

Child Protection Policy and its Impact on Child Defense Management in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad 2025

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ABSTRACT:

This study examines the impact of the child protection policy on child defense management in the La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025. It identifies the policy's strengths and weaknesses, as well as the causal factors, and proposes empirical improvements to promote inter-institutional coordination, prevent violations, and create safe environments for children and adolescents. This non-experimental, cross-sectional, quantitative, correlational study analyzed a non-probabilistic sample of 162 key actors (out of 281 total) using validated Likert surveys (Aiken's V and Cronbach's $\alpha > 0.96$), ordinal regressions, and structural equation models. The structural model revealed strong causality ($\beta = 0.88$) with excellent indices ($\chi^2/df = 2.033$, RMSEA = 0.080, and CFI = 0.977), explaining 78% of the variance in management. The results show adequate levels of management (59.9%) and politics (54.3%), with strengths in the legal framework (67.3%) and governance (61.7%) and weaknesses in awareness (21% deficient). Politics explains 56.6% of the variability in management (R^2 _(Nagelkerke)). The study recommends annual training of 80 hybrid hours, an exclusive budget of at least 5%, and raising management to 70% within two years. These recommendations are aligned with the PNMNNA, the Children's Code, and SDG 16.

Keywords: Child protection policy, Advocacy management, Municipal ombudsman's office, Children

Introduction

Studying child protection policy and its influence on the management of children's defense in the La Libertad 2025 Municipal Ombudsman's Office is vital since it allows us to directly connect

public policies with their practical implementation. The goal of this analysis was to understand how child protection regulations affect the ability of protection entities at the municipal level to ensure the safeguarding of the rights of children and adolescents. Due to the

vulnerability faced by minors in La Libertad, robust policies and efficient management that prevent risks and promote safe environments are essential.

This study contributes to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16 by strengthening local entities committed to protecting children in La Libertad. The study analyzes the progress and challenges in safeguarding children's policies and promotes reducing violence against minors. Likewise, it encourages a more conscious and informed administration. Globally, children continue to suffer violence, abuse, and exploitation, which limits their development (UNICEF, 2023).

Scarce resources, insufficient regulatory harmonization, and limited cultural adaptation make it difficult to implement effective policies, especially in times of crisis. Although the Convention on the Rights of the Child is important, compliance requires political and institutional commitment (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2021).

Parton (2022) indicates that academic interest in child protection arises from ongoing crises and comparative studies showing that policies differ more based on the socio-political and cultural environment than on the nature of the abuse. In this context, Tomás et al. (2023) analyzed the progress of 102 children in the welfare system in Spain. They noted a decrease in protective factors and an increase in risk factors during the study, which highlights the importance of continuous interventions to enhance children's well-being in the face of abuse.

Zhao et al. (2025) point out that the impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on children's medical care in China reinforced the role of communities in safeguarding them. They suggest a system of indicators to improve the community's response to future health emergencies. Child protection faces challenges such as a lack of resources, bureaucracy, poor institutional coordination, and low community participation at the global level. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the focus is on compliance with the Convention on the

Rights of the Child (CRC) and on a child-centered approach to disasters.

Rojas et al. (2023) examined the creation and evolution of the National Children's Union (UNI) as part of the Mexican Communist Party's (PCM) strategy to modernize its agenda in the 1970s. The study discusses how incorporating new social causes, such as the rights of children, women, and the environment, reflected an internal transformation within the party. The study demonstrates how these initiatives signified a significant change in the PCM's history and national positioning. Gross-Manos et al. (2023) emphasize the urgent need to adjust child protection policies in Israel due to population growth and challenges in managing situations. They emphasize the importance of preventive systems and adaptive responses to social transformations.

In Peru, child protection is limited due to inadequate policy implementation, poor coordination, and scarce resources, especially in rural areas. In this context, Bayona-López et al. (2023) demonstrated that Peru's Indemnity Program increased parental awareness of children's rights. They also corroborated its effectiveness in reinforcing the complete protection of children. Jiménez Rufino et al. (2024) analyze the infringement of children's and young people's rights due to their presence in the media in Peru. They suggest a method that safeguards children and prevents their stigmatization.

According to Regional Ordinance No. 003-2025-GRLL-CR, this measure constitutes an important advance in the Regional Government of La Libertad's commitment to safeguarding children. By declaring this a regional public priority against any infringement of children's and young people's rights, the Regional Government of La Libertad not only strengthens the regulatory framework for safeguarding children, but also promotes the formation of a Multisectoral Regional Council. This council coordinates specific and effective actions in favor of this vulnerable group, demonstrating a multisectoral and participatory approach to defending their fundamental rights.

The Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (2024) states in the executive summary of the National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents (PNMNNA) that this policy is a key tool for the Peruvian state to reverse the decline in the child population. The policy was developed with the participation of various stakeholders, including children, public entities, and civil society. The policy aims to ensure the survival, development, protection, and participation of over 10 million individuals. The policy focuses on overcoming issues such as inadequate living conditions, limited autonomy, and insufficient family protection. It establishes five priority objectives with clear goals for 2030, including reducing anemia and violence and increasing participation. However, the Municipal Ombudsmen's Offices in La Libertad face limitations due to an overload of cases, a lack of resources, and weak inter-institutional coordination. Additionally, inadequate training and technology hinder the monitoring of violence and inequality in vulnerable areas.

The causes of the child protection policy problems are: Low political and financial priority in local governments; lack of trained, specialized personnel; deficient inter-institutional coordination between MIM, MP, and local governments; and little community awareness and preventive approach. These issues result in the continuous infringement of minors' rights, limited access to protection and comprehensive care services, increased incidents of violence and family abandonment, and barriers to the full and sustainable development of children.

Regarding the variable "Management of the Defense of Children," the main causes include an insufficient budget and material resources, a lack of technical and legal training for staff, multiple functions and a lack of exclusive dedication for staff, deficient institutional coordination, and an absence of updated procedures and work plans. These problems generate the following effects: limited and ineffective attention to cases of rights violations, delays in resolving and following up on cases, a community perception of low service effectiveness, persistence of violence and lack of

child protection, and limitations in the organization and effectiveness of case follow-up.

It is urgent to strengthen the training of staff responsible for the Municipal Ombudsman's Office for Children and Adolescents of La Libertad, as well as improve coordination with the Prosecutor's Office regarding social services for comprehensive care. The head of DEMUNA will lead these efforts with the municipality's support. Inaction could worsen the situation of minors, so immediate action is essential to ensure their well-being and development.

This research aimed to analyze the impact of the child protection policy on the defense of children in the La Libertad 2025 Municipal Ombudsman's Office, evaluating its effectiveness in defending the rights of children and adolescents. The analysis is conducted within the framework of DEMUNA's operations, using the Code of Children and Adolescents and the National Multisectoral Policy as normative references. Additionally, we analyzed the strengths and limitations regarding the coordination between institutions, the availability of resources, and operational capacity. The central objective is to formulate proposals that strengthen the protection of children's rights in the region.

In accordance with the above, the following general problem is formulated: To what extent does the child protection policy impact the management of child defense in the La Libertad 2025 Municipal Ombudsman's Office?

This research is theoretically justified by the theory of the best interests of children, incorporated in the Peruvian Code of Children and Adolescents (Law No. 27337), and supported by global regulatory frameworks. According to this theory, priority should be given to children's and adolescents' development, protection against any form of rights violation, and integral well-being when making decisions, policies, or public actions concerning them. This vision forms the basis of Peru's national multisectoral policy for children and youth. It guides municipal ombudsmen and seeks to alter administrative and social circumstances to ensure that children's rights are fostered, safeguarded, and respected.

The theory posits that efficient, coordinated public management in the municipal ombudsman's office will improve the defense of children, favoring their complete development and social inclusion as a vulnerable demographic. Analyzing how the practical implementation of these theoretical principles and policies influences municipal management's real defense of children's rights will produce new knowledge. Evidence will be provided to improve strategies, means, and institutional measures, thereby reinforcing public management focused on child well-being in the specific context of La Libertad in 2025.

In the social sphere, the Municipal Children's Ombudsman's Office directly impacts the social environment by reducing abuse against children and adolescents. Thus, a community culture that respects rights is fostered. The office promotes the peaceful resolution of family disputes through conciliation, allowing for the consolidation of emotional ties and the prevention of excessive judicial proceedings. Additionally, it raises awareness and educates citizens about the best interests of children, increasing social awareness.

The ombudsman's office promotes the active involvement of children and their families, contributing to their well-being. Ultimately, the office acts as a bridge between the community and other institutions, ensuring a broad, contextualized intervention to address social difficulties impacting children. The Municipal Ombudsman's Office for Children and Adolescents (DEMUNA) is a local public entity responsible for protecting and promoting the rights of children and adolescents.

The DEMUNA has a solid legal framework, including the Political Constitution of Peru, which protects children and adolescents. Law No. 27337, the Children and Adolescents Code, establishes the ombudsman's service and its responsibilities to promote and protect the rights of minors. The Organic Law of Municipalities (No. 27972) establishes that municipalities have the authority to create and manage these offices, as well as define their responsibilities and functions at the local level. DEMUNA is

structured, monitored, and operates in accordance with the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations' regulations. These regulations ensure that DEMUNA meets the necessary legal conditions to operate efficiently and fully protect the rights of children. These regulations ensure formal and coordinated legal intervention in the protection of minors at the municipal level.

