

IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	Glasgow 2486653 DCU Charles
Dissertation Title	Child sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and humanitarian aid workers: a critical analysis of the humanitarian aid structure

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

Reviewer 1 Initial Grade <i>Select from drop down list</i>	Reviewer 2 Initial Grade <i>Select from drop down list</i>	Late Submission Penalty <i>no penalty</i>
Word Count Penalty (1-15% over/under = 1gr point; 15-20% over/under = 2 gr points; 20-25% over/under = 3 gr points; more than 25% over/under = 0 fail)		
Word Count: 20968 Suggested Penalty: <i>Select from drop down list</i>		

JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

Final Agreed Mark. (Following correspondence reviewers should list the agreed final internal grade taking before and after any penalties to be applied).	
Before Penalty: C1 [14]	After Penalty: <i>Select from drop down list</i>

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
A. Structure and Development of Answer	
This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• <i>Originality of topic</i>	Very Good
• <i>Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified</i>	Very Good
• <i>Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work</i>	Good
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Good
• <i>Application of theory and/or concepts</i>	Good
B. Use of Source Material	
This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• <i>Evidence of reading and review of published literature</i>	Very Good
• <i>Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument</i>	Good
• <i>Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence</i>	Good
• <i>Accuracy of factual data</i>	Very Good
C. Academic Style	
This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• <i>Appropriate formal and clear writing style</i>	Good
• <i>Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation</i>	Good
• <i>Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)</i>	Good
• <i>Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?</i>	Yes

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|---|--------------|
| • Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology) | Not required |
| • Appropriate word count | Yes |

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

This dissertation addresses a significant and important topic regarding child sexual abuse within the international humanitarian system. It seeks to analyse the nature and extent of the response through this system via bureaucratic and institutional theories. The dissertation provides a thorough account of the existing literature on this topic across several literatures and disciplines. This literature review provides an effective overview of the topic and the competing theoretical lenses used to analyse and address it.

The limitations of the thesis are evident in chapters 3 and 4 discussing and applying its methods. There are several components here that could have been re-organised or edited for a more effective presentation of the documentary analysis employed. In addition, while Haiti provides an obvious site of study for this topic given overlapping forms of institutional crisis, this could have been justified at greater length and more explicitly as a case study, and reference to case study methodology literature would have further situated the analysis.

The discussion could also expand further on the implications of the choice of analysis through institutional and bureaucratic theories - what was the new insight developed, particularly as illustrated by the Haiti case? Further clarification and reflection on its contribution to this complex and challenging space would have added further value.

Reviewer 2

This dissertation seeks to understand the institutional factors of the humanitarian system which impact on the sexual exploitation and abuse of children and applies bureaucracy and institutional theory in this regard. The topic is a timely one and clearly makes a theoretical contribution to the topic in its focus on the humanitarian system whilst providing new insights on the phenomenon. The issue is well-contextualised and the statement of the problem clearly presented.

The dissertation makes a very good and extensive account of the literature on the topic and provides a clear, well-presented and accessible overview of both the relevant literature on the topic but also the theoretical framing to be adopted. The literature review is well-structured and provides a clear, systematic account of the various factors identified in the literature which contribute to the problem of child exploitation in the humanitarian sector.

The methods chapter, however, could do with a more nuanced and substantiated engagement with a wider reading of the literature, as well as a clearer more logical structuring. It is good that the theoretical paradigm of the dissertation is extended into the methods chapter as the main analytical framing, but this needs to be elaborated on in terms of how this analytical framing is applied to a documentary analysis. Although the chapter provides a broad account of the relevance of documentary analysis it needs a strong justification in terms of why this approach was suitable for the dissertation's focus. The chapter also lacks an account of the case study method and it remains unclear whether the chosen case is indeed a case study or an example to be used in the research.

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The analysis chapter provides a good account of the case study of Haiti through the provision of evidence informing the main focus of the dissertation, however, there needs to be a clearer link to the theory and literature review in terms of demonstrating the links to legitimacy, accountability and culture. Furthermore, much of the analysis chapter constitutes a second literature review focusing on the three components, whereas this should have been situated in the literature review chapter and this chapter aimed exclusively at providing evidence of these phenomenon from the data (the documentary review) and an analysis of this evidence. All-in-all the analysis chapter lacks substantial evidence for demonstrating the issues identified upfront. However, there are a number of very insightful findings in this chapter including the neo-colonial dimension.

Finally, the discussion chapter could critically delve into the implications of the findings instead of offering a repeat of it and more concretely link the various aspects of the paper in terms of especially the case study and the theoretical framing used.

Overall, the dissertation raises a number of key insights throughout, undertakes a thorough account of the literature but does have some issues, including structural, some scholarship issues in terms of language use and the need for more thorough substantiation in places. Overall, a well-presented and accessible account which identifies and fills a gap in the literature.