

“Leave your orphans I will protect their lives. Your widows too can trust in me”, Jeremiah 49: 11.

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I take full responsibility for any problems and shortcomings that may arise with regard to the material written in this dissertation.

DEDICATION

To my son Edgar Mwilu, for your little laughter and hugs when things got rough. I love you.

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ABBREVIATIONS

HIV/ AIDS- Human Immune Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

NAZ- National Archives of Zambia

UN- United Nations

UNICEF- United Nations Children's Fund

CMML- Christian Missionaries in Many Lands.

GLOSSARY

Adoption This is the act by which relationships of paternity and affiliation are recognized as legally existing between persons not so related by nature.

Fostering Caring for a child who is not one's own but who has been formally placed in one's home for a period of time by social workers

Orphanage Orphan Asylum/ institutions that were created to care for orphans

Orphan Someone bereft of parents through death or disappearance of, abandonment or desertation by, or separation from both parents.