The establishment and strengthening of the Municipal Office of the Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents is justified because it is a specialized, free service essential to ensuring that the rights of children and adolescents are effectively exercised at the local level. In addition to promoting the well-being of children, DEMUNA acts as a fundamental strategy to protect minors in vulnerable situations by addressing circumstances of abuse, abandonment, and violations of their rights. Registration and training with DEMUNA are supported by laws such as the Children and Adolescents Code (Law No. 27337) and the Organic Law of Municipalities. These laws determine that local authorities are responsible for providing this service. DEMUNA's existence promotes coordination between institutions, contributes to the social and human development of the community, and improves the municipality's response to situations related to children. Therefore, implementing it is essential and advantageous to ensure a safe and protective environment for all children and young people in every district of the nation.

To guarantee its continuous operation, the Municipal Office of the Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents must be allocated a budget in the municipality's Institutional Development Plan. To offer an efficient service, DEMUNA requires specialized and qualified personnel, support materials, and adequate infrastructure. For its existence to be official, DEMUNA must be incorporated into the municipality's functions and organizational regulations. Collaboration between institutions and regular monitoring are essential to ensure quality service. These elements increase the technical, administrative, and operational

feasibility of DEMUNA's ability to effectively protect children's rights at the local level.

A detailed literature review was conducted using relevant databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and SciELO, as well as the archives of prestigious universities. At the international level, Santana et al. (2025) developed a mobile application called "Children and Care" for basic education professionals at the Federal University of Bahia in Brazil. Through a cross-sectional study of 53 school professionals, they identified the learning needs for developing this tool. The app has three main modules with multimedia resources for reporting first aid and recording school accidents. Once validated, this educational tool will facilitate the dissemination of key information to protect children's health and strengthen the role of nurses by integrating health and education.

Mesías et al. (2025) conducted a systematic review to examine biopsychosocial factors affecting childhood development in Brazil. The research took place at the Federal University of Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil. The group of interest consisted of Brazilian children aged 0 to 6 years, with a sample size of 43. The results showed that 66 risk and protective factors were identified, 78.78% of which were primary risks, such as being male, having a premature birth, or being vulnerable from a socioeconomic standpoint. Children's development is largely linked to the socioeconomic level and education of mothers, acting as a risk or protective factor depending on the circumstances. To reduce disparities and promote healthy child development in Brazil, the study emphasizes the importance of implementing integrated policies and early interventions in education, healthcare, and social services. The study also provides a basis for up-to-date public policies and clinical practices that address the multifactorial complexity of child development.

(Yağızcan & Zehra, 2025). The purpose of the research was to examine the intermediary roles of attachment dimensions (avoidance and anxiety) and mentalization in the link between child maltreatment (CM) and limited personality

organization (LPO). The study was conducted at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. The study involved 412 people (311 women and 101 men with an average age of 25.30 years) who completed surveys on abuse, attachment, mentalization, and OPP characteristics. Serial multiple mediation models were used to analyze the results. The results showed that attachment avoidance and anxiety, followed by mentalization, acted as mediators between child maltreatment and OPP. These findings suggest that child abuse impacts OPP through insecure attachment and poor mentalization skills. The study's contribution is to provide evidence for therapeutic interventions focusing particularly on attachment and mentalization in individuals who were abused as children.

According to Pérez et al. (2025), the objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of a pedagogical strategy that increases parents' understanding of child violence, particularly among those with children under five years of age. The study involved 50 parents and was conducted at the University of Medical Sciences of Cuba. The strategy consisted of four phases: diagnosis, design, execution, and evaluation. Theoretical methods and questionnaires were used. The results showed that before the intervention, most parents had little information about actions constituting economic (68.43%), psychological (80%), sexual (60%), and physical (60%) violence, as well as the denial of rights (86%). These findings changed by more than 90% after the intervention. The researchers concluded that the strategy was effective in increasing knowledge and strengthening prevention from primary care. The study highlights the importance of educating parents to safeguard children and prevent violence against them in the family and community environments. The study concluded that the strategy was effective in increasing knowledge and strengthening primary care prevention. The study emphasizes the importance of educating parents to prevent child violence and protect children from the family and community environments.

As Tomás et al. (2023) expressed, The study aimed to conduct a longitudinal analysis of risk

and protective factors in childhood and adolescence to identify potential indicators of change. The analysis, conducted at the University of Valencia (Spain), included 102 children and adolescents from the Spanish child protection system who were evaluated three times. The findings showed that risks evolve, presenting a general tendency to decrease risks and increase protective elements. In conclusion, the study emphasizes the importance of sustained, long-term care and interventions to strengthen protective factors and reduce risk in children and adolescents. The study contributes useful information that can enhance child protection practices and policies through sustainable interventions.

