micro level, and accounting for family wealth, productive assets, parents' job sector, and child's income to provide for a more vigorous relation between income variations and child labour in Palestine. Also, development entities should work on creating more job with adequate wages to increase the local Palestinian capacity.

Pereznieto et al. (2014):"Effects of the Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme on Children and Adolescents: A mixed Methods Analysis".

This study revolves around the fact that poor households' vulnerabilities cast its negative effects on children (and adolescents) in certain ways. Specifically, the study explores the impact of the Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme (PNCTP) on child's: Survival, protection, development, and participation as key dimensions of child's rights recognized by the CRC. The study is applied on both the West Bank

and Gaza Strip wherein there are high rates of poverty, unemployment, protracted conflict, limited livelihood opportunities, and shortage of services provision. Therefore, the main focus of the study is to make the PNCTP a more 'child-sensitive'.

The methodology applied is the mixed method: Quantitative and qualitative based on data from the cities of Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Gaza city including (the Beach Camp) in the Gaza Strip area. The study resorts to cross-sectional quantitative study design with both an (intervention group) and a (comparison group) in order to explore causality and generalisable findings. To add, the qualitative approach is employed by purposive sampling aiming at extracting an in-depth analysis.

Results show that PNCTP contributes positively to children in many fields of life. Generally speaking, cash transfers for children can be improved by providing new clothes, bags, and uniforms, for example, in order to help children overcome the social stigma of poverty. Most importantly, the PNCTP provides a significant subsidy to child's schooling in poor households but not the case for the poorest households. To add, qualitative findings indicate that even in families receiving cash transfer, child labour is a common feature. This can be explained due to households' shock, loss, or illnesses of any of the family members especially the main breadwinner. Nonetheless, the PNCTP fails to adequately inform its beneficiaries of the available community networks and support services to fulfill their children's demands. So, it can do more through supporting its complementary structures as social workers, referral systems, and the beneficiary database. Hence, the study concluded that the PNCTP program is ineffective in addressing children's emotional and psychological needs and in realizing their development challenges along their rights of protection and participation.

The main recommendations of the study included but not limited to: Fostering stronger synergies between social protection and child protection systems, providing capacity building to government staff who interact with children, strengthening referral systems, providing disability-specific support, and improving parenting and behavior skills toward children in poor and vulnerable households.

Al-Tawashi (2015): "Child Labour and its Effect on the Career of the Coming Generations".

In her research, Al-Tawashi discusses that child labour has an adverse impact on the reduced accumulation of human capital: (child's knowledge, skills learning, talents and abilities) which are a key ingredient for national and individual economic development. She also maintains that child labour obstructs children's educational progress, which can be one of the most influential impacts to escape the vicious cycle of poverty and exploitation and to get a decent work in the future career. The perpetuation of child labour does not only limit the development of child's potentials but also harms the very economies around and imposes its effect upon future generations.

The researcher uses the descriptive analytical method and the population of her study consists of 225 employees, of them, a sample of 161 employees working in the field of child protection both public, non-governmental and international institutions. The data collection tool used is the questionnaire.

The study results show that from a wide range of causes behind the phenomenon of child labour in the Gaza Strip, one is that it affects negatively the professional future of generations. Besides, child labour casts its negative effects on children's ability to communicate, read, write, decide, discover, and innovate, not to mention low self esteem, low social participation, low educational and training chances. Most importantly, going to work in early stages of life impedes work opportunities when those children become adults.

The study recommendations include that the far-reaching impact of child labour requires devoted attention by governments, businesses and civil society. The researcher stresses the significance of raising awareness campaigns to highlight the risks of child labour in the Gaza Strip. The activation of the roles of syndicates, human rights organizations, ministry of education and the ministry of labour should be reinforced towards child labour abolition. Finally, a survey each three years should be conducted to assess this phenomenon and follow its progress.

4.3 Arab Countries' Studies

Wahba(2006):“The Influence of Market Wages and Parental History on Child Labour and Schooling in Egypt”.

The study purpose is to find out the relationship (if any) between parents who send their children to work, at the same time, live in a low- wage area. Besides, it examines the relationship between child labour supply and household adult market wage. The relationship between parents, of previous history of being child labourers, and their decision to send their children to work and how regional income inequality has an effect on child labour, are all investigated as well in this paper.

This study is an empirical study which helps policy and decision makers to lay down effectual policies. The study uses the bivarite probit estimation technique and a sample of 10742 children whose ages are (6-14 years).

Findings reveal that the probability of child labour increases with the incidence of low adults' wages which is considered a key determinant, especially among the age group (12-14 years) than younger age groups. It is also indicated that higher child market wage helps to supply more children to the labour market. Moreover, the study uncovers that parents who were child labourers themselves in earlier stages of their lives, are more likely to send their children to work for the same age group. Besides, as income inequality seems to increase, child labour reacts similarly. Adding to that, less educated parents contribute in the decline of school investment. However, female-headed households promote schooling for children, hence; the probability of child labour is decreased in this case. In a nutshell, there is a trade-off between child labour and education.

Finally, the study recommends providing cash assistance in low-wage areas to impoverished children to help them afford schooling.

Bawadiqgi (2010):"Child Labour in Arab Countries and the Need to Find Solutions.

The study investigates the effects of poverty and the low educational levels of a considerable number of Arab households on child labour. It is confirmed that child

labour casts negative health, psychological and social effects through generations. That's why the research attempts to study and analyze this phenomenon and its underlying causes. The methodology applied in analyzing data is the analytical descriptive plus the secondary data available. Further, the study reflects on the reality of children in the Arab countries.

It is revealed that the majority of child labourers accounting at (70%) work in agriculture, and (5.7 millions of Arab children) do not receive schooling. Economic conditions, i.e. poverty, unemployment, lack of job opportunities, low wages, are of the main drivers behind child labour. Social Factors mainly the higher rates of illiteracy that expose children to exploitation and hinders their learning abilities, family migration from rural to urban areas lacking coping strategies, the lack of compulsory schools, school drop-out, low return on education, and family size all feed the rise of this phenomenon. Besides, legal factors where child labour is manifested due to deficiency in laws enforcement, legal gaps, lack of accurate consensus on child labour, and poor knowledge of child rights. More, cultural factors that encourage the incidence of child labour alongside wars and conflicts that has an adverse effects on child's social relations. Health, psychological and cognitive factors also play a significant role and depict the violations extents.

The study finds out that there is a lack in helpful data to measure the magnitude of the problem. Too, there is no clear cut definition to WFCL , not to mention the lack of appropriate regulations to protect children. Most importantly, there is a big increase in poverty rates with poor services provision to poor households. To add, poor educational policies contribute to the pervasiveness of school drop-out.

The study also recommends the necessity to establish an all-encompassing precautionary strategy to eradicate child labour in the Arab countries, and to ensure protecting children's rights. This can also be achieved by establishing a rich child labour data base, maintaining a collaboration between the ALO and other interested organizations, exerting efforts to ensure compulsory education for all, developing the vocational training to match the labour market needs, and launching advocacy campaigns to properly address policy and decision makers.

Kazim (2011): "Child Labour in Iraq: Causes and Solutions".

It is a study that investigates the main causes behind the prevalence of this phenomenon in Iraq in terms of educational, social and psychological basis from child labourers' perspective. The researcher has sketched child labour in Iraq and the suffering of many of children, especially those who work as streets sweepers. The increased numbers of children cleaning streets has been escalated after the Mayoralty and municipalities of Baghdad gave it the legal frame and legitimization. The study utilizes data collection tools of survey and individual interviews of child labourers. The study sampled 120 child labourers, aged (10-15years) who work in a variety of sectors in Baghdad governorate. A focus group of (20) of university specialists and supervisors in education, sociology and psychology were grouped to investigate validity and reliability of the questionnaire.

The main findings of the research show that low family income(i.e., poverty) is the first significant cause behind households' decisions to send their children to work in Iraq. Many other factors contribute to low family income like: Unemployment, breadwinner's status, and country security status. Next, losing one or both parents show significant results too which can be associated to war effect. Parental literacy can be a third main cause, while wars and conflicts take the fourth order. Child maltreatment and abuse is of low significance. The study reveals that child labour's occurrence is more in males than females, especially in those aged 15 years old. Also, the higher student drop-out rate is between fifth graders.

The researcher resorts into some recommendations: the necessity of carrying out comprehensive surveys, initiating database including inclusive data of child labour in Iraq, raising public awareness to the phenomenon and activating procedures to have it eradicated, following up students at schools through coordination with schools administration, conducting influential researches in the field, inspecting child labourers especially in hazardous works to ensure safety at workplace, and benefiting from advanced countries in this regard in policy and decision making.

Karadshe (2014): "The Determinants of Child Labour in the Jordanian Society: A quantitative and an Analytical Study"

Karadshe based his study on finding out the key determinants of child labour in Jordan; the causes, and underlying factors. The study importance lies in being one of the very few comprehensive studies in Jordan that studies the child labour determinants within the context of child's characteristics, household, and outside environment. The research employs a quantitative methodology and descriptive statistics. The researcher applies the stratified national household survey sampling technique to a sample size of (4000 families). The data collection tool is by means of a survey, and the logistic regression is used as a proper survey analysis method.

The study displays that due to the double increase of the population in Jordan adjacent to the many economic and social transformations, child labour phenomenon is becoming of an accelerated increase as well despite the local and international child labour's laws enforcement. This explains the higher fertility rates that result in a young society mostly of those aged 15 and less who present %37.3. Thus, it is of special importance to investigate child labour's main determinants, especially they are of a composite nature of a group of economic, social and cultural factors. Most importantly, the study refers that the higher percentage of child labour in Jordan exists in the Palestinian refugee camps comprising around (33.3%) compared to other areas in Jordan. This reflects on the difficult social, psychological and economic circumstances additional to the scarcity of opportunities in refugee camps.

The key determinants based on the study results are arranged in sequence as: The size of the family, father's level of education, mother's age at marriage, father-mother relation of kinship, parental place of residence, household's monthly income, number of father's wives-if any, and discipline methods used to raise children. Finally, the researcher recommends that other causes of child labour have to be given a considerable interest to get an all-encompassing analysis of the child labour phenomenon. Besides, an open research area is recommended to bring out the phenomenon's other frames away from the psychological frame only.

Rezq'llah (2015): "the Reality of Child Labour in Algeria: A Field Study to a Sample of Children from the State of Tepsa".

The study attempts to reveal the reality of the child labour phenomenon and uncover its growing occurrence in the state of Tepsa; east of Algeria. That's why, this study tries to find answers to whether poverty is the main cause of child labour, and whether going to work in an earlier stage of life can endanger the child labourers.

The researcher exposes many causes of child labour including: Households' poverty and deprivation, school drop-out, family disputes and parental relations, and traumatic incidences. Consequently, there are many negative effects on child labourers: health, psychological, and social problems.

This study applies both the qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. The qualitative research is descriptive in nature to figure out the reality of child labour in the Tepsian society, poverty effect as one of the main economic factors behind the prevalence of such a phenomenon, and hazards of work encountered by early child labourers. However, the quantitative methodology employs a deductive approach to analyze causes and effects which can come up with generalized results. The study sample is an accidental sample of 15 child labourers, aged at (14-15) and (16-17) years old, who happen to be found by the researcher in some neighborhoods of Tepsa at a certain time. The data collection tool of this study is observations, which is one of the oldest tools used in academic research. By means of a constructed questionnaire, the researcher endeavors to investigate the preset hypotheses.

The results of the study shows: Firstly, despite the full agreement that the father is the main breadwinner of the family, despite having from 2-4 working members in some households, children are driven to work to satisfy household's certain living standard. This reflects the level of parental unawareness and negligence. Also, most of the children between ages (10-14 years) favor committing to work rather than schooling as pulled to work by their peers, children's desire of self actualization and independence, and the comparisons with other peers and friends concerning the household's conditions. Secondly, the study finds that most of the children feel afraid of the employer's reactions during the work time, children

perform inappropriate, exhausting works which are beyond their abilities, work hazards depends heavily on the work environment. Finally, the researcher recommends providing child labourers with the needed child protection from exploitation, monitoring and control by the entitled entities on child labour's law breach, raising awareness of the children to the importance of education as a way out of poverty and economic instability.

4.4 Foreign Studies

Aderinto & Okunola(1998):" Push, Pull, and Sustaining Factors of Child Labor in Nigeria".

The researchers have focused their study mainly on one type of child labour which is street trade in Nigeria, district of Ibadan; where a large presence of children who daily hawk can be observed. The research included many underlying factors behind child labour: push, pull, sustaining, and work conditions factors.

