

# **CHAPTER 3**

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

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Previously we have discussed nationwide and worldwide literature related to human trafficking.

This chapter of the study fundamentally focused on the research plan and how the researcher has conducted his research. The chapter included the following important components of the study.

- Rationale and significance of the study.
- Aim and Objective of the study
- Research Design and Method.
- Universe and Population.
- Source of data collection.
- Operational definitions.
- Variables.
- Data processing and analysis.
- Research report plan.

**This study titled “A Study of Anti Human Trafficking Unit functionaries' experiences and Opinions: Social Work concerns.”**

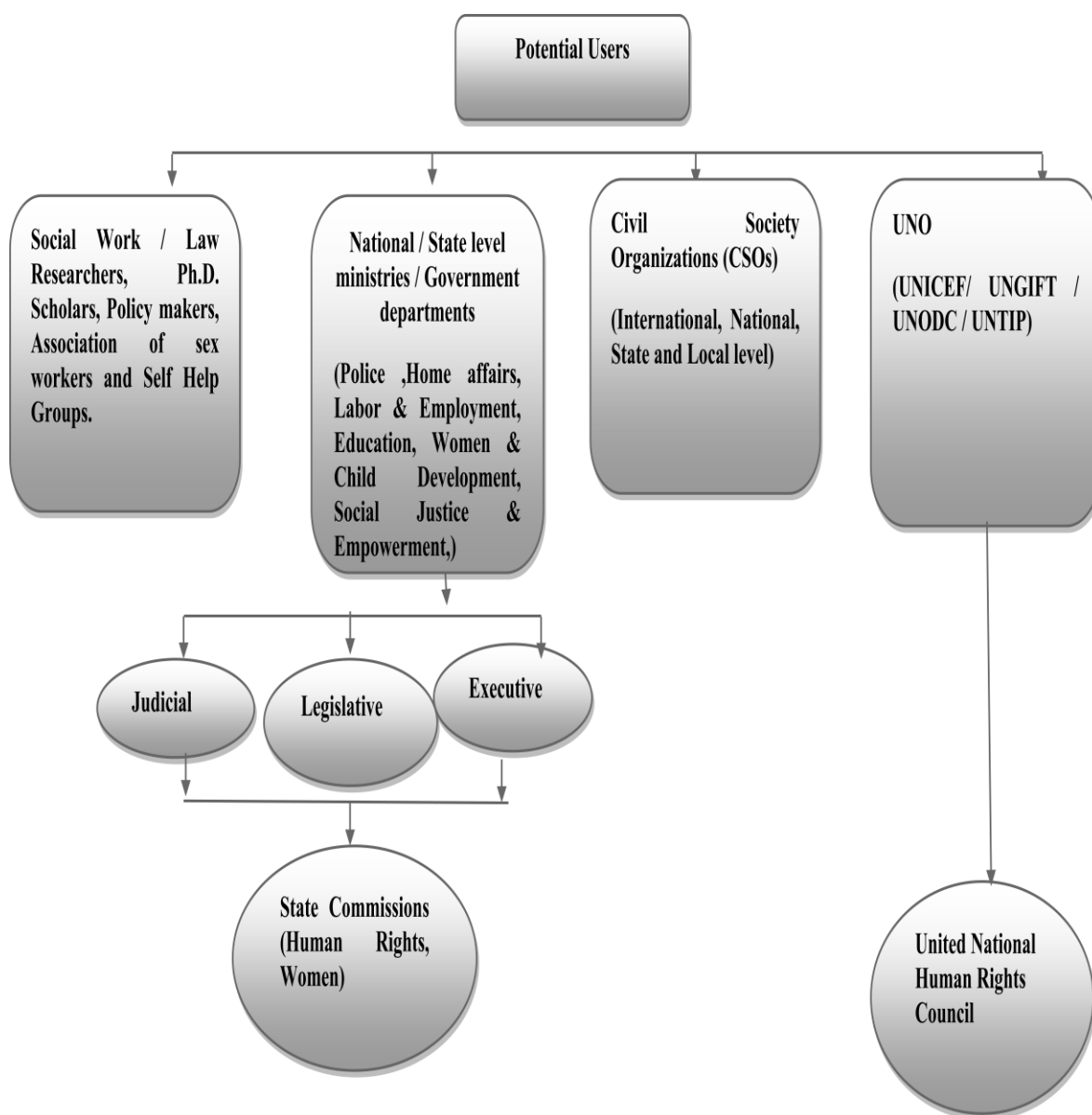
## **A. RATIONALE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The study focuses on exploring the practical wisdom of grass root level functionaries. It aims at current formal practices and procedures followed by the AHTU functionaries to control and prevent human trafficking can enhance the technical and procedure understanding among the government officials. This effort may provide new insight into the improvement of existing strategies and techniques. The identified gaps from current practices and procedures will be useful in comparison of the actual performance of functionaries with legislation to combat illegal human traffic. Proper scientific study can explore the problems faced by the AHTU functionaries in the process of handling human trafficking cases as well as hurdles in following their obligations.