Moya-Vergara et al. (2023) aimed to identify risk factors and victimization among young people, infants, and adolescents in a northern Chilean protection center (2016–2017). A total of 6,499 cases were examined using a descriptive, cross-sectional design. According to the results, the most common type of victimization was neglect, followed by exposure to domestic violence and child sexual abuse. Victimization rates were highest among Chilean children and adolescents between 6 and 9 years of age and between 14 and 17 years of age who were in the first or second year of primary education. Additionally, children who experienced bullying and child sexual abuse were found to have a history of diagnoses linked to drug use. Logistic regression tests revealed that the likelihood of different forms of victimization increases with a drug diagnosis, age, sex, nationality, and educational level. Therefore, it is essential to implement preventive strategies for this population, as they provide vital information for developing public policies and specific interventions based on sociodemographic and health aspects. This improves the area's child protection systems.

McCalman et al. (2025) detailed the aim of their research at the Central Queensland University in Australia: to improve and describe the local welfare system for children and young people in Yarrabah and Cairns. A systemic approach was carried out with community participation through interviews with 47 professionals

belonging to 27 intersectoral organizations in 2021 and 2022. The findings indicated that 68% of resources are allocated to crisis services, such as juvenile justice, mental health, and child protection, while the remaining 32% are allocated to prevention from an early age. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government departments are more prevalent than community-based organizations, which provide less than 25% of care. Funding impacts the type of services provided. NGOs are responsible for prevention, while community-based entities manage complex crises. The study concludes that optimizing education and care effectiveness is essential, as is promoting culturally appropriate systems for First Nations.

Similarly, in an analysis conducted in Egypt, Metwally et al. (2025) determined the magnitude and degree of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in 41,640 children aged 12 months to 12 years. A prevalence of 1.1% was found, which was higher among males than females (four times higher). The most important risk factors were a history of seizures, problems experienced by the mother during pregnancy, low birth weight, and a long stay in neonatal intensive care. Most cases (45%) were moderate, 39% severe, and 16% mild. Severity is related to advanced age and being female. The findings were compared with those of other Middle Eastern nations and suggested policies for early detection, prevention, and treatment that placed particular emphasis on protection, care, and equality for children with ASD.

Díaz Cuesta and Concheiro Guisán (2024) of the Complutense University of Madrid studied the impact of prolonged screen time (PST) on children's health through a systematic review of 37 rigorous studies. They found negative effects, such as sleep disorders, obesity related to sedentary lifestyles, and anxiety. However, they also found benefits in the development of language, memory, creativity, and social interaction when using interactive media. The researchers emphasize the importance of balanced and supervised use, adapting exposure time to each child's lifestyle and needs to maximize benefits and minimize risks.

Huynh and Li (2025) aimed to identify, analyze, and summarize evidence on factors that protect and build resilience in migrant and refugee children and adolescents facing violence. The study was conducted at the University of Hong Kong in China. The review covered 31 qualitative and quantitative studies dealing with children exposed to various forms of violence up to age 18. The findings emphasized five levels of protective factors: individual, family, school and peer, community, and spatial. The findings underscored the importance of regulatory strengths, interpersonal relationships, and sense of development in promoting positive adjustment and mental health. These elements are essential to optimizing well-being and supporting the development of effective public policies that strengthen the resilience of this at-risk population. Strengthening the well-being and resilience of migrant and refugee children in the face of violence requires promoting and protecting these factors, thus highlighting the importance of support at the family, community, and societal levels. These elements favor their ability to overcome adversity and adapt positively to new contexts.

At the national level, Torres et al. (2023) conducted a study in Peru that evaluated parental capacity and custody of minor children in judicial processes through forensic psychological evaluations. This study combined scientific and ethical methods to defend the child's best interests. The sample included parents and minors in legal proceedings who were evaluated through interviews, documentary analysis, and psychological tests. Personality disorders in parents and risks to the sexual integrity of minors were identified, enabling criminal sanctions and judicial decisions based on scientific evidence. The study concludes that this evaluation is fundamental to Peruvian family justice and recommends its systematic use to ensure fair decisions and protect children. Additionally, the study proposes a situational model integrating science and social intelligence to guide public policies toward equitable family justice focused on child welfare.

Rojas Terán and Villarreal Rabanal (2022) of César Vallejo University conducted a study entitled "Social Networks and Their Violation of the Right to Privacy in Minors in the Province of Chepén, 2022," examining the link between social network usage and the violation of the right to privacy in children. The correlational sample design used a survey technique with a quantitative approach. A total of 91 professionals participated. The findings revealed a moderately positive correlation ($r = 0.616$) between social network use and transgression of children's right to privacy. This demonstrates that misuse of these platforms significantly impacts these rights. This study provides evidence in support of creating public policies that safeguard children's rights regarding social media use, especially in local contexts like Chepén.