The research argued that despite working children in rural areas have not attracted the same attention as those in urban areas, the child labour appears in its most clear manifestations in rural areas in family context. To explain, in cases when parents are not able to meet the needs of their family, if the marital union breaks down, if the conditions at home are bad, children were sent out to supplement family income by 'street-trading'.

The intellectual and explanatory framework of the paper is based upon Durkeim's social change exposition. The research applied the descriptive data analysis and quantitative methodology. Methods of data collection used include surveying 241 respondents from Nigeria by interviews and close observations too. Obstacles were encountered in data collection since labour force data was the only available data to children above 14 years old only.

The study findings show that the push factors that drove these children to street included family low-income and large numbered families where these children came from. On the other hand, pull factors included: good return of street trade, which was beyond the reach of an average salary worker in Nigeria. Despite this, (48%) have career aspirations to go to school. Sustaining factors, also have an influential impact

as a greater percent of about (82%) of children reported developing friendly relations which offer them belongingness. From another perspective, work conditions' findings represented the inappropriateness of tasks performed by child labourers, the higher potentials for accidents, and the adverse effect on schooling for those who both work and study .

The study recommends social, economic and psychological changes in order find out to provide for proper solutions to these children. What's more, family planning strategies are to be encouraged by households to help reduce the widening tide of this phenomenon. Finally, cooperative efforts between organizations are encouraged to promote the living standards of the poor.

Rahman & Khanam (2012):" Child Labour: The Effects of Globalization".

The paper attempts to analyze literature based on the global trend. It endeavors explore the underlying causes and effects of child labour under globalization's impact. It is confirmed that despite the fact that poverty is a key motivator to child labour, other determinants play a significant role as well. The importance of this study lies in analyzing child labour determinants based on the market mechanism: Demand and supply. Demand (pull) causes are those that encourage employers to employ children rather than adults include: Labour market structure, production technology, government poor law enforcement, low wages for child labourers, and low bargaining power of children...etc. However, supply (push) causes are those that encourage households to send children to work: Poverty, family size, adults' unemployment, schooling costs, parental literacy,...etc.

Findings of the study show that despite the fact that poverty plays a significant role and can be" inter-generational", the phenomenon of child labour is deeply rooted under socio-economic and cultural determinants. Therefore, child labour casts its effects on the child, family, society and economy. Besides, the study reveals both positive and negative effects of globalization on child labour too.

The researchers recommend that policy tools including capital and labour market's efficiency should be employed properly as to affect family and firm's

decisions concerning child labour. Too, quality educational opportunities should be provided with lower costs to impoverished children, and compulsory education is to be promoted up to the 10th grade. Further, developed countries must play a supportive role towards the developing countries in child labour eradication.

Latif et al.(2016):"Socio-economic and Political Determinants of Child Labour at Brick Kilns: A Case Study of District Jhang".

From among a wide array of child labour's determinants, the study intends to explore the socio-economic and political determinants of child labour at Brick Kilns in Pakistan. To investigate these determinants, the study uses the qualitative research design, the interview guide and in-depth interviews' tool of data collection to 30 of the child labourers (respondents). As the research area is agricultural and many child labourers who are rich in information are there, so; the sampling technique used is the non-probability purposive sampling that is based on convenience. The data analysis method employed is the thematic analysis which is based on themes via a list of questions to explain the study determinants.

The main findings of the study show that child labourers' ages range between (12-18 years). Also, not affording schooling (illiteracy), the dire need for (pocket) money, the societal value of child labour, the poor enforcement of child labour laws, poor governmental policies, bonded labour, and parental education all contribute to this phenomenon. Most importantly, the increased population and the economic reasons come first.

The researchers of the study recommend launching child labour eradication campaigns by the government entities, and monitoring laws' enforcement. Besides, as illiteracy is ranked a second important cause of child labour after poverty, the government has to manage poor children's schooling and educational programs. Finally, it is wise to control the increased population by encouraging the family planning in the area.

Haider and Qureshi (2016): "Are All Children Equal? Causative Factors of Child Labour in Selected Districts of South Punjab, Pakistan".

This study aims at investigating child labour causes in seven work environments where most of the child labourers join an informal sector in South Punjab; Pakistan. Children work sectors of this study are: tea stalls, tuck shops, hotels, petrol stations, workshops, domestic works services. The descriptive research methodology is applied by means of a survey as a proper tool to get reliable results. A purposive sampling technique is used to investigate the causative factors of child labour to both male and female children aged (5-14 years). An exploratory factor analysis (EFA) of this research results in four main causes behind child labour in Pakistan: Family responsibilities, employer behavior, work interest, and educational opportunities.

To illustrate, households' impoverishment induce children into work, consequently; they obey and work by their own desire. This implies that poverty is a key determinant of child labour alongside other contributing factors: father's income, family size, parental qualification,...etc. Moreover, despite the fact that a higher percentage of employers resort to corporal punishment, many of the child labourers think that their employers are supportive to them in some difficult conditions. As for children's interest for work, 92% of the respondents confirm that the main reason of going to work is to be skilled at a profession or a craft. A percentage of 82% of them join work to receive a decent wage, while half of the respondents admit going to work because they lack interest in school. However, 75% of child labourers refer to the lack of educational opportunities available despite their interest in schooling. Added to this, findings of the study show that most of the child labourers are children of the age group (11-14 years), mostly from urban areas.

The study recommends conducting more researches on a larger sample to help generalizing results. Further, parents, teachers, policy and planning decision makers should be directed toward eradicating child labour phenomenon. For example, education can be linked to credit provision to help the impoverished families, family planning should be promoted, child labour laws and regulations must be enforced.

4.5 Commentary on the Previous Studies

The researcher displayed previously some of the studies relevant to the research. Despite of the different backgrounds and areas of expertise of the researchers, the variety of geographical areas, the diverse timeframes of the previous studies, the wide range of methodological techniques, data collection and analysis tools and methods, it sounds like there is a full agreement on the inauspicious consequences of child labour on almost all aspects of life.

The researcher of this study benefits of the previous information to design the study tool, specify ages of the target respondents, choose an applicable research methodology to prioritize the main determinants behind child labour in Gaza. Add to that, studies' findings and recommendations helped much in developing the study propositions.

To begin, Aderinto & Okunola (1998)'s study refers that employing the push-pull formula into child labour causes dates back to 1990s. It exemplifies children's vulnerability and the pressure that children experience under two contradictory forces of push and pull. Abu-Zayed (2010) illustrates that favorable work conditions provoke (attract) children to work, while bad work conditions and relations make children feel like pushed to work until they find another opportunity. In the same context, Rahman & Khanam (2012) categorize child labour's main determinants under the market mechanism of supply and demand to investigate the intrinsic socio-economic and cultural factors.

In one hand, a number of studies indicate that poverty is the main determinant behind child labour. However, alone, it cannot be considered a significant cause as other factors contribute drastically to it. As explained by Haider and Qureshi (2016), many factors like family size and father's income contribute to the higher impact of poverty on child labour incidence. To support, Rahman & Khanam (2012) render the causes underlying child labour to a composite group of social, economy, and cultural determinants alongside poverty. Too, Kazim (2011) confirms that poverty is considered the key driver behind child labour in Iraq and is expressed in terms of low family income. Perezniето et al. (2014) refer that child labour incidence occurs due to the loss or illness of the main sustainer of the family or a household shock. As for

Bawadiqgi (2010), general economic conditions: poverty, unemployment, low wages...etc. contribute similarly to child labour.

On the other hand, Al-Shami & Aita (2001) demonstrate that a percentage exceeding (73%) is of child labourers living in big families. Nashwan (2013) supports this view and states that family size is considered the number one reason behind child labour in the Gaza Strip. Moreover, Al-Kafri (2005) maintains that family size is one manifestation of poverty since the increased number of children under 7 years old in one family increases child labour's likelihood. Karadshe (2014) also prioritizes family size as the number one determinant behind child labour since higher fertility rate encourages households to supply more children to the labour market. Aderinto & Okunola(1998) support this point and consider family size of the most compelling (push) factors behind child labour.

Interestingly, some of the aforementioned studies highlight that most of child labourers exist in family businesses which curbs poverty's effect on child labour. Evidence shows that most of child labour occurrences subsist in children's households. This indicator explains better the reason behind the fourth ranking of poverty in the study findings. Bawadiqgi (2010) confirms that a higher percent of Arab child labourers work in agriculture, i.e., family farms. This also has been supported by Abu-Ghallow (2012) who states that more than two-thirds of Palestinian child labourers work as an unpaid workers in family owned businesses. He elaborates that the expansion in family business could entail more demand on child labour force to ensure success in this business. Too, Nashwan (2013) adds that most of the child labourers in the Gaza Strip are found in the agriculture sector. This indicates that most of child labourers perform hidden types of child labour that cannot be easily inspected. This might be referred to the labour market volatility and lack of job opportunities, plus that it is one of the common features of the Palestinian households to employ children. Here, it is worth mentioning the fact that a vast majority of children working in family enterprises are unpaid labourers. The critique is that the more opportunities to hire child labourers at lower wages, the greater is the child labour's demand. Of course, this aspect is fed by the social norms acceptance to such hidden types of work, lack of control, and legislations' deficiency.

Studies of Thabet (2006) and Kazim (2011) represent the paradox that in areas where one expects more push forces because of poverty and low household's income, wars and conflicts show startling findings. Throughout the literature, it is inferred that suffering under wars and political conflicts embrace other factors: social, political, economic, and cultural that threatens to undermine coping strategies that children can draw on. As Al Kafri (2005) maintains, the political factor interrelates with economic factors that cause children to join the labour market. Despite the limited studies that show factors' interrelations, this study emphasizes war and conflict's great effect on the prevalence of child labour due to passing through three wars so far alongside political conflicts in the Gaza Strip.

Child labourers' relation to the labour market can be closely linked to child and household's literacy level. Abu Zayed (2010) refers to the value that households give to child's income step away from education. Al Kafri (2005) mentions that school conditions may lead children to refrain schooling more than the unaffordable school costs. So, the more school drop-out children, the more child labourers supply. However, Abu-Ghallow (2012) confirms that economic conditions have no effect on school drop-out rates in Palestine. On the other hand, Nashwan (2013) states that parental education can be a third determinant of child labour in the Gaza Strip. Karadshe (2014) prioritizes father's level of education as a second determinant. Abu-Ghallow (2014) refers to the availability of work opportunities to educated parents than those to the less educated. Wahba (2006) indicates the negative relation between parental education and child labour. Al Tawashi (2015) asserts that child's education is one way out of poverty cycle. Haider and Qureshi (2016) refer that children tend to work because they are no more interested in schooling.

Some factors behind child's decision to join the labour market need more investigation. Despite thinking of their reduced impact, some findings were striking. These can be congruent with our study findings. A percent of 92% of child labourers go to work only to learn a craft (Haider and Qureshi, 2016); children work to sustain their pocket money (Latif et al., 2016); 82% work to feel belongingness (Aderinto & Okunola, 1998); peers pull effect (Rezq'llah, 2015); favorable work conditions and employer's treatment can be a pull factor of significant effect (Abu Zayed, 2010).

4.6 Research Gap and Originality

As far as the researcher knows, this study is a unique study in Gaza that tends to prioritize the extensive range of the determinants of child labour in the city of Gaza. Further, there is a substantial lack of studies that employ push-pull economic and marketing formula of supply and demand to uncover the determinants of child labour despite being deeply inherited in this phenomenon. What's more, most of the studies in the Gaza Strip draw heavily on the PCBS's surveys which work mainly on the age group (10-17 years). However, this study works on the critical age group (10-15 years) that has a variety of characteristics.

4.7 Summary of the Chapter

This chapter brings in local, Arab and foreign studies of relevance to the study main theme and objectives. It provides each study's main aim, objectives, methodology applied, findings and recommendations. Central to the discussion of this chapter is the compare and contrast between studies concerning the key determinants of the phenomenon of child labour. What's more, the chapter includes the researcher's pinpointing commentary on the previous studies and shows the study gap and originality. It ends up with the chapter wise summary.

Chapter 5

Research Methodology

Chapter 5

Research Methodology

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the used research methods and tools are explained in details: the data collection means, the research population, the interview design, the interview preparation, the interview schedule, ethics of the qualitative data of this study, trustworthiness, rigor of the qualitative data and results of this study are provided too. The research methodology section also illustrates how the research is carried out. It includes a sequence of procedures that the researcher goes through.