The finding may support the AHTU functionaries in minimizing their difficulties and improving the possibility of an improvement in the future of anti-human trafficking initiatives. Scientific study can provide suggestions for structural system and procedure based on practices so, that improvement takes place and control/prevention of human trafficking become possible. In addition, comprehension and documentation of reported cases in human trafficking became helpful in the qualitative assessment of the study. This qualitative assessment revealed previous efforts of key stakeholders in the control/prevention of human trafficking. This research hence aims to explore the causes of human trafficking and pointing out the loopholes in the system.

The findings of the research study may be directly or indirectly useful to the stakeholders mentioned in Figure 5 as follows.

**Figure 5**  
**Beneficiaries**



Victims of human trafficking will be the chief beneficiary of this research study. It is hoped that the research will be based on those who want to conduct their research in a similar subject area.

## **B. AIM AND OBJECTIVES**

The broad aim of this research is to understand the existing structures created to control and prevent human trafficking and find the scope to improve and enhance the

current practices and procedures by using Social work strategies through knowledge and skill building functionaries. Other specific objectives are

- To explore the prevalence of reported cases in Human Trafficking in India and Gujarat State.
- To study the Current process of actual formal/informal practices and procedures followed by AHTU to control human trafficking in Gujarat.
- To describe the **expected standard procedure** followed by the AHTU Functionaries i.e. law and order maintaining authorities (Police Officials) in controlling the human trafficking of Gujarat state.
- To explore and describe the experiences of AHTU Functionaries.
- To identify the difficulties faced by the AHTU Functionaries.
- To describe opinions and suggestions of AHTU Functionaries.
- To provide suggestions for structural and procedural improvement procedures based on Social Work Knowledge and skills

### **C. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHOD**

The research design was exploratory in nature. It is exploratory research because the study focuses on a relatively unexplored dimension of human trafficking, especially from functionaries' experiences.

The purpose of exploratory research is to gain familiarity with the issue of human trafficking from functionaries' perspective. The Quantitative data were collected by census survey method and Qualitative was through in depth interviews with key persons.

### **D. UNIVERSE AND POPULATION**

Universe was 40 Anti Human Trafficking Units of Gujarat. It included total 214 population for the study. It must be noted that originally the population was limited to 63 in ten AHTUs from with gradual addition to the numbers of Anti Human

Trafficking Units (AHTUs), this number increased up to 214 from the total of 40 units. This can be explaining through the following Table 3.1

**Table 3.1**  
**Details of Anti Human Trafficking Units of Gujarat State.**

Sr. No.	AHTU location	DESIGNATION OF THE RESPONDENTS						Total
		ASI	HC	LR	PC	PI	PSI	
1	Ahmadabad-City	1	1	0	1	1	0	4
2	Ahmadabad-Rural	1	3	2	0	0	1	7
3	Ahmadabad-WR	1	1	0	1	1	0	4
4	Amreli	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
5	Anand	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
6	Aravalli	2	3	1	0	0	1	7
7	Bharuch	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
8	Banaskatha	2	1	0	3	1	1	8
9	Botad	0	2	1	0	1	2	6
10	Baroda – City	1	1	0	2	1	0	5
11	Baroda – Rural	0	2	0	1	1	2	6
12	Baroda – WR	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
13	Bhavnagar	1	1	0	2	1	0	5
14	Chhota-udepur	0	1	0	2	1	0	4
15	Dahod	1	2	0	0	1	2	6
16	Dang	5	5	0	0	1	1	12
17	Dwarka	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
18	Gandhidham	0	1	0	2	1	0	4
19	Gandhinagar	1	0	0	2	1	1	5
20	Godhara	0	0	0	3	2	1	6
21	Jamnagar	1	1	1	2	2	1	8
22	Junagadh	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
23	Kachchh-Bhuj	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
24	Morbi	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
25	Mahisagar	1	1	0	2	1	1	6
26	Mehsana	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
27	Nadiad	2	2	1	0	1	1	7
28	Narmada	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
29	Navsari	0	0	2	0	1	0	3