As Delamonica (2024) argues, the study aimed to analyze the relationship between public investment in health and improved population health in Peru, particularly reducing mortality in children under five. The study uses recent global data on children's access to insurance and social protection and the distribution of public investments in social protection and health to analyze their impact on children's health. The results show that, although public investment is essential for improving child health and reducing mortality, accurately measuring its impact poses significant challenges. Public investment and insurance coverage have been found to benefit children's health, though measuring them requires sophisticated techniques. Ultimately, the research concludes that investing in public health is essential for improving child health. However, given the difficulty of measuring impact, new methodological approaches and more research are required to optimize public policymaking. This article contributes a conceptual and empirical framework to help understand how public investment impacts children's health. This framework guides the development of more effective, data-driven public policies and encourages research that transcends methodological constraints to evaluate health impacts.

Bayona-López et al. (2023) at César Vallejo University in Trujillo sought to determine the impact of the indemnity program on children's rights in Peru. They used a quantitative methodology based on the positivist paradigm through document analysis and an analytical-synthetic method, employing Kolmogorov-Smirnov and a half. The findings indicated that parents' knowledge of education, identity, integrity, and protection improved significantly, with increases ranging from 17.7% to 35.4%. The researchers concluded that the program reinforces comprehensive care and effectively safeguards children's rights, contributing to educational and preventive practices within the community.

Theoretical, humanistic, and philosophical support for the research begins with the conceptual framework of child protection policy. Del Castillo (2012) points out that public child protection policies are state interventions that seek to prevent and address child abuse through programs and institutions, such as the Ombudsmen for Children and Adolescents. These programs aim to promote well-being, protect rights, and provide support for victims and prevention of violence.

The Defense for Children International document (2024) defines child protection policy as "a written policy that documents the overall commitment to preventing harm to children and establishes organizational procedures to ensure that staff, programs, and operations do not expose children to risks of abuse, including confidential mechanisms to report any concerns."

Portillo Tinoco and Ortega Camacho (2023) emphasize that the Peruvian state has increased financial investments to expand services for the holistic development of children under three years of age. They also identify challenges in intersectoral coordination, monitoring, and governance that hinder the effectiveness of policy.

Cortázar et al. (2024) point out that the National Integrated Early Childhood Policy aims to ensure children's rights, respecting their cultural diversity and developmental rhythms. Child protection

policy is an organized set of rules, principles, and measures implemented by public and private entities to ensure the rights, safety, and well-being of children and adolescents. It is achieved through the prevention, identification, and response to circumstances involving abuse, mistreatment, or violations, thus ensuring a safe environment that promotes their overall development.

According to the National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents (PNMNNA), child protection policy is an essential public policy tool that guides the government in coordinating actions to prevent the violation of children's and adolescents' rights. It ensures safe contexts for their development, protection, and inclusion in society. (Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, 2021).

The independent variable and its dimensions include the legal framework, which establishes that the Peruvian Code for Children and Adolescents (Article 32) is the totality of public guidelines issued by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Human Development (PROMUDEH). The main purpose of these guidelines is to ensure the rights defined in current legislation for children and adolescents. Other dimensions include safeguarding programs and tactics and the design and implementation of specific actions that protect children, such as care services and systems to prevent and respond to abuse (Defence for Children International, 2024).

The fundamentalization of rights and participation involves the recognition and effective guarantee of children's rights, as well as their inclusion in decision-making processes that affect them (Mitchell et al., 2023). Territorial and inter-institutional articulation involves coordination between different levels of government, sectors, and institutions to ensure comprehensive, contextualized responses in child protection (Morales Retamal, 2022). Awareness and training: Awareness and training aimed at officials, social agents, and the community to promote a culture based on the protection and respect of children (UNICEF, 2024).

The following is a synthesis of the most significant general theories related to child protection, structured in timelines and covering factors such as the Comprehensive Protection Theory suggested by the United Nations in 1989. This theory is established in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which asserts that children and adolescents have inherent rights and that their protection must be comprehensive, incorporating legal, social, and cultural factors to ensure their growth and well-being. This approach goes beyond purely curative protection, including prevention and encouragement and appreciating the active participation of children and the study of their subjectivity.

Regarding the Best Interests of the Child Theory, it maintains that, regardless of the action or resolution impacting children, their well-being and integral growth must be the primary consideration. This legal and moral principle is fundamental to child protection policies and management, urging authorities and institutions to prioritize measures promoting and safeguarding children's rights (United Nations, 1989, art. 3).

Bermúdez Tapia (2021), in his work *Theory and Practice Based on the Brasilia Rules*, points out that the Brasilia Rules constitute a normative and practical framework aimed at guaranteeing inclusive and protective justice for children and adolescents as vulnerable subjects requiring special protection within the judicial system.

In addition, UNICEF's Strategic Plan for 2022–2025 focuses on promoting technological advances to address fundamental causes of child vulnerability, such as poverty, gender inequality, and social marginalization. The plan also emphasizes defense against aggression, exploitation, and abandonment and guarantees fair access to essential services (UNICEF, 2021).

The Municipal Ombudsman's Office for Children and Adolescents (DEMUNA) manages the safeguarding of children and adolescents based on principles of rectitude. These principles guarantee fair, affordable, and efficient services. They also ensure free services for inhabitants, safeguard user privacy and data, guide actions

according to the current legal framework to promote equal treatment without distinction, provide adequate support and guidance, and prioritize the well-being and integral growth of children (Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations 2025).