Besides, this section introduces the qualitative research used in the study by means of conducting individual interviews as a qualitative tool of data collection. Al-Herbawi (2015) adds that the main feature of the qualitative research is its aims and methods. Its aims are related to understanding some aspects of the social life, while its methods generate words rather than numbers as data for analysis. Qualitative researchers are interested in understanding the meaning people construct, i.e., how people make sense of their world and the experiences they gain in the world.

Most importantly, the research analysis method employed in this study is the Constant Comparative Method (CCM) that is applied to analyze the study qualitative data. The CCM is defined by Boeije (2002: 392a) as a method that is used in all intellectual tasks during the analysis process: Outlining categories, establishing categories' boundaries, assigning categories' segments, summarizing each category's content and finding the evidence.

5.2 The Qualitative Research

5.2.1 The Conceptualization of the Qualitative Research

The qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning of a social or human problem which individuals or groups describe. The process of research involves: Generating questions and procedures, collecting data typically in the participant's setting, analyzing data that is inductively built from particulars to general themes, and interpreting the meaning of data by the researcher. Also, the outcome final written report is of a flexible structure. Those who engage in

this form of analysis hold up the view that this type of research honors an inductive style, focuses on individual meaning, and stresses the importance of rendering the complexity of a situation (Creswell, 2013).

The qualitative approach emphasizes the qualities of entities, processes and meanings that are not experimentally examined or measured in terms of quantity, amount, intensity or frequency. Too, quality refers to a thing's ambience and essence - the what, how, when and where of it. The research questions often stress how social experiences are created and given meaning. The relationship between the researcher and subject(s), as well as the situational constraints that shape the inquiry are emphasized by the value-laden nature of such an analysis (Denzin and Lincoln, 2008).

Qualitative research is concerned with a qualitative phenomenon that involves a quality. The qualitative research method is characterized as being descriptive, non-numerical, a method that applies reasoning and uses words. Too, it aims at getting the meaning and feeling beside describing the situation. It is exploratory in nature plus that it investigates the why and how of decision making (Rajasekar, S., et al. 2006: 9). Olson et al. (2016) adds that the qualitative research tends to make explanations from information (i.e. inductive reasoning), unlike the deductive approach that entails using a theory, predicting results, and drawing conclusions based on data.

Flick (2009) elaborates on some features of the qualitative research: Methods and theories' appropriateness, participants' perspectives and their diversity, researchers and researches' reflexivity and the variety of approaches and methods applied in the qualitative research.

Based on Hoepfl (1997:49), the main characteristics of the qualitative research are detailed as follows:

1. Natural setting is used as the source of data. The researcher observes, describes, and interprets settings as they are actually.
2. The "human instrument" of data collection is the researcher him/herself.
3. Inductive data analysis is used predominantly by the qualitative researchers.
4. Reports of the qualitative research are descriptive in nature, incorporating

expressive language and “presence of voice in the text”.

5. It is depicted by an interpretive character, aiming at discovering the meaning events have for the individuals who experienced them, and exploring the interpretations of those meanings by the researcher.
6. It stresses the idiosyncratic and the pervasiveness of cases; seeking the uniqueness of each case.
7. It is of an emergent (as opposed to predetermine) design. Researchers focus on this emerging process alongside the research outcomes.
8. It is judged using a special criteria for trustworthiness.

Further, Husbands (2016) adds that according to Polit and Beck (2010, p.1454), researchers applying qualitative research methodology are recommended to maintain the generalisability and transferability of a qualitative research. This is can be done by utilizing a purposive sampling technique, for example, which helps capturing a phenomenon from a verity of perspectives beside enabling the researcher to find out the replicability of conclusions across the informants.

5.2.2 Data Collection of the Qualitative Method

According to Sabbah (2016), there are several methods of data collection in the qualitative research that include observations, visual or textual analysis (e.g. from videos or books) and interviews whether individual or group.

The interview is one of the data collection tools of the qualitative research. It involves a presentation of the oral-verbal stimuli and a reply in terms of oral-verbal responses. Such method can be utilized through a personal interview which requires an interviewer to ask questions to another person or other persons in a face to face contact. What's more, individual interviews are divided into three essential types.

Firstly, **the structured interview** which is a verbally administered questionnaire. It includes some predetermined questions to ask that can be of little or no variation, no scope for following up questions to responses that necessitate further elaboration. So, this interview is somewhat easy and quick to administer and can be especially used when there is a need for more clarification to questions or in case of respondents' probable numeracy or literacy problems.

Secondly, **the semi-structured interview** is based on several main questions that play a significant role in defining issues to be explored. Moreover, the interviewer or the interviewee can diverge in questions to track ideas or responses in more details. This flexibility, as compared to structured interviews, allows for an elaboration or discovery of information that is of considerable significance to participants while might not have been thought of by the researcher. Such an interview format helps the participants to talk as it provides them with guidance on what to talk about.

Thirdly, **the unstructured interview** which does not reflect any preconceived theories or ideas and is performed with little or no organization. These interviews often last for several hours (i.e., very time-consuming), and they can be difficult to manage and to participate in. Also, the lack of predetermined interview questions in such type of interviews provides little guidance to participants on what to talk about (that can be confusing and unhelpful).

5.3 The Research Methodology (Methodological Framework)

5.3.1 Research Methods and Methodology

Rajasekar, S., et al. (2006: 5) argue that solving problems in a systematic way can be defined as the research methodology. It is the science of how certain research is to be carried out. That's to say, describing a phenomena, explaining or predicting it is defined as a research methodology. Also, Sabbah (2016) maintains that the aim of the research methodology is to explain the intended work plan of the study. He adds that this type of a research refers to concepts, meanings, definitions, metaphors, symbols, characteristics and description of things.

Further, Kothari (2004) refers to research methods as techniques and procedures used by the researcher to carry out the research operations.

In this research, the research methodology is qualitative while the research method is the CCM Method of the thematic analysis.

- **The Study Design**

Based on Degu and Yigzaw (2006: 25), the research design is defined as a guiding process to researchers on how interviews and observations are collected,

analyzed and interpreted. In this context, the investigator is guided by a logical model throughout the different stages of the study. Al-Herbawi (2015) also confirms that the research design is significant as it shows the flow of the research operations.

As shown in (Figure 5.1), the research design of this study is built on the literature review and theory development through the theoretical framework and study propositions. Subsequently, comes the interview design and secondary data collection in the data collection process. Data analysis comes next which is based on the qualitative methodology by means of the CCM. It produces propositions and helps to figure out findings and outline recommendations of the study. Finally, the study design is concluded by developing a proposed prioritization of the main determinants behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

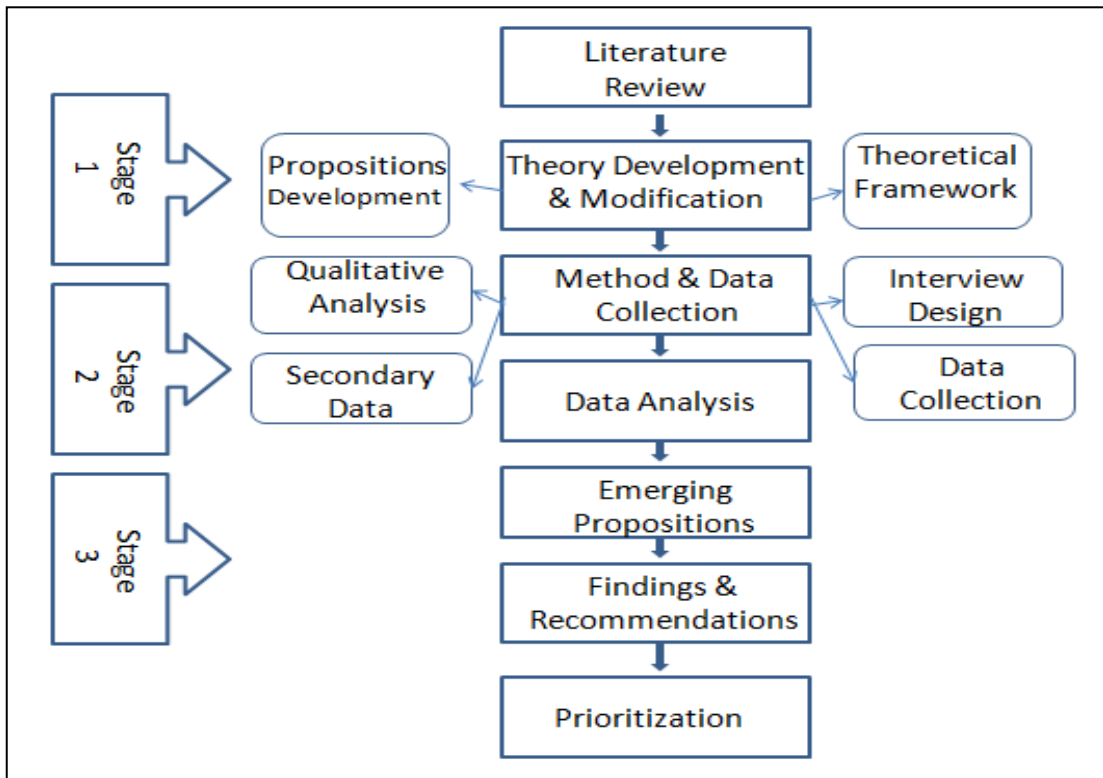


Figure (5.1): The Study Design Stages

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017)

- **Data Collection**

The ILO-IPEC (2004) reports that the qualitative methodology, in this context, implies data collection on life circumstances and working conditions of children. This can be implemented by conducting discussions and interviews of quick and

simple nature and within small geographic areas such as villages, towns...etc. Therefore, the scope cannot be generalized to a larger population. It is limited to the area of the conducted interviews and is characterized of being descriptive.

Additionally, the semi-structured interview employed is defined as a data collection method that comprises a hybrid of both the formal pre-coded, structured, quantitative method alongside the flexible qualitative method. This mixture provides substantial insights into the child labourers in the concerned area. Considering the unexplored and informal nature of child labourers, its advantage lies in the fact that it is the most appropriate technique which allows for the required flexibility.

To elaborate, Sandy and Dumay (2011) discuss that the interviewer seeks to understand central themes in the life of the interviewee in a qualitative technique, and to open accounts of specific experiences in the subject's life world. The interviewer also attempts to remain open to a new and an unforeseen phenomenon rather than imposing ready-made frameworks or categories. Thus, the research interview becomes an enriching experience for the interviewees as well. Through their interaction with the interviewer, they reach to new insights into their life and the research themes as well.

In the light of the foregoing discussion, this study utilizes the semi-structured interview tool. The conducted interviews are meant to explore experiences and generate responses of thirty participants of child labourers of Gaza. A list of predetermined questions are prepared and designed to be manageable, economical, comprehensive and a little intrusive on the privacy and activities of the interviewed children. These questions are headed by the two main catalysts of the study: Push factors and pull factors, under which the determinants behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market take place for the sake of prioritization.

The conducted interviews help to collect the required primary data, get the detailed information, and explore more of the child labourers' determinants and experiences in Gaza. Also, this plays a vital role in the provision of a comprehensive findings of the research.

Besides, the researcher has visited many child protection organizations and institutions in Gaza. El Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation is selected

from a variety of institutions that carry out child labour projects in Gaza. The coordination process with El-Wedad helps the researcher significantly to gather the purposive sample of the child labourers from the different parts of Gaza in one place under safe conditions and smooth procedures.

- **The Study Sampling**

Sampling helps that the research becomes more time efficient and manageable (Latif et al., 2016). The study uses the purposive sampling approach that is defined as a non-probability method of sampling (Abu-Aisha, 2013). In this research, the study sample is drawn from a purposive sampling of thirty child labourers (i.e. respondents) in the labour market of Gaza who are selected based on the following criteria:

- They are selected on a county basis from Gaza city
- They are from the target age group (10-15 years old)
- They work in a wide array of works (child labour).
- They represent a diversity of demographic & socio-economic backgrounds.
- They serve the intended aim of the research effectively

This sample may under-represent the proportion of the female child labourers. The reason is that most of female child labourers are hidden (inside homes mostly) and are not a common feature of the labour market of Gaza.