30	Porbandar	2	5	1	4	1	0	13
31	Patan	1	2	0	0	1	0	4
32	Rajkot – City	0	4	0	4	1	0	9
33	Rajkot – Rural	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
34	Sabarkatha	1	3	0	0	1	1	6
35	Somnath	1	0	0	2	1	0	4
36	Surendranagar	1	1	0	2	1	1	6
37	Surat – city	1	3	0	1	1	0	6
38	Surat – Rural	1	1	0	1	1	2	6
39	Tapi	0	3	0	4	0	1	8
40	Valsad	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>214</b>

*(Source: Nodal Officer / Inspector General of Police (IGP), CID Crime and Women Cell, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 2017-2018)*

The universe of the study included key respondents from forty Anti Human Trafficking Units mentioned in Table 3.1 Apart from this other selected key informant are functionaries from Child line and DCPU (District Child Protection Unit).

Census study covered 214 Functionaries from all original 40 AHTUs of Gujarat State. Respondents were taken from 40 AHTUs of Gujarat state. These respondents included

1. Police Inspectors (PI) - 38
2. Police Sub-Inspectors (PSI) - 25
3. Assistant Sub Inspectors (ASI) – 35
4. Head Constables (HC) - 59
5. Police Constables - 46
6. Lok Rakshak– 11

In addition, to supplement the data key informants from government and non-government organizations have been interviewed. These respondents are from the Child-line and District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and a summary of their findings is qualitatively described to supplement the quantitative data.

Originally the total respondents in 40 AHTUs are 244. While other 30 functionaries holding additional parallel multiple postings in other departments were not available and could not be contacted despite researcher effort.

Universe covered information from all units in the population, so no sampling design is used.

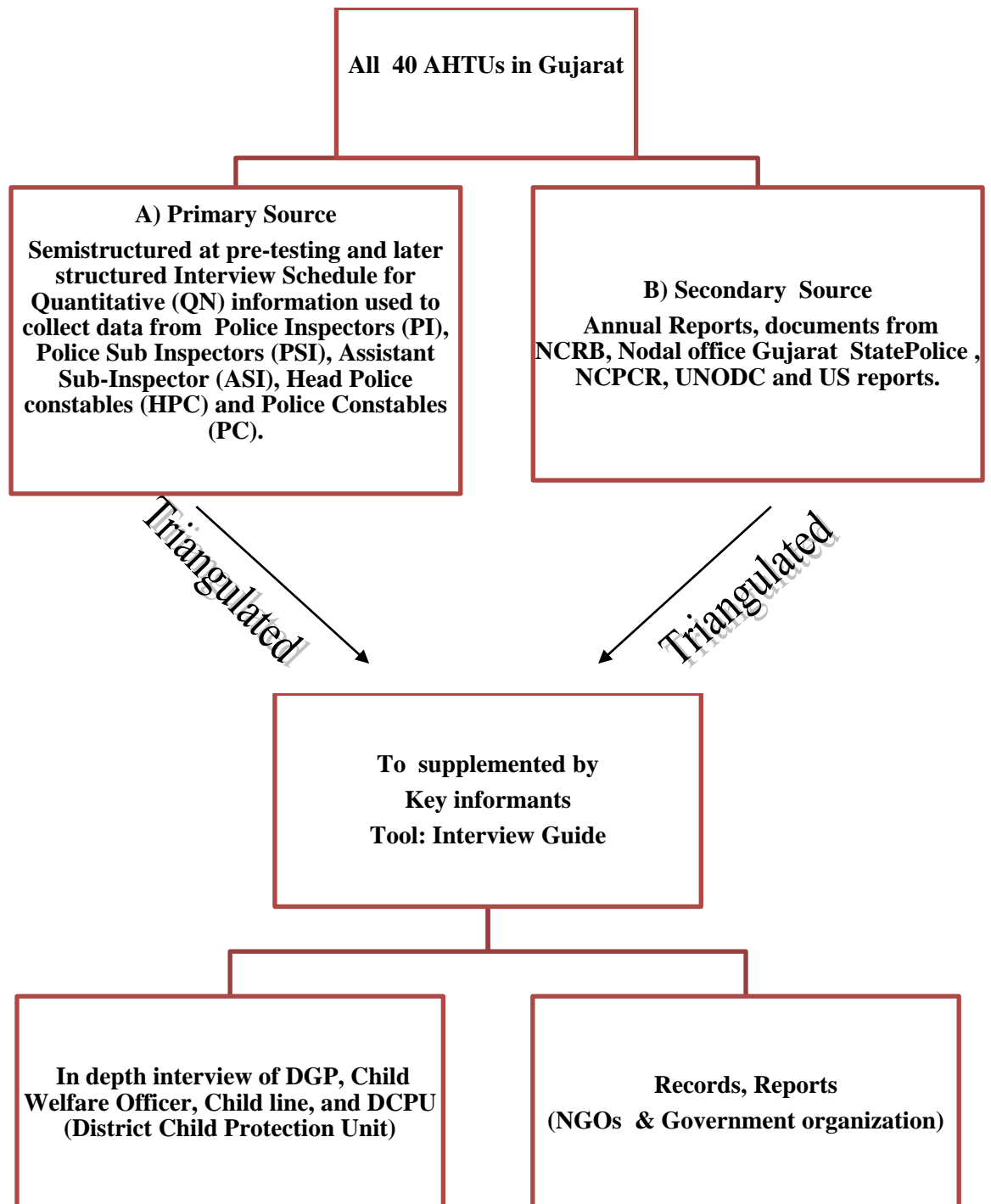
## **E. SOURCE OF DATA COLLECTION AND TOOLS:**