Additionally, inter-institutional coordination emphasizes that effective child protection management requires collaboration and coordination among various entities, including municipalities, ministries, the judicial system, and civil society. This coordination enables the provision of comprehensive, adequate, and extended responses to issues affecting children, thereby strengthening the protection system and ensuring the effective safeguarding of their rights (Ombudsman's Office, 2023).

The most notable theories for managing defense during childhood include: The Theory of the Comprehensive Protection System Against Violence (Save the Children Peru Report, 2021). This theory highlights that although there is a solid regulatory framework, there are still failures in public administration and a lack of political commitment, making it necessary to improve institutional capacity, intersectoral coordination, and adequate resource allocation to address the violence and vulnerability impacting thousands of children and adolescents in the country. Likewise, World Vision Peru (2023) emphasizes that this system must coordinate policies, regulations, and services from various sectors with a decentralized, inclusive, rights-centered vision adapted to the particular needs of children in at-risk situations to guarantee their protection and comprehensive development.

Undoubtedly, the Rights and Social Protection Approach recognizes children and adolescents as individuals with full rights and active participants in society. Based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, it emphasizes the State's role as the main guarantor. The approach promotes public policies that ensure comprehensive development, access, participation, and special protection (UNICEF, 2022).

The Political Constitution of Peru, the Code of Children and Adolescents (Law No. 27337),

Legislative Decree No. 1297 and its Norms (D.S. 001-2018-MIMP), and the Organic Law of Regional Governments (Law No. 27867) comprise the national laws and regulations that govern the protection of children in Peru. At the local level, municipalities and regional authorities, including those in La Libertad, must issue regulations that complement national child protection policies, strengthening local administration through the Municipal Ombudsman's Office for Children and Adolescents and related entities.

From a legal perspective, Mexico's 2014 Law on the Protection of the Rights of Children, Adolescents, and Girls establishes similar principles, such as the best interests of children, non-discrimination, and the right to comprehensive development. This law serves as a regional model to strengthen policies and management in Peru. Additionally, binding precedents in the decisions and rulings of Peru's Judiciary and Constitutional Court interpret and guarantee respect for the best interests of children and the comprehensive protection of their rights. This obligates municipal and regional authorities to fulfill their responsibilities in child protection administration. According to the MIMP's conceptual framework, child protection management is an administrative process that involves entities working together to protect children comprehensively, promote their rights and participation, and prevent violence. This perspective is based on protecting and regulating their rights.

According to García (2015), child protection administration involves structured procedures for planning, implementing, and evaluating policies to ensure children's rights. This requires cooperation between society, the private sector, and the public sector. Child advocacy requires coordinated action by municipal ombudsmen's offices and other stakeholders to defend children's rights. This approach is based on comprehensive care and institutional coordination involving the community. The goal is to prevent violations and promote the holistic development of children and adolescents.

Acosta Chávez (2024) highlights that the Children's Ombudsman faces institutional challenges in municipal management but has the potential to improve child protection at the local level. Her work analyzes the challenges and opportunities of this role to strengthen the defense of children's and adolescents' rights in Latin America. In other words, the work seeks to balance the need for structural changes with the opportunity to strengthen municipal public management for children.

According to Morlachetti (2013), it is "a set of processes, mechanisms, and institutional structures aimed at guaranteeing and protecting children's rights through the implementation and adoption of public policies, framework laws, and comprehensive protection systems that ensure their well-being and comprehensive development."

The dimensions of child protection management include: 1) Planning and design: Analyze the design of comprehensive early childhood strategies, highlighting the importance of multidimensional and intersectoral planning (De Achaval & Aulicino, 2015). 2) Governance and collaboration: The United Nations (UNICEF, 2019) points out that the state is the main guarantor of children's rights, and cooperation with international organizations and civil society is essential to consolidating child protection systems in a comprehensive, rights-based way.

Additional services and benefits are in accordance with the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations's (2024) comprehensive set of services and benefits. This approach is multidimensional and intersectoral, articulating interventions to improve the quality of life, development, protection, and participation of children and adolescents in the country. The Child Protection Working Group's Inter-Institutional Guidelines provide additional services and benefits. Aramburú (2023) analyzes child labor in Peru, noting that over 25% of children and adolescents aged 5 to 17 work under conditions that affect their development and education. They highlight the heterogeneity of the phenomenon and the need for resources to

address protection, especially in rural areas involving children and adolescents. Pasaca Apaza and Rodríguez Chokewanca (2024) emphasize the importance of active child and adolescent participation as a right and a key factor in comprehensive defense and protection.