- **The Interview Design**

The Interviews format is semi-structured that includes a set of questions. A certain categorization that serves data needs for the child labour inquiry is implemented based on qualitative information. The intended information is on the nature, incidence, and determinants of the child labour in Gaza. To help the researcher in developing a child labour all-encompassing profile, some of the following categories are grouped based on the ILO-IPEC (2004) as a basic outline:

- **The child labourer**
 - Child Bio-data (main characteristics) : Age, gender, health status
 - School attendance and performance (Schooling attitudes)
 - Work activities(type and location of work)
 - Work value presumptions and beliefs

- Cultural or traditional practices influencing children's activities
- Traumatic experiences during uncertainties
- **The household to which the child labourer belongs**
 - Family characteristics (demographic data: town, number in household, household head(s), contribution of children to household income, the child order among siblings, work activity of the head of the household).
 - Socio-economic profile (income sources, assets, kind and in-kind assistance received...etc)
 - living conditions (housing structure, amenities, type and tenure).
 - Parental perceptions (values and attitudes towards child labour, education, child rights' awareness,...etc).
 - Shocks faced by the household.
- **Working conditions of the child labourer**
 - Workplace characteristics (sector, type of employment, working hours, wages, recruitment procedures).
 - Working time arrangements (break time allowed, Vacations, and seasonality of work).
 - Work compatibility and appropriateness
- **Community infrastructure**
 - Local economy.
 - Actual school enrollment, attendance, or drop-out incidences.
 - Literacy of parents.

This previous data was arranged and utilized to compose 32 questions classified into two categorizations: Push and pull factors. The push factors include a group of three themes likewise the pull factors (**Appendix A**).

- **The Interview Preparation**

In 2008, Kelly argues that in order to contribute effectively in the interview discussions, respondents must have some skills, knowledge, or experience of the discussion area. The following are key items and a prerequisite of preparing to an individual interview:

1. Participant Selection: The 30 participants of the study are selected from a wide range of child labourers participating in El-Wedad Society for Community

Rehabilitation's projects. The children are selected as to comply with the study set criteria and from among those who show their willingness to participate as interviewees. Three formal letters are delivered to the administration of El-Wedad Society upon their request to inform about the significance of this study to shareholders and interested parties. Besides, the child labour's project coordinator was provided with the proposed questions along a brief description of the research main objectives.

2. Location: Interviews were conducted in El-Wedad specialized rooms for child activities. It is worth mentioning that the participants were familiar with this place which contributed greatly to feeling at ease during the interviews and discussions. El-Wedad also supervised collecting child labourers from their homes or their work places by a bus to ensure safety transportation of the children. So, transportation was also covered for the respondents to and fro.

3. Physical Environment: The chosen rooms were appropriate for both of the interviewer and interviewees. The rooms were comfortable, quiet, of good lighting and ventilation. Most importantly, the conducted interviews were by means of face to face which was helpful to the researcher in observing the body language, inner feelings, and non-verbal language of the children.

4. Time: The time was controlled by the target institution that goes with their activities' schedule. So, lists of names, addresses of respondents were sorted and distributed to the interview days according to El-Wedad's convenience. Each interview session took around 45 to 50 minutes per respondent.

5. Tape Recorder: Participants were informed of the possibility of tape recording their interviews for the academic research purposes. Also, this tool was incorporated alongside taking detailed notes.

6. Interview Guide: The interview guide was prepared to ensure success of the interviews. The main objectives, the significance, the contribution, the timeframe, and confidentiality of the study were clearly and carefully defined. This is supposed to increase the level of awareness, acquaintance and cooperation of the study participants. Of course, this data was revealed by the researcher to the interviewees orally taking in consideration variations in participants' understanding of some of the basic concepts raised during the discussions and literacy levels as well.

- **The Interview Schedule**

The interviews targeted the child labour project's coordinator from El-Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation and the thirty selected project's beneficiaries. The interviewees were grouped into 5 individuals in each specified day. They are coded as of **I1** (for example, which stands for interview one), **I2**, **I3**,...etc. The time, age, position/type of work of each of the interviewees are arranged by the researcher in the following table:

Table (5.1): The Interview Schedule

No .	Day & Date of the Interview	Interviewees Classified into Groups/Day	The Position/Work and Age of Interviewees
1	Tuesday 28/Jun./2016	First interview	The Project Coordinator
2	Wednesday 28/Dec./2016	Second interview	The Project Coordinator
3	Sunday 08/Jan./2017	Group 1 (five respondents) I 1,I 2,I 3,I 4,I 5	Ages: (15 ,15 ,13 , 14 , 15) Work activities: (vendor in a pushcart selling sandwiches (family business) , fruits' seller on a tuk tuk, shoes trader, a hairdresser, a wage worker in coal trade).
4	Monday 09/Jan./2017	Group 2 (five respondents) I 6, I 7, I 8, I 9, I 10	Ages: (12,13, 12 ,15, 15) Work activities: (a vendor of candies, in carpentry trade, selling Arabian sweets on a pushcart (family business), a worker in windows and doors installation).
5	Wednesday 11/Jan./2017	Group 3 (five respondents) I 11, I 12, I 13, I 14, I 15	Ages: (13, 15,15,13, 11) Work activities: (construction, selling household equipments, goods' transporter, in water wells digging, selling stuff on a moving pushcart).
6	Sunday 15/Jan./2017	Group 4 (five respondents) I 16, I 17, I 18, I 19, I 20	Ages: (13, 13,15,13,13) Work activities: (family business in sweets trade, hairdressing, grocery, carpentry, family business of rabbits farm).
7	Monday 16/Jan./2017	Group 5 (five respondents) I 21, I 22, I 23, I 24, I 25	Ages: (15,13,15,13,15) Work activities: (furniture, fishery, in a kiosk selling coffee and tea, cosmetics trade).
8	Wednesday 18/Jan./2017	Group 6 (five respondents) I 26,I 27, I 28, I 29, I 30	Ages: (14,11,13,10,15) Work activities: (kiosk of household stuff, construction , kiosk selling coffee and tea and family farm, clothes trade, bread seller on a movable pushcart).

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017)

- **Observation of Participants' Willingness to Engage**

The participant's willingness to engage in the study as an interviewee is a very important factor that can be a success or a challenging factor to conduct the interview and to obtain effective data. The coordination of the overall process started early since June 2016 with the key informants for the sake of setting up interviews. The researcher has to visit certain organizations and institutions in Gaza that are concerned about the child labour issue or those who undertake relevant projects. In late June 2016, the researcher took the agreement from El Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation to conduct interviews with about 30 of the child labourers who are included in the institution's project under its supervision and support.

Actually, there was no need to get consent forms from children's parents or families as this stage has been prepared and facilitated by El Wedad institution. Therefore, the researcher left this part in particular to the administration of El Wedad institution. Meanwhile, it turns that families confide this institution, so the intended children are selected to participate and the process went smoothly. Therefore, the children were ready to the interview as they were previously informed and prepared by the interested institution's coordinator. The respondents' common feature is that they have been open, flexible and expressive. Concerning their experience of the main subject of this study, the children are the child labourers of Gaza and they all conformed to the research subject and data. Generally, the researcher finds that the child labourers are well-acknowledged of their work, family conditions, surrounding environment and many things relevant to their lives except that they are not fully acquainted about their rights as children.

Concerning information disclosure, the researcher has experienced certain difficulties. It was somehow difficult for younger children, in particular, to disclose information about work conditions, work decisions, wages, working hours, household possessions. Some of the children felt reluctant to give precise data about wages and types of work. It took some time to get the child feel relaxed and at ease and to assure that this data has nothing to do with laws or exploitation. Some of the children's responses especially on the question of receiving assistance were negative as if they were informed previously by parents or families not to disclose such

information, but after asking the question in another indirect way, surprisingly, the answer turns to be positive for some.

It is noted that the children's desire to conduct such interviews was different from a child to another. Some of them who work as vendors express being bored of the interview as they have to go to work and never waste their time with such things! Children who work in fishery express naughty and hyper active behavior beside that the researcher found difficulty in explaining some questions to them. However, other show enthusiasm and more cooperation. In addition, elder children express themselves better than younger children and they elaborate on their work conditions and family dynamics contrary to younger children who would rather give short and concise answers.

Finally, the researcher experienced some challenges in having the children to stick to time for the interviews due to different work schedule for each one. In addition, there were difficulties in arranging for meetings since most of the children are self-employed or work in the invisible informal sector i.e. do not have fixed working hours. Interestingly, the wording and question sequence were designed properly to motivate respondents and to help them recall critical information and stay in the timeframe and within subject of interest.

5.4 The Analysis of the Qualitative Data: The Constant Comparative Method (CCM).

Based on Fram (2013), the CCM is an inductive approach that is developed by Glaser and Strauss (1967) in order to challenge the restrictiveness inherited in the hypothetico-deductive approach. In their turn, Glaser and Strauss defined the CCM as an inductive and iterative process where data is reduced via constant recoding.

Actually, there are many methods to analyze the qualitative data: Constant comparative method, classical content analysis, keywords-in-context and discourse analysis (Onwuegbuzie et al., 2009). Glaser and Strauss (1967) defined the CCM as the process of comparing the qualitative data in a simultaneous way. This is a continuous ongoing procedure, because theories are formed, enhanced, confirmed, or

even discounted as a result of any new data that emerges from the study (Al-Herbawi, 2015).

In the CCM, the method of compare and contrast is used for almost all intellectual tasks during the analysis process. Constructing categories, building the boundaries of the categories, assigning segments to relevant categories, summarizing the category's content, and unearthing the evidence. The ultimate goal is to find conceptual similarity, to filter categories' discriminative power, and to find out patterns. (Boeije, 2002:392). As referred by Fram (2013), Boeije's approach in using the CCM utilizes the epistemological structuring of the process of interviews in order to develop a decision on how to use the CCM in data analysis.

Kolb (2012) adds that CCM gathers systematic data collection, coding and analysis along with theoretical sampling for the sake of generating a theory that is incorporated, relevant to the data and expressed clearly for the sake of further testing. Thus, the CCM is designed to help the researcher generate a theory that is integrated, reliable, rational, close to the data, meanwhile clear enough and ready to be operationalized for testing in quantitative researches.

Further, Glaser and Strauss (1978)'s summary of the comparison coding process is commonly used by a vast majority of researchers including Kelly (2008) and Kolb (2012). It comprises of four main stages: (1) comparing incidents applicable to each category, (2) integrating categories and their properties, (3) delimiting the theory, and (4) writing the theory.

As Al-Herbawi (2015) states that the benefit of employing this method is that the researcher starts with raw data through constant comparisons as a substantive theory will emerge. As Sabbah (2016) refers, in this constant process and throughout the duration of the qualitative study, data collection occurs alongside data analysis. Researchers are recommended to continue with the data collection and data analysis until reaching a point of data saturation. In this point, the researcher is no longer receive information that has not been noted previously. In the beginning of data saturation's point, the researcher begins to understand which is a better direction to pursue throughout the analysis process.

The CCM consists of simultaneous steps that are explained as the following:

- **Data Reduction:** It is a form of data analysis that attempt to combine pieces of information together into categories. It is also a process of selection, transcription, simplification, abstraction, and transformation of the raw data to combine the pieces of information into categories. It continues throughout the duration of the study in qualitative researches (Sabbah,2016). The data reduction is applied in this study through the transcription of the data from the tape recorder and by classifying the main categories and sub categories.
- **The Open Coding:** Kelly (2008) maintains that the open coding is the main stage of the constant comparative analysis. It begins with raw data extracted from observations or interviews, which have been recorded or transcribed in an accurate fashion. The researcher begins to code each segment of data, examine it closely and compare each item of the data for similarities and differences (p.47). During open coding, many codes may emerge, and as the process continues these codes are grouped together to compose categories and sub categories. Hence, a category is defined as a set of similar concepts or codes that can be grouped together by definition. In this particular stage, the researcher searches for an evidence or indicator of a core category. This core category is the main focus of the study phenomenon as it helps to organize the categories in a hierarchal manner, thereby explaining data variations (Scholes et al., 2013).
This study uses the open coding in the initial stages to have the main categories of either push and pull factors that induce Gaza children to work.
- **Selective Coding:** Al-Herbawi (2015) discusses that selective coding is the second phase of the analysis process. The main focus in this stage is on a limited number of categories that best represent the major aspect of data. It can be similar to the open coding stage in the sense that data continues to be constantly compared. The researcher continues looking for similarities and differences, and continues the search for a core category. Once discovered, it becomes the guide to further the theoretical coding. This stage is followed by categories' description where in the researcher describes the emerged categories, the detailed comparison of each category , and the participants' responses to it.

- **The Theoretical Coding:** This is the third step of the CCM. Sabbah (2016) refers that theoretical coding gives an integrative scope, a broader picture and a new viewpoint. It is the phase where connection between categories is developed. It is also the stage where links between descriptive categories change into more of theoretical links.
- **Theoretical Memos:** They are based on the coding notes as has been aforementioned above, and on the extensive interrelations that have been gradually revealed by the investigator. To write the theoretical memos, the researcher is required to distance him/herself from data. This can be helpful to go beyond the purely descriptive work. Too, memos can become initial points for the formulation of the final manuscript in the analysis course. Besides, memos enable researchers to document their thoughts, ideas, and emerging propositions (Sabbah, 2016).
- **Theoretical Sorting:** Kelly (2008:53) states that theoretical sorting requires from the researcher to review the preset propositions and show how emerged propositions support the preset propositions and how concepts are linked to each other. To add, the main focus of the theoretical sorting is to situate all the memos, categories and analyzed data in a whole picture of the theory. Thus, its purpose lies in sorting the memos that have been written during the research course for the sake of identifying the emerging theory.