Figure 6 represent the visual model of source for data collection. 1. Primary source of data collection is mixed method i.e. Qualitative and Quantitative design (Q1 - Qn). The interview guide and Observation for qualitative (Q1) study. Semi-structural Interview schedule at the time of pre-testing and later structured Interview schedule is used for collecting quantitative (Qn) information (It is because of COVID-19 Pandemic the researcher was compelled to convert and used structured interview schedule as per advice of the police authority). The Semi-structured interview schedule has both close-ended as well as open-ended questions and structure interview schedules only have close ended questions, regarding experiences and opinions of AHTU functionaries in the implementation of anti-human trafficking initiatives.

The secondary source of data collection has been used by the researcher for quantitative information from published material like Annual reports, documents from the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Nodal office Gujarat state Police, United Nation Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and United states reports on human trafficking and registered cases in the police station.

The information supplemented by key informants (other than police) is triangulated to know the reliability of the information provided by respondents.

**Figure 6**  
**Visual model of Source of data collection**



## **F. OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS:**

### **Human Trafficking**

“The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force, or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”(UNODC / UNTIP 2014)

### **Human Rights**

It is an interest inborn to all human beings, whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, and language. We are equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. (UDHR, 1948)

### **Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU)**

An Anti-human trafficking Unit is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime. The model was originally developed by Dr. P.M. Nair. It is a unit especially working for controlling human trafficking in India.

### **Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) Functionaries**

They are the people involved in anti-human trafficking activity and play an active role in identifying, support the victims and cases for controlling such kind of organized crime. The key stakeholders include Special Police Officials from the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and members of CSOs. Apart from these Stakeholders are also include Judges from courts, Public Prosecutors, Advocates, Police officers human traffickers, victims, and International agencies members but the study has focused on the person who is directly dealing with the anti-human trafficking activity for benefiting the victims of trafficking.

### **Current practice**

It is a formal as well as actual existing procedure adopted by authorities and civil society Organizations to control illegal human trafficking.

### **Experience**

“The Knowledge or skill acquired by a period of practical experience of something especially that gained in the particular profession” (Oxford Dictionary, 2016)

(For this study the term ‘experience’ is related to their role as Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) functionaries.)

### **Opinion**

“A view or judgment formed about something. Not necessarily based on fact or knowledge.” (Oxford Dictionary, 2016)

(For this study the term 'opinion' of the functionaries about the issue of human trafficking, the present structure, process, their effectiveness, causes, and loopholes.)

## **G. VARIABLES**

- I) Independent variables: Education, Designations, Age, Roles, and Responsibilities.
- II) Dependent variables: Experiences, Opinions, Standard Operating Process, Problems, Awareness, Suggestions.

## **H. DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSES**

- I) Quantitative data: - Simple frequency tables with cross tables (SPSS).
- II) Qualitative data: - In-depth observation.

## **I. RESEARCH REPORT PLAN**

The Ph.D. thesis is divided into 3 major sections. Section 1 is preliminary pages. This section contains the title of the page, index, acknowledgment, list of tables, list of graphs, list of illustrations, and list of figures.

Next Section 2 is the main body of the thesis. This section incorporates with introduction, review of literature, research methodology, data analysis, data

interprétation, major findings, summary, conclusion, suggestions, proposed action plan.

Last section 3 included the end matters of the thesis. This content references list and Annexure.

**Figure 7**

**The visual plan of Ph.D. Thesis reporting**