Theories relevant to the dependent variable, Child Advocacy Management in the Municipal Ombudsman's Office, suggest changing public administration towards a more effective, participatory, and results-focused model. This model emphasizes inter-institutional coordination and the institutional ability to assist vulnerable groups and children at risk in order to achieve oriented public management. In 1990, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child presented the Doctrine of the Best Interests of the Child, which maintains that the well-being and integral development of children and adolescents should be the priority in all decisions and actions concerning them.

The Eekelaar Theory of the Rights of the Child (1992) is based on safeguarding children's particular human rights, their best interests, and their direct involvement in decisions impacting them. These are essential foundations for quality interventions in defense. In Peru, the management of the defense of children is within the legal framework of laws such as Laws Nos. 27007 and 27337 (the Code of Children and Adolescents), Law No. 30364, and Law No. 31716. The fundamental principles guiding this administration include the best interests of children, non-discrimination, participation, and comprehensive protection.

Regarding municipal and regional regulations and laws, the regulations of the Office of the Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents are notable: Ministerial Resolution No. 234-99-PROMUDEH has been approved. This regulation establishes the structure and procedures of the Ombudsman's Offices to provide assistance. Additionally, Supreme Decree No. 006-99-PROMUDEH, based on Law No. 27007, establishes procedures for nonjudicial conciliations carried out by the ombudsman's offices. Local and regional authorities have the

power to implement additional regulations that adapt the administration of child protection to local particularities. These regulations establish specific administrative actions and sanctions to ensure the protection of the rights of young people and children.

The positivist paradigm is based on the vision of an objective, quantifiable reality. It uses statistical techniques to anticipate phenomena while maintaining the impartiality of the researcher. In contrast, postpositivism acknowledges that reality is partially perceivable, encourages researcher reflection, and promotes the integration of quantitative and qualitative methods for comprehensive analysis (Rosario, 2025). Both approaches attempt to understand and anticipate phenomena. However, positivism is distinguished by its rigidity and quantitative approach, while postpositivism adopts a more adaptive, critical attitude that focuses on the subjective and the joint use of techniques.

The socio-critical vision aims to promote social change by fusing research with community involvement. This approach encourages social justice and critical reflection. In this model, the scientist acts as a mediator, collaborating with the community to promote its growth. Finally, the interpretive paradigm analyzes social events from the participants' perspectives, taking their cultural and historical environments into account as personal constructions. This approach facilitates a detailed understanding of social experiences and meanings.

The municipal administration of La Libertad successfully implemented a local policy focused on safeguarding children, reducing incidents of rights violations by 30% in one year. They achieved this improvement by implementing immediate care protocols, providing ongoing employee training, and launching community awareness campaigns that fostered a culture that appreciates and protects children's rights. Similarly, the Municipal Ombudsman's Office of La Libertad strengthened its administration of child protection through the implementation of an organizational manual and a new work plan. These measures increased positive responses in

situations related to the protection of the rights of adolescents and children by 40% in twelve months, demonstrating significant progress in the effectiveness and quality of care.

The general hypothesis (Hi) is as follows: The child protection policy directly and significantly impacts the management of children's defense in the La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025.

OBJECTIVE AND METHODOLOGY

The general objective is as follows: Explain the impact of the child protection policy on the management of child defense in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

On the one hand, the univariate objectives are: 1) To determine the level of progress of the child protection policy and its dimensions in the La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025.

2) To determine the level of progress of the management of child defense and its dimensions in the La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025.

Bivariate objectives: Determine the impact of the child protection policy on planning and design in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on governance and collaboration in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on planning and design in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on governance and collaboration in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on governance and collaboration in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025. Determine the impact of the child protection policy on the governance and

collaboration of a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on the governance and collaboration in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on the governance and collaboration in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on additional services and benefits in a La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025.

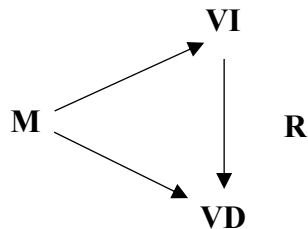
Determine the impact of the child protection policy on resources and working groups in a La Libertad Municipal Ombudsman's Office in 2025.

Determine the impact of the child protection policy on child involvement and girls and adolescents in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.5. Determine the impact of the legal framework on the management of the defense of children in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025. Determine the impact of protection programs and tactics on the management of children's defense in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025. Determine the impact of the fundamentalization of rights and participation on the management of the defense of children in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025. Determine the impact of territorial and inter-institutional articulation on the management of the defense of children in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025. Determine the impact of awareness and training on the management of the defense of children in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office in La Libertad in 2025.

This applied research examines child protection policy and its effect on child advocacy management in a municipal ombudsman's office in La Libertad in 2025 and focuses on a quantitative approach. The objective is to collect and analyze the causal relationship between child

protection policy and child advocacy management using numerical data for objective measurement (Vanini et al., 2024). The analysis was carried out according to a cross-sectional, correlational, non-experimental design since the data were collected on one occasion to investigate

the effect of child protection policy on municipal management. This design was appropriate for characterizing and assessing the present situation without altering the variables, which makes it possible to establish statistical links between the variables under analysis (Guzmán Nariño, 2025).