Figure (5.2) summarizes the CCM process employed in this research as follows:

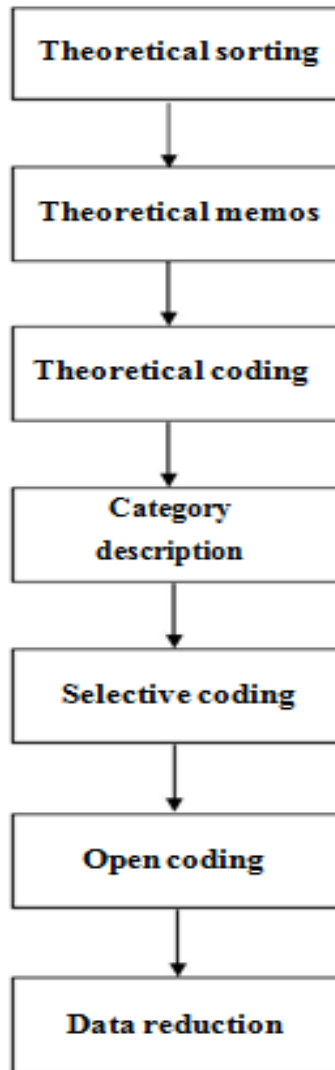


Figure (5.2): Constant Comparative Method Process Summary

Source: (Sabbah, 2016)

5.4.1. Data Analysis

- **The Demographic and Bio- data of the Interviewed Children**

The study introduces some of the common features of the interviewed child labourers via the demographic and bio-data. Such data helps in prioritizing the factors that induce the children of Gaza to go to the labour market. The children are asked some demographic questions about their social status, citizenship, gender, age, health status, order in the family and the number of family members. Concerning the educational characteristics, the children are inquired about their educational status and their parent's educational level. Finally, the residence characteristics include

questions about the governorate, housing type, housing property and the housing status. These characteristics help to explain the role of such data in motivating the children to join the labour market and are detailed in the following section.

- **The Bio-data Questions**

Table (5.2): The Bio-data of the Interviewed Children

The Bio-data of the Interviewed Children	
1.The demographic characteristics	The child's social status The citizenship The gender The age The health status The number of family members including the child The child's order between siblings
2.The educational characteristics	The current educational status of the child The child's qualification The child's educational level (for those currently at school) Mother's educational level Father's educational level
3.The residence characteristics	Governorate Housing type Housing property Rooms number (Kitchen and bathroom are discarded) Rooms density Housing status

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017)

- ❖ **Push Factors' Analysis**

(Push factors) is the first dimension of this study. It includes three groups of categories: **poverty, wars and conflicts, and family dynamics**. Each category includes several sub-categories (themes) that are to be analyzed as illustrated in the following section.

Table (5.3): Questions of the Push Factors

Push Factors	Interview Questions
Poverty	Who is the main breadwinner of your family? What is the current employment status of your breadwinner? What does your breadwinner do for living? Does your mother work? Do you have unemployed siblings (individuals aged 15+ who did not work but would be willing to accept a job if offered)? Do you have siblings who are university or college graduates? What type of assistance received by your family whether kind or in-kind? Which of the durable assets and equipments that your family possesses?
Wars and Conflicts	Since when did you join the labour market?(2006-2008-2009-2012-2014). Have you suffered any traumatic experiences since the last Gaza attack in 2014? Do you have fears from your guardian or employer? What about your school enrollment since the last Gaza attack? Do you receive a pocket money (a sum for day-to-day spending)?
Family Dynamics	Who made the decision that you should join the labour market? (You-Father-Mother-Both-Guardian-Siblings-Relative) What type of work you are required to perform? How do you describe the familial relationship in your family? What is your current parental social status?

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017)

- Coding

Based on the data collected from the interviews, the following categories emerge and are coded as follows:

- Poverty (**P**).
- War and Conflict (**WC**).
- Family Dynamics (**FD**).

- The Categories and Sub-categories (themes)

1. Poverty (P)

It includes the subcategories (**themes**): Breadwinner presence, breadwinner work status, mother work, unemployed siblings, humanitarian and social assistance, and durable assists availability.

2. Wars and Conflicts (WC)

It includes the subcategories (**themes**) : Traumatic experiences, fear of the employer or guardian, school drop-out, and the pocket money received.

3. Family Dynamics (FD)

It includes the subcategories (**themes**): Work decision maker, family relationship, and parental social status.

- Category Description

It is inventible to have an overview of the interviewees in order to ensure an effectual finding. This can be done by asking them some questions about their demographic data, educational status and residence characteristics. As for the demographic data, it is noted that all the participant children are single, most of them are citizens, all of them are males, the average age of the respondents ranges between 13 and 15 years old, most of them have a good health status, live in families of more than five members and the majority of them are the middle children in order among their siblings. Concerning the educational characteristics, most of the children are not schooling and their parents mostly have completed the primary level of education. Finally, data shows that all the participants are from the Gaza city, most of them have an owned residence and their housing status is moderate as most of the residences are built of cement. This description is illustrated in table (5.4) as follows:

Table (5.4): Responses of the Bio-data of the Interviewees

The Bio-data Responses							
The demographic data	Social status (single)	Citizenship (citizen)	Gender (male)	Age (over 10 years old)	Health status (good)	Family number (above5)	Child's order in family (Middle)
	30	20	30	28	28	28	22
The educational data	Dropping out school		Mothers' educational level (primary grade).		Father's education level (primary grade).		
	15		20		20		
The residence data	Governorate (Gaza)	Housing type (apartment)	Housing property (owned)		Housing status (cement building)		
	30	22	26		27		

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017).

Table (5.4) discusses the demographic and bio-data of the interviewed children (respondents). They differ in their backgrounds but there are similarities in being single, male and from Gaza city. However, they differ in citizenship, age, family numbers and their order among siblings. Also, the table indicates children's educational characteristics as half of them are dropped out of school and most of them have parents who complete primary grade. In addition, it is noted that most of them live in an owned apartment, mostly in a shared building with uncles. Too, house type is generally built from cement.

Gaza children's engagement in the labour market is a very critical issue since it became a very common feature of the Palestinian society, especially in the Gaza strip. This is due to several factors or reasons that lead to this phenomenon. These factors vary according to each child labourer. Therefore, this analysis attempts to prioritize these factors as suitable to the Gazan context. With respect to confidentiality, the data is collected by using individual, semi-structured interviews. By this tool, the researcher codes each interview by numbers like I1, I2, I3etc. as detailed as follows.

Concerning the push factors of the study, these factors include categories: Poverty, wars and conflicts, and family dynamics as main dimensions. Each main category includes some sub-categories (themes).

Firstly, the first category is poverty. It includes the (breadwinner) theme who can be: (the father, the mother, the child himself , guardian or a relative), the work status theme:(full time, temporary, part time and not employed), the mother work, the unemployed siblings, the humanitarian assistance and the main assets of the house as sub- themes. Based on the emerged themes out of data analysis, it is noted that the first sub-theme, breadwinner, records twenty three of the children's responses. Most of them say that the father is the breadwinner of their families, four of them say that the breadwinner of their families is the elder brother, two of them state that the breadwinner of their family is the child himself and one of them has says that uncle (a relative) is the main breadwinner of the family.

Concerning the work status of the breadwinner as a second sub-theme, it consists of three sub-themes: full time, temporary, part time and the unemployed status. Half of the interviewees state that their breadwinner has a full time work, eight of them say their breadwinner has a temporary work status, other four of them say that their breadwinner works a part time work in addition to the other three interviewees who have an unemployed breadwinners.

Regarding the third sub- theme which is child's mother work, one of the respondents sate that his mother has a job. The other twenty nine state that their mothers are house wives. The fourth sub theme is the children' unemployed siblings. Fifteen of the interviewees have siblings who have a job and other fifteen has jobless siblings. The fifth sub-theme is the humanitarian assistance received by the child's family. Twenty of the respondents mention that their families receive different humanitarian assistance from several sources and ten of them maintain that they can only receive an assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA).

Secondly, **wars and conflicts** which is the second main category of the push factors that lead the child of Gaza to join the labour market. This category includes the traumatic experiences, the fear, school drop-out, and the pocket money received. Twenty-six of the interviewees suffered traumatic experiences due to wars and conflicts and the other four are not affected directly by the war. Concerning the fear of guardian or employer as a sub-theme, twenty-seven responses express feeling afraid from their employers during work time. As for the sub-theme of the child's education, fourteen of the interviewees admit being at their schools and sixteen of them quit schooling. With regard to the child's received pocket money, twenty three of the interviewed children receive a pocket money from their parents, six of them received a pocket money rarely and one of them did not receive any pocket money.

Finally, regarding the third push factor which is **the family dynamics**, it includes some sub-themes: the child's work decision, the family relationship, and the parental social status. Concerning the work decision, twenty of the respondents are forced to engage in the labour market and ten of them have decided to work by their own. As for family relationship which is the second sub-theme of the family

dynamics, twenty five of the sample enjoy safe and sound family relationship, other five live in bad family atmospheres of violence and tension. With respect to the third theme: Parental social status, according to the emerged data, twenty nine of the interviewed children live with their parents, only one child is an orphan, and none of them have separated or divorced parents. This description of the push factors' categories can be explained in table (5.5).

Table (5.5): The Interviewed Children's Responses on the Push Factors

Push factors						
1. Poverty	Breadwinner (father)	Father Work Status (Full time)	Mother Work	Unemployed Siblings	Humanitarian Assistance	Main Assets
	23	16	1	15	20	30
2. Wars & Conflicts	Traumatic Experience	Fear of Employer	School Drop-out	Pocket Money Received		
	26	27	16	23		
3. Family Dynamics	Work Decision (forced to work)	Family Relationship (sound relation)	Parental Social Status (live together)			
	20	25	29			

Source. Developed by the Researcher (2017)

In fact, Table (5.5) provides some data about the push factors: Poverty, wars and conflicts, and the family dynamics. The participants differed in their responses. (23) of the children have their fathers as a breadwinner, (16) of their fathers have a full time job, (1) of the children has an employed mother, (15) have unemployed siblings, (20) receive a humanitarian assistance, in addition; the majority of them have the main assets like a fridge, a stove, a washing machine, and a mobile in their houses. Also, it is noted that (26) of the respondents suffer from traumatic experiences during wars and conflicts in Gaza, (27) of the children express their feelings of fear of employers or guardians during workload times, (15) are dropped out of school and (23) receive pocket money. Further, the family dynamics factor

also records higher responses to forcing children to work. (Twenty) of the children are forced to work, (25) of them enjoy sound household's relationship and (29) have parents who live normally together.

- **Theoretical Coding**

After the category description process, it is noticed that there are several push factors that induce Gaza children to the labour market. Also, the category description explained the conditions and circumstances of the child's household and living environment. Concerning the factor of poverty, it is noted that it is not a main factor and is not considered the first motivator of children to work because several reasons interrelate. To explain, the majority of the child labourers have the father as the main breadwinner of the family, most of fathers work a full time job, most of children receive a humanitarian assistance like the UNRWA's or the MoSA's and some receive assistance from a charity organization. Besides, the majority of the respondents have the main assets satisfied, despite not of good quality, but mostly they have the necessary ones in their homes: A telephone, a mobile, a refrigerator, a washing machine, a computer and a stove. Also, the majority of the mothers are housewives, and many children have unemployed siblings who are not capable to satisfy a job due to labour market instability and economic volatility in the Gaza strip. Despite that, the higher rate of the unemployed siblings who are aged 15 and above seems not to affect the poverty factor significantly.

