

**The Panacea and Perfidy Associated with Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) Living in Institutionalized Care in Some Countries of the Developing World**

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**KEYWORDS** Caregivers. Panacea. OVC. Perfidy. Individualized Attention. Community Based Domiciles

**ABSTRACT** This paper aims, through a literature review methodology, to discuss, raise debates and discourses on the panacea or benefits associated with institutionalized care; as well as the deficiencies or the perfidy embedded in them. Findings indicate that institutionalized care: ensures provision of OVC education; saves OVC from debilitating livelihoods; offers a second best alternative home to OVC. OVC institutions are also found to have the following deficiencies: Lack of individualized attention for normal child growth; are usually beset by an array of different abuses; are usually beset by power, politics and poverty in the working environment; workforce usually suffers from burnout, and inadequate coping strategies and control. The researchers have suggested the following as the way forward: advocating for 'family first' initiative; provision of requisite resources in community based domiciles; and supporting caregivers' well-being in tandem with the OVC.