Regarding **wars and conflicts** factor, the emerging themes indicate that this factor is the first main factor behind child labour in Gaza. This is due to the fact that the majority of the child labourers faced traumatic experiences since the year 2006 (elections in Gaza Strip), then the period between 2008 to 2014 (three wars on the Gaza Strip). Children's responses reveal losing family members or relatives during war as mentioned by **I 1** :*" I have the bad experience of having one of my siblings martyred in the war 2014... "*, displacement for secure places and having their houses partially or completely destroyed as stated by **I 6**:*" My family is forced to migrate from the area seeking refuge in another secure place during the war lest we are all dead ..."*, and the **I 15** who mentions that: *" During the war in 2014, we have migrated for full two weeks leaving our home for a safer place then we came back*

when the war is over". Also, other responses reflect losing the main job due to the repeated attacks as referred by **I 11**: " *My father is a fisherman and we are only specified limited area to fish in Gaza seashore to manage our living. Unfortunately, in one morning, we woke up to see that our yacht is completely destroyed by a rocket missile; my father still cannot get another one...*". These traumatic experiences may affect the children's perspective of life in Gaza in addition to the other social and economic conditions. Another reason that mainly affects children's decision to work is the school drop-out. Most of the children's responses uncover that their parents have a primary level of education and that the children themselves suffer educational difficulties especially after hard times and conflicts. They cannot cope easily sometimes. Children also express suffering from school teachers and curriculum as mentioned by **I 22** who says : " *... I have left schooling two years ago since my school achievement was poor and our conditions are getting worse after Gaza attacks. I thought that going to work is the second better choice*". And **I 23** states that : " *I have left schooling because I couldn't go on due to the difficult curriculum; so I lose interest in schooling.*" In addition to **I 28** : " *I have left schooling seven months ago. I have suffered the difficulty of going to school since late 2014 as I don't have enough time to compromise between study and work*". Too, two other sub-categories of wars and conflicts reflect the bad situation under which children of Gaza live under. They feel afraid of their employers or fathers. Some children admit working day long in order to sell (street vending) all items or else, they will be punished by the father or elder brother. Studies show that this feeling is a bad consequence of wars. As mentioned by **I 17**: " *... Yes, I feel worried and afraid of my brother whom I work with, he always yells at me if I do not work harder...* " and **I 4** who adds: " *Sometimes I feel afraid because he might hit me or scorn at me if he is nervous.*". In addition, some of the interviewed children do not receive any pocket money such as **I 9** who mentions : " *I am never used to have a pocket money like others due to the tough conditions we live in*".

Family dynamics' themes, as another main category of the push factors are explained based on the emerged responses. It is noted that the family dynamic is the second main factor contributing to child labour. This is mainly clear from the sub-categories of the family dynamics especially the work decision theme: (forced to

work or by child's own decision). The majority of the interviewed children have been forced to work by their fathers, brothers or other family members and some others choose to work by their own will. This is clear in the children's explanations. **I 2** states that : " .. *My mother took the decision that I should go to work because I am a grown up now and I have to support my father and become a man*", **I 27**: " ... *My brother took the decision that I have to join the labour market as our father is an old aged man and we have to cooperate for our family's sake*". On the other hand, some of the children admit taking the decision to work as **I 15**: " .. *I have decided by myself that it is the proper time to start working to depend on myself and learn a craft for the future, no one stopped me*". **I 20** says: " ... *I have decided myself to go to work and help my family* ", **I 6** : " ...*I took the decision to join the labour market to learn a craft and because I must shoulder the responsibility and look after my younger siblings*". So, forcing a child to work is considered a critical theme which leads the children strongly to work and encourages them sometimes to leave schooling.

On the other hand, there are two sub-themes of the family dynamics' factor that indicate no significant effect on child labour incidence: The family relationship and the parental social status. The majority of the children have a good relations each other and only few of them live in families who do not maintain respectful behavior or discipline to their children. This is explained by **I 1** : " .. *Our familial relationships are full of respect, love and care and everyone is well behaved*" ; **I 18** : " ... *my family is characterized with respect and trustfulness.*" However, only some who indicate that they have a bad familial relationships as **I 5**: " .. *Actually, our familial relations is unstable and irritating; everyone shouts and scorns and I feel there is no enough respect between us to the extent I do not want to go home*". As for the factor of the parental social status, the majority of them have a normal parental relationships; their parents are not separated or divorced or widowed and they live together as a whole family like **I 8** who mentions that : " .. *My parents live together and they have never separated*", **I 25** : " ... *My parents live together and we all lead a normal life* ". Only, one child is an orphan and does not have his mother ; **I 20** : " ... *My mother is dead, I live with my father's family now and the reason of my work is because I need to satisfy some needs as my father is an old aged, unemployed and cannot afford our*

demands...". Therefore, these two factors are not considered critical like work decision theme.

- **Memos**

- Wars and conflicts is the main and the first push factor that induces the children of Gaza to join the labour market strongly.
- The two main themes of wars and conflicts are: traumatic experiences and school drop- out show higher rates of responses.
- The second main factor that pushes the children to the labour market is the family dynamics, especially forcing children by a family member (work decision).
- Poverty is ranked the third factor due to the breadwinner presence and his work status as mentioned in the theoretical coding process.

- **Theoretical Sorting: Propositions Reconstruction**

The Preset Propositions

P1: Poverty is the first determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 2: War and Conflict is the second determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 3: Family Dynamics is the third determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

The Emerged Propositions

P 1: Wars and Conflicts is the first determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market

P 2: Family Dynamics is the second determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 3: Poverty is the third determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

❖ **Pull Factors' Analysis**

Table (5.6): Questions of the Pull Factors

Pull Factors	Interview Questions
Contribution to the Family	What are the main reasons that made you join the labour market? Does your family depend on your income mainly or partially? How do you describe the health status of your main breadwinner? Do you work to polish your image or your family's in front of others?
Self-actualization	Do you usually express your opinion and participate in decisions of your family? How do feel your family's attitude towards you after joining the labour market?(gaining value within the family). What do you consider the main necessities that are satisfied by your work? What are your beliefs, values, and concepts about going to work?
Work Attraction and Conditions	Describe the job/work you perform whether for a wage, salary, commission, any in kind payment or domestic work? How long have you been in this work? How many hours do you work? Do your work hours include a break period? Do you get a weekly holiday? Does your work appropriate for your physiology, or dangerous and harmful to your health, or make you feel tired and exhausted? What is the payment method? daily, monthly, per piece, others (specify)? What is the amount of your paid wage?(How much do you earn?) Is there a work contract whether written for a specified period, open , oral , or other (specify)? What is the main reason that attracted you to join this work?

Source: Developed by the Researcher (2017)

- Coding

Many categories emerge from the data collected from the interviews. These categories are classified as:

- Contribution to the family (**CF**).
- Self-actualization (**SA**).
- Work attraction and conditions (**WC**).

The same thirty child labourers are interviewed and their responses are coded based on numbers from one to thirty like **I1,I2, I3 ...I 30** etc.

- **Categories and Sub-categories (themes)**

1. Contribution to the Family (CF).

Themes: Aim of work, the health status of the breadwinner, family social status and image.

2. Self-actualization (SA).

Themes: Household's participation, work value and beliefs, value within the family, necessity of work.

3. Work conditions and Attraction (WC).

Themes: Work duration, work holidays, work conditions and hazards, payment period, wage, work safety.

- **Category Description**

The pull factors are the second domain of this study. They include three main categories: the contribution to the family, the self-actualization and the work attraction and conditions. Every main category has a number of sub-themes. The contribution of the family includes: Aim of work, father health status and family social status and image. The self-actualization includes: Household's participation, Work value and beliefs, value within a family, necessity of work. Work attraction and conditions include: Work duration, work holidays, work conditions and hazards, payment period, wage, work safety.

The first main theme of the pull factors is **the contribution to the family**. Most of the children told us that they gave over a large proportion of their earnings to their parents as a contribution. Twenty of the interviewed children engage with the labour market as to help their families, other five work just to have a profession for the future and another five of the children work to cover their personal needs. As for the father's health status, (16) of the children stated that their fathers suffer from bad health condition and fourteen of them have fathers of good health status. Working to improve social status and image is the last sub-theme, and generated responses of which: (19) work to gain a good social status and polish their families' image among relatives and peers.

The second main theme is the **self- actualization** which includes: Household's participation, Work value and beliefs, value within the family, necessity of work. Concerning household's participation, half (15) of the interviewed children share their families household's decisions and opinions and the other half (15) do not share the family opinions. Regarding work value and beliefs, most of the interviewees stated that work teaches them to be responsible, and develops their self- autonomy. As for value within the family, a vast majority maintain that they gain value due to the income they get. In addition, the last sub-theme of self-actualization shows that children have agreed that their work satisfies their main necessities such as provision of daily expenditures (cash money), be skilled at a craft for the future, and become a skillful worker.

With respect to the third main category of the pull factors: **Work attraction and conditions**, it encompasses: Work duration, work holidays, work conditions and hazards, payment period, wage, work safety. The majority of the children stated that their work hours range from (6-8 hours/day) and some of them said that they work more than 8 hours a day. As for the weekly holidays, (17) of them are allowed to have a weekly holiday, while (13) of them does not have a weekly holiday. Eighteen of the children explained that the work conditions are not appropriate and exhausting beside being not suitable to their age. Concerning with the payment period, (17) of the children receive their wage on a daily basis, (11) of them receive their wages weekly, other two receive their wage monthly and one of them did not receive any wage at all. The work wage theme's responses reveal that all of respondents get a wage that is less than 500 Shakles monthly. Finally, as for work safety and contracting theme which is represented by a work contract between the child's guardian and the employer, (7) of the interviewees have an oral contract between them and their employers, (23) did not have a work contract neither orally nor written. This detailed description of the pull factors categories is explained extensively in table (5.7).

Table (5.7): The Interviewed Children's Responses on the Pull Factors

Pull Factors						
1.Contribution to the family	Aim of work (to support the family)	Father's health status (bad)	Work to improve social status			
	20	16	19			
2.Self-actualization	Sharing decisions	Work value & beliefs	Value within family	Satisfying the main necessities		
	15	29	25	30		
3.work attraction	Work duration (above 6-8 hours/day)	Weekly holiday	Work conditions (appropriate ness)	Payment period (daily)	Wage (less than 500 NIS/monthly)	Safety and contract
	28	17	18	17	30	7

Source. Developed by the Researcher (2017)

The table (5.7) shows the verge of responses of the interviewees toward the three pull factors. It is noted that (20) of the children their aim of work is to help their families, (16) of the children have fathers with a bad health status and (19) of the interviewees work to polish their social situation. Actually, the self –actualization has recorded higher responses as (29) responses are to gain value within the family and work to satisfy child's basic needs. (29) of the interviewees go to work due to values and beliefs about work. (15) of the interviewees maintain that work helps them to participate in household's decisions and their opinions. The work attraction factor shows high responses too as (28) of the children say that their working hours are above (6-8 hours) and other (30) say that their work age is under 500 Shakles monthly, (17) of the children state that they are not allowed to have a weekly holiday and (17) are who receive their payment daily, (18) of the children admit that work conditions are inappropriate and (13) of the children see that they lack work safety procedures(contract).

- Theoretical Coding

After the category description process, it is evident that the pull factors occupy a very prominent ranking in having the children pulled to work. First, with **the contribution to the family** as a main category of the pull factors, it is noted that the

contribution to the family is not the first main factor of the pull factors that leads children to join the labour force. This can be due to several reasons relevant to the emerged sub-categories. Most of the interviewees agree that their work aim is to help their families, some state that their aim is to have a personal cash money and to have a craft for the future as argued by **I 3**: " ... *I contribute to my family but only as a secondary source of income...*" , **I 14** :" *... I work only as a support to my family but they do not rely basically on my earnings...*", in addition, **I 26** adds :" *... I have to work to provide for the basic needs of my family since I live in a big family and my father doesn't enjoy a good health, he cannot work. Therefore, I have to satisfy my little siblings' needs*". Also, most of the respondents mention that their fathers have a bad health condition as stated by **I 8**: " .. *My father is sick and doesn't enjoy good health, he suffers from Diabetes but he is still capable to work...*". Too, **I 16** :" *My father is an old aged person and I am fine and healthy, I can handle to support my family*". In fact, most of the interviewees agree that they work to improve their family's social status and polish their image among relatives and peers. **I 2**: " ... *Yes, I work because I wish to polish my family image in front of my relatives and peers. I feel ashamed sometimes of our house and I have to work to provide for necessary things.* " , **I 13** states :" *All I need is to feel like other children in my age and have all my needs satisfied. Sometimes, I feel jealous from my peers and cousins. So, I have to work hard to get whatever I wish*", in a addition to that, **I 22** who says : " *I work because I feel ashamed of my clothes and because I want to buy things that I couldn't afford without work*".

Although it seems that the contribution to the family is a critical factor due to the previous discussion, yet it does not mean that it is the first and main pull factor. The underlying reason is that compared to **the self-actualization** factor, it turns out that that the latter is the first ranked of the pull factors. This is of course as a result of the interviewees' responses which support work values and beliefs, value within family, and the satisfaction of the main needs. These sub-themes are considered of highly valued themes that pull children strongly to the labour market, in addition to the fact that work helps child labourers to make decisions and express their opinions freely. This can be illustrated by children's responses: **I 2** who maintains that: " ... *I always participate in my family's decision-making and share my opinion*", **I 8** says

that: " *Sometimes I share my opinion with my family but most of the time I am busy in work, I am not interested*". Concerning the children's beliefs about the value of work, **I 5** mentioned that : " *... Self-dependence is the best value and I work also to become a man, so; I should commit to a profession*". In addition, **I 13** : " *... I think that work can be good so that I become strong and responsible like a real man*", **I 28** adds : " *A craft is better than a school certificate, I believe!*". Regarding gaining value within family of the child, **I 7** mentions: " *I have noticed a change in my family's attitude since I have worked. My mum prepares everything for me as I am a hard worker now and earn an income.*" , on the contrary; **I 13**: " *I haven't noticed any changes in attitude due to my work*". In this case, it does not mean that his family shows a negative behavior towards the child but the family behaves normally and as usual. Another theme is the satisfaction of the main necessities as mentioned by **I 8** that : " *... I have to work to provide for the basic needs to my family since I live in a big family and my father is not healthy plus being an old aged man. I am the elder sibling, I have to pay back the favor by supporting them in distress*" , and as stated by **I 17** that : " *.. I go to work to be skilled at my family's business of hairdressing*" in addition to **I 26**'s opinion that : " *.. I work because I help my brothers and sisters and if I quit work, my family will suffer hard conditions and my siblings will not be able to continue schooling*" , **I 4** adds that: " *.. I am having some cash and I am able to buy things I need like clothes, shoes, candies sometimes*". Therefore, this analysis gives an evidence that the self- actualization theme out-weights other pull themes.

As for the **work attraction and conditions**, it is another important category of the pull factors. It consists of the work duration, weekly holiday, work conditions, payment period, work wage and work safety and contraction. Responses reveal that the majority of the children react negatively towards this factors the thing that restrains its effect as a motivator to work for children. This is clear in their responses that the working hours are very long as mentioned by **I 1** : " *... I begin my work at 8:00 am to 6:00 pm*" and as added by **I 15** that : " *.. I used to begin working at 9am-until 7 pm*" and some of them have a weekly holiday and the others are not allowed to have their weekly holiday as mentioned by **I 6** that : " *.. I usually do not get a holiday since I have to earn much money and that I have to work extra hours*", in addition to **I 24** who states that: " *... I usually have to work on Fridays. So, I do not*

get a weekly holiday as I have to work hard to earn much money". The appropriateness of the working environment plays a significant role too, **I 11** argues that: " .. I feel exhausted sometimes when there is a work overload but I am beginning to get used to it", **I 26** : " .. I feel tired and exhausted and my work is not appropriate at all but I cannot do anything else". **I 27**: " ... The work is so much exhausting for me, I feel a nonstop backache pain", **I 4**: "...I am originally a diabetic patient but due to my work in packing coal, I feel sometimes some breathing problems too, I am thinking to leave this job, I cannot stand anymore, I go back home full of dust...". To add, the majority of the children agree that their wages are bad and insufficient , not mentioning the lack of work precautions procedures, safety or contraction. **I 10** says: " ... I receive only 5 Shakles on a daily basis and there is no work contract because I work with my father, I cannot ask for more...", **I 14** : " ... Sometimes my father would give me a sum of Shakles as a pocket money but this is rare..." , **I 29** : " I earn about 5-7 Shakles a day as my wage, it is not enough but this is all I can get...". To sum up, this analysis indicates that the self-actualization is ranked the first of the pull factors followed by the contribution to the family, which is followed by the work condition and attraction as a third factor.

In a nutshell, it is noted that the demographic and bio-data that are collected by the researcher help to reinforce the study findings. Concerning the citizenship feature, it can be assured that poverty is not the main factor behind child labour in spite of the fact that most of the respondents live in big families. The reason is that a considerable number of the respondents are citizens (not refugees) and they live in owned houses or apartments. Data of child's age and order among siblings show that most of the child labourers are either thirteen or fifteen years old equally and the child's order is a middle child among siblings generally. This indicates that children who violate the minimum age required to work are equally like the number of those allowed to work by the Palestinian Labour Law under certain conditions. In addition, results reveal that the educational level of parents plays a significant role in pushing children to work because less educated parents mostly do not encourage their children to continue their education. They do not even value education as most of them have completed the primary grade only. Further, the good health status of the

children plays a considerable role too to pull the children to the labour market unlike if they suffer a disability or a health problem.

- **Memos**

- Self- actualization is the first pull factor that lure the children of Gaza strip to work.
- Contribution to the family is the second pull factor that encourage the children of Gaza to join the labour market.
- Work conditions and attraction is the third pull factor.

- **Theoretical Sorting: Propositions Reconstruction**

The Preset Propositions

P 1: Contribution to the Family is the first determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 2: Self-Actualization is the second determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 3: Work Attraction and Conditions is the third determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

The Emerged Propositions

P 1: Self-Actualization is the first determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 2: Contribution to the Family is the second determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

P 3: Work Attraction and Conditions is the third determinant behind Gaza children's engagement in the labour market.

5.5 Ethics in Qualitative Research (Ethical Compliance)

Interviews in qualitative research are meant to provide a description of the focal themes in the world of subject. Thus, the main focus is understanding the interviewee's words. In this context, interviews can be helpful in order to get the story behind the interviewees' experiences. Too, the benefit of interviews lies in being as a follow up to certain respondents to questionnaires beside being helpful in investigating their responses. Seidman (2002) confers that the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the informed consent are processes based on serious ethical principles. They are meant to guide researchers' relationships with their participants. For example, the IRB alerts the researcher to the need to protect participants from harm and guarantees their rights in the research process (Seidman, 2002 cited in Al-Herbawi, 2015, p:77).

Moreover, Nollaig (2011) confirms that any piece of qualitative research entails certain ethical considerations. To illustrate, data must be kept anonymous, respondents' identities must be protected whether in interviews or observations, and whatever respondents disclose to the researcher must be confidential. Nollaig also stresses that the researcher should always identify him/herself, explain the research subject matter to the interested members, and ask for a permission from information providers to use their information in the research. Besides, the researcher should be clear about how the methods (formal or informal interviews) and data are intended to be used (Nollaig, 2011 cited in Al-Herbawi, 2015).

The following are some ethical considerations used in the study:

- **Informed Consent:** Kelly (2008:66) maintains that prior to the study, participants are to be given informed consents "information sheet" that explains key elements of the study : Purpose, aims, time, risks, procedures..etc. He adds that all participants should be equally informed of having the right to withdraw at any time or event, and that their provided data can be destroyed upon request.

Matemba (2011) also adds that researchers seek to use informed consents so as to protect research's participants against vulnerability and misunderstanding. Actually, informed consents provides the participants with a clear understanding

to the issue and enable them to make a decision whether to be involved in the research process or not.

This study has achieved this particle as informed consents are not required from the direct participants due to their age. Therefore, it is required that consent forms are signed by families of children. This aim is achieved in cooperation with Al-Wedad. Informed consents are handled by the project coordinator who ensures full agreement to the terms and articles and that data is merely used for academic purposes only. In this regard, families are informed about the researcher's identity, research affiliation, contact entity, vulnerability and risks involved, rights to agree to participate, refrain, or withdraw during the process, and the dissemination of the study results, and the benefits participants will have as being part of the study.

- **Anonymity and Privacy:** It is required to protect the participants' information, the names and must be secret to preserve the participants' anonymity (Al-Herbawi,2015). This study didn't disclose the participants' information and they have been treated as codes in the analyzing process.

As maintained by Sabbah (2016), anonymity and privacy can be termed as "confidentiality". It entails separation of individual's data, coding it, linking codes to its individuals in private, maintaining security of data storage and disclosure. Besides, individuals and/or places must be anonymised in the dissemination of the study for identity protection purposes.

In this research, respondents' identities are coded and represented in the study as codes only. The data is accessible by the researcher only and is to be destroyed directly upon the end of analysis procedures.

- **Data Storage:** Kelly (2008) states that all the qualitative data pertaining to the research: written materials, tape-recordings, memos, should be stored in a secure place. Even backup database or copies must be kept in a secondary secure place to maintain security.

In this study, the relevant data is protected, locked and kept in secure and safe place only accessed by the researcher. Computerized data are protected by passwords that cannot be accessed without the researcher's own permission.

- **Transparency:** Hiles and Čermák (2007) discuss that transparency entails that the researcher should be clear, precise, and overt concerning propositions developed, methods employed and procedures used in the research. The credibility of any qualitative study lies in the transparency of its specific paradigm assumptions. In planning, designing and carrying out qualitative research, there must be conscious examination of research strategies, selection of participants and decisions made in collecting and interpreting the data. Methods of inquiry, which include the procedures of data collection and data analysis and interpretation, must be clear enough for others to replicate and therefore must be transparent. In this study, the participants selection, the research design, the data collection and analysis and the research strategies are clearly provided.

5.6 Rigor of the Qualitative Research: The Assessment of the Study Trustworthiness.

Anney (2014) demonstrates that to ensure trustworthiness of the inquiry findings, the quantitative approach considers (objectivity, validity (internal and external),and reliability). On the other hand, the qualitative research takes into consideration that transferability, credibility, dependability, confirmability as trustworthiness criteria ensure the rigor of the qualitative findings.

According to Krefting (1991), qualitative research is evaluated according to a certain criteria that differs from that used to quantitative research. This is because that the nature and purpose of both the qualitative and quantitative are completely different. It can be invalid to apply the same criteria of trustworthiness or merit to both.

Shenton (2003) mentions that many naturalistic investigators prefer to use different terminology to distance themselves from the positivist paradigm.

One author is Guba. He proposes four criteria that can be considered by qualitative researchers in pursuit of trustworthiness. By addressing similar issues, Guba constructs correspondences to the criteria employed by the positivists:

- a) Credibility (in preference to internal validity)
- b) Transferability (in preference to external validity/generlisability)

c) Dependability (in preference to reliability)

d) Confirmability (in preference to objectivity)

However, these correspondences should not be taken to mean that these parallel criteria achieve exactly the same objectives as their corresponding standards of rigor in the quantitative research. Qualitative research escorts to different kinds of knowledge claims than those outcome from the use of quantitative methods. As an example, qualitative research (focuses on one or very few individuals, finds categories of meaning from the studied individuals) as opposed to (focusing on standardized methods to obtain knowledge out of large samples of individuals, using categories taken from an existing theory and become operationalized by the researcher) (Morrow, 2005).

Therefore, trustworthiness of this study in qualitative research is explained as follows:

- **Credibility:** It is the confidence of the truthiness of the research findings. It is the accurate interpretation of participants' original views. In order to establish rigor of the qualitative inquiry, the following credibility strategies are adapted: Varied field experiences, time of sampling, triangulation, member checking, reflexivity, peer examination, establishing authority of researcher, establishing structural coherence, and interview technique (Anney ,2014).

This item is achieved in the study as the researcher ensures that the parameters of the research are clearly set and defined, the participants are carefully described. Other mechanisms used to ensure accuracy as using the audio-tape to conduct interview, which have been then transcribed. Finally, memos are used to document the researcher's ideas, thoughts, and interests and work as measures to ensure accuracy and hence credibility of the collected data.

- **Reflexivity:** It is identified by Berger (2013) as the extent of the researcher's position in relation to issues under study and to sample group impacts the research process and analysis. It is the researcher's ability to situate him/herself emotionally and socially in relation to the respondents. It can also refer to studying the unfamiliar. In this way, the researcher takes the role of the 'ignorant' while the respondent's role is 'the expert'. This brings rich experiences to the

researcher especially when studying the marginalized or disadvantaged individuals. Berger adds that being unfamiliar to a specific experience helps him/her to approach it from a fresh viewpoint. This will provide researchers with innovative scopes and directions of the study subject matter (Berger, 2013).

Reflexivity is achieved in this study as the researcher poses new questions concerning the research subject matter. These are expected to generate ideas and tackle untapped areas before.

- **Transferability:** Shenton (2003) argues that external validity in quantitative researches is the degree of applicability of the findings of one study to other situations. In qualitative work, the main focus is on showing that the results of the work at hand can be applied to a larger population. Since the findings of a qualitative inquiry are specific to a small sample of certain environments and individuals, findings and conclusions cannot be applied to other environments or individuals. Practically speaking, many naturalistic inquirers believe that even conventional generalisability is never possible since all observations are defined by a definite contexts in which they take place.

Anney (2014) identifies transferability as the extent to which results of the qualitative research are transferred to other participants with other contexts.

In this sense, Kelley (2008) discusses Lincoln and Guba (1991)'s proposition that transferability can be achieved if practitioners believe their situations to be similar to that described in the study, they may relate the findings to their own positions. It is also important that sufficient thick description of the phenomenon under investigation is provided to allow readers to have a proper understanding of it, thereby enabling them to compare the instances of the phenomenon described in the research report with those that they have seen emerge in their situations.

Furthermore, as Matemba (2011) discusses, quantitative research aims at external validity to maintain research's generalisability. However, qualitative research aims at providing complete, rich, detailed descriptions to individuals and the context thus enabling readers to compare and judge similar experiences with their own. This is considered the essence of the transferability.

Thus, the transferability is achieved in this study by developing a wide and thick description to the field experiences that have been carried out by the researcher during conducting the interviews. This is in addition to supporting the study by some information about the phenomenon, participants, and providing an extensive analysis and description to the emerged categories which reflects directly participants' experiences, along the limitations of the study.

- **Dependability:** It refers to "the stability of findings over time". It uses : a code-recode strategy, an audit trail, stepwise replication, peer examination, and triangulation (Anney, 2014).

Matemba (2011) confirms that as the qualitative research characterized by its fluidity, consistency can be measured by the point to which variation can be explained or tracked. So, the dependability of such a process is what maintains validity in qualitative researches.

It is also defined according to Al-Herbawi (2015) as a parallel term used in qualitative research as an alternative to the term of reliability which is used in quantitative research. Reliability refers to the ability to replicate the findings of the study. In other words, another researcher could use the same research design and methods to convey the same or similar findings. By contrast, researchers of qualitative data do not aim at having their findings replicated. They aim to achieve an authentic material of their participants' experiences as they themselves view and describe it.

In this study , dependability is achieved in the form of the study design, data collections methods and analysis used, are all well documented. Moreover, dependability is achieved by: the appropriateness of the research method utilized, the how, what ,when, and why of conducting the study (audit trail), the triangulation of data sources, and methods of data collection, appropriate number and type of the sample to interview, the reliability of the key informants (i.e. people providing the data), the comparative nature of this study, the undertaken procedures to control and minimize bias, coding of the analysis and the followed

procedures, peer-review and debriefing, and the researcher's experience and capability to carry out the research.

- **Conformability:** Refers to the degree to which results of an inquiry can be corroborated and validated by other researchers. It also discusses that data and interpretations established out of findings are not fabricated by the inquirer rather than being clearly derived from the data. The researcher can achieve conformability by adopting an audit trial, reflexive journal and triangulation (Anney, 2014).

Kelly (2008, p.61) also confirms that conformability stands for completeness, balance, fairness and being bias-free.

This item has been achieved in this study since the researcher meets herself with the participants and uses audio-tape and notes. Besides the researcher has to meet with the supervisor regularly to discuss , develop, and amend research notes. The audit trial is used in this study in the form of participants , memos, examples, figures, and other available supporting documents.

5.7 Summary of the Chapter

To sum up, there are several analytical methods to analyze the qualitative data such as the constant comparative method, classical content analysis, keywords-in-context and discourse analysis (Onwuegbuzie et al., 2009). This chapter represents how the study scrutinizes the data of the conducted interviews by means of the Constant Comparative Method (CCM) as a qualitative data analysis method. It provides an extensive analysis to the research main components that are articulated properly throughout the overall discussion. Results show that the determinant of war and conflicts surpasses other determinants that induce children to the labour market in Gaza.

Chapter 6
Findings
&
Recommendations

Chapter 6

Findings and Recommendations

6.1. Introduction

The chapter shows how the CCM is employed to provide effective findings, introduces the prioritization of the determinants behind Gaza's children engagement in the labour market. Finally, it concludes the study recommendations.

6.2. Findings

The previous analysis represents child labour in Gaza as a cross-cutting issue and the reasons behind it are manifold. Whilst the triple threats of poverty, wars, and household's standard of living operate to encourage children to work, other causes like family dynamics, self-actualization and work attraction can tempt those children to join the labour market. Both push and pull factors seem to have an intricate, yet reciprocal effects on child labour in Gaza.

Based on the PCBS (2015), in its report of *the Status of the Rights of the Palestinian Children*, the several military incursions alongside the economic blockade result in the deterioration of the overall conditions in Gaza. It has been reported by the UNDP that 80% of people in Gaza depend on aids, 70% suffer from food insecurity, and 43.9% are unemployed. Also, based on the PCBS (2015)'s survey of the implications of war on the social and economic conditions of the Gaza Strip, results show displacement percentage of persons who left their main residence due to the aggression of 2014 as of (59%). The same percent refers to those whom work conditions deteriorated as a result of war, while (16%) lost their jobs completely. This explains income decline to (53%) for half of households in the Gaza Strip. Most importantly, the survey indicated that (55.9%) of families in Gaza city received aid assistance during Gaza war in 2014 and (68.4%) received aid assistance after the aggression. The reasons some households in Gaza city did not receive any assistance: They did not ask for that (58.9%), political reasons (1.8%), not fulfilling eligible criteria (7.2%), and one or more workers in the family (6.6%). It is worth mentioning that (96.1%) of people in Gaza city needed cash assistance during the aggression, (86.5%) needed food assistance, (79.5%) needed contingency

assistance, (69.4%) needed jobs, and (48.6%) needed housing assistance (maintenance, shelter, rent, caravan,...etc.). Besides, the survey shows that (90.5%) of breadwinners in Gaza city are males while only (9.5%) are females.

As referred by Pereznieto et al. (2014), people of Gaza live in a humanitarian or conflict-affected contexts. They live in fear of displacement due to the life taking wars there. This translates into stress and fear experienced by the Gaza children. Additionally, the most cited school drop-out cases were as a result of violence, abuse, and poor education rather than economic need. It is reported that 6 out of 10 children in primary grades did not feel safe going to and from their schools as a result of violence of armed conflict. However, shocks especially economic ones contributed greatly to fuel the situation.

Furthermore, the Palestinian News & Information Agency –Wafa (2014) adds that the last military aggression on Gaza rendered (581) martyred children who amount to (27%) of martyrs, and (3436) of wounded children comprising a percentage of 30% of the wounded civilians based on the MoH operation room's report.

Based on the previous discussion, findings of the research shows that some factors have positive and remarkable indications and show higher responses. However, some other factors show negative higher responses and fail to explain the phenomenon of child labour. In this regard, **wars and conflicts** show the highest responses of all factors, especially the traumatic experiences and the war effect on schooling 'school drop-out'. This is followed by the **family dynamics** especially the work decision-making theme.

Actually, responses of the family dynamics and the next factor '**self-actualization**' are so close. Then, **poverty** comes as a fourth factor. As far as the researcher might perceive, poverty cannot do without other themes. Despite the impoverished conditions of living standards in Gaza, yet poverty is not a key determinant behind child labour. This might be explained by the fact that a considerable number of child labourers work in family businesses or enterprises additional to a vast majority who work in agriculture (family farms). In fact, poverty

is critical but, alone, cannot provide a reasonable explanation to the prevalence of child labour in Gaza.

To sum up, wars and conflicts' effect, forcing the child to work by taking the work decision, the dire need of the child to provide for his basics and guarantee a future job due to living in uncertainty, poverty, the desire and willingness to support family, and work attraction of wage and escape schooling are a sequence of the most compelling determinants behind child labour in Gaza. These key determinants are prioritized as follows:

1. Wars and conflicts.
2. Family dynamics.
3. Self-actualization.
4. Poverty.
5. Contribution to the family.
6. Work attraction and conditions.

6.3. Recommendations

▪ Community (Families, Children, Teachers...)

- Launching advocacy campaigns to raise awareness of families of child labourers to the adverse effects of sending children to work.
- Children themselves have to be acknowledged about their rights. Child labourers in particular should know their rights lest they suffer work exploitation.
- Schools should maintain appropriate plans to help weak students reach improved school achievement especially those of impoverished conditions. The reason is that poor school achievement warns of school-drop out and the likelihood of child labour.
- Compulsory free education for all, at least to the primary grade, should be emphasized to ensure each child gets an equal opportunity to free learning.
- Vocational training should be promoted to help drop-out students continue learning and not lose their cognitive skills with the time.

▪ **Policy and Decision Makers**

- The ministries of: MoL, MoS, MoHE, MoH, MoI all have responsibilities towards child labourers and are encouraged to take part in effective programs to help combating the graveness of this phenomenon.
- Labour inspectors' department at MoL should design plans concerning child labour. Most of the children in Gaza suffer wretched work conditions. These children need regular inspection to assess the magnitude of suffering and provide proper solutions.
- NGOs and INGOs should collaborate with local CBOs and interested societal institutions and encourage the enforcement of child labour law.
- Child Protection Networks (CPNs) must be activated and referral systems are to be funded in order to work actively in the field.
- Any child observed working contrary to the Palestinian labour law should be tagged by a specially trained team of experts and social workers to be protected against exploitation.
- Most of child labourers are members of families who must be assisted in their quest for self-sufficiency without the pitiful, though essential, wages of the under-aged labourers. Therefore, child labourers and their families must be provided specially designed health and social welfare services. It is well worth efforts.

▪ **Researchers**

- More researches are encouraged in the field to stretch knowledge of the issue and counter the effect of both pull and push factors.
- Other interested researchers may apply the quantitative methodology to reach statistical results that can be of an extensive benefit to public and ad-hoc reports.
- A gender based researches of child labour are encouraged based on female child labourers. Female child labourers are hidden in Gaza (mostly at households or farms) and it is not easy to measure factors underlying their engagement in the labour market or family business. Hence, it is recommended to conduct such researches within Gaza context.

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Appendices

Appendix A: A Consent Form

The researcher; Ms. Rania M. Abu Al Ouf, would like to conduct an individual interview with a group of child labourers (30) who join the projects of Al Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation. The purpose of such interviews is merely academic to fulfill a master degree in Business Administration, faculty of Commerce, the Islamic University of Gaza. The interviews aim to collect data that helps in "Prioritizing the Determinants behind Gaza Children's Engagement in the Labour Market". I will be very grateful for your efforts, time, and contribution to help in this research.

Hereby, I confirm that these interviews are conducted for academic purposes only, and will be both audio recorded and written. The session specified time for each interview will be about 45-50 minutes. Here, the research questions that will be discussed are attached. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

With all respect,

The researcher,

Rania Manosur Abu Al Ouf

Appendix B: Interview Questions

▪ The Push Factors

1. Poverty

Who is the main breadwinner of your family?

What is the current employment status of your breadwinner?

What does your breadwinner do for living?

Does your mother work?

Do you have unemployed siblings (individuals aged 15+ who did not work but would be willing to accept a job if offered)?

Do you have siblings who are university or college graduates?

What type of assistance received by your family whether kind or in-kind?

Which of the durable assets and equipments that your family possesses?

2. Wars and Conflicts

Since when did you join the labour market? (2006-2008-2009-2012-2014).

Have you suffered any traumatic experiences since the last Gaza attack in 2014?

Do you have fears from your guardian or employer?

What about your school enrollment since the last Gaza attack?

Do you receive a pocket money (a sum for day-to-day spending)?

3. Family Dynamics

Who made the decision that you should join the labour market?

(You-Father-Mother-Both-Guardian-Siblings-Relative)

What type of work you are required to perform?

How do you describe the familial relationship in your family?

What is your current parental social status?

▪ **The Pull Factors**

1. Contribution to the Family

What are the main reasons that made you join the labour market?

Does your family depend on your income mainly or partially?

How do you describe the health status of your main breadwinner?

Do you work to polish your image or your family's in front of others?

2. Self-actualization

Do you usually express your opinion and participate in decisions of your family?

How do you feel your family's attitude towards you after joining the labour market?
(gaining value within the family).

What do you consider the main necessities that are satisfied by your work?

What are your beliefs, values, and concepts about going to work?

3. Work Attraction and Conditions

Describe the job/work you perform whether for a wage, salary, commission, any in kind payment or domestic work?

How long have you been in this work?

How many hours do you work?

Do your work hours include a break period?

Do you get a weekly holiday?

Does your work appropriate for your physiology, or dangerous and harmful to your health, or make you feel tired and exhausted?

What is the payment method? Daily, monthly, per piece, others (specify)?

What is the amount of your paid wage? (How much do you earn?)

Is there a work contract whether written for a specified period, open , oral , or other (specify)?

What is the main reason that attracted you to join this work?