Where:

M = Sample: Heads of the Office of the Ombudsman

Children and adolescents and workers, who participate directly or indirectly in the administration of child protection policies.

VI is the independent variable child protection policy,

DV is the dependent variable in child advocacy management

R represents the causal correlation between these variables.

The study is limited to DEMUNA in La Libertad, Peru in 2025. It focuses on a group of workers and managers involved in child protection policy management, examining causal relationships between variables during a specific cross-sectional period at an explanatory, descriptive, correlational level (Huaré Inacio, 2019). (Huaré Inacio, 2019). Child protection policy is defined as a global agreement aimed at preventing violence, neglect, exploitation, mistreatment, and harmful behavior against children and adolescents, and at effectively intervening if such circumstances occur (UNICEF, 2021). The goal of this process is to ensure a safe environment that promotes the health and holistic development of children based on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The defense of children is a free service that aims to protect and promote the rights of children and adolescents in accordance with the Code of Children and Adolescents and other relevant regulations. (Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, 2025). The management of children's defense was assessed based on elements such as planning and design,

governance and collaboration between institutions, services and benefits, work teams and resources, and the participation of children.

Hernández et al. (2014) define the population as all individuals or entities with specific characteristics that are the subject of study. This definition highlights the integral nature of the population, encompassing all individuals or elements that meet certain criteria. In this study, the population consisted of 281 individuals, and the final sample size included 162 people, such as those in charge of the Municipal Ombudsman's Office and workers who participate directly or indirectly in the implementation and administration of policies related to child protection. Participants were chosen based on their availability to answer the data collection tools, excluding those who were not in office or indicated their unavailability. To calculate the sample size, the formula described in Annex 7 was used. "Statistical Sampling Plan for Finite Population."

First, structured data collection techniques were used.

The main technique used was polytomous Likert-type surveys, which were selected for their ability to measure the impact of child protection policy on municipal management. Two instruments were applied: one to evaluate child protection policy and the other to evaluate child protection management. The instrument evaluating child protection policy assessed the institution's staff and considered the following dimensions: legal framework, protection programs and tactics, fundamentalization of rights and participation, territorial and inter-institutional articulation, and awareness and training. This instrument contained a total of 33 items on the polytomous Likert ordinal scale. For the variable management of child defense, the following dimensions were considered: Planning and Design; Governance and Cooperation; Additional Services and Benefits; Resources and Working Group; and Involvement of Children and Adolescents. This instrument contained a total of 26 items designed on the same scale.

To strengthen the instruments' legitimacy, five experts in public management and administration evaluated them using Aiken's Method V to determine the relevance and clarity of the components. The experts consulted were: Dr. Marco Talavera Cubas, Dr. Asunción Ramón Lezcano Tello, Dr. Dionicio Godofredo González, Dr. César Enrique Ramos Málaga, and Carlos Alberto Noriega Ángeles.

The construct validity of the instruments was assessed.

This was carried out using SPSS V27 to calculate the KMO test and Bartlett's sphericity statistic. The results for each dimension are detailed below.

Dimensions of the Child Protection Policy variable: Legal Framework: KMO adequacy measure = 0.815 (>0.50), Bartlett sphericity test = 0.000 (<0.05);

Safeguarding Programs and Tactics: KMO adequacy measure = 0.906 (>0.50), Bartlett sphericity test = 0.000 (<0.05);

Fundamentalization of Rights and Participation: KMO adequacy measure = 0.806 (>0.50), Bartlett sphericity test = 0.000 (<0.05);

Territorial and Inter-Institutional Articulation: KMO adequacy measure = 0.842 (>0.50), Bartlett sphericity test = 0.000 (<0.05);

Awareness and Training: KMO adequacy measure = 0.814 (>0.50), Bartlett sphericity test = 0.000 (<0.05). For Child Defense Management: Planning and Design (KMO = 0.848, >0.50 adequacy measure; Bartlett's test of sphericity = 0.000, <0.05);

Governance and Collaboration (KMO = 0.790, >0.50 adequacy measure; Bartlett's test of sphericity = 0.000, <0.05);

Additional Services and Benefits (KMO = 0.830, >0.50 adequacy measure; Bartlett's test of sphericity = 0.000, <0.05);

Resources and Working Group (KMO = 0.817, >0.50 adequacy measure; Bartlett's test of sphericity = 0.000, <0.05);

Involvement of Children and Adolescents (KMO = 0.762, >0.50 adequacy measure; Bartlett's test of sphericity = 0.000, <0.05).

A pilot test was conducted to estimate reliability by means of the

Cronbach's alpha coefficient. The results for child protection policy ($\alpha = 0.963$) and child advocacy management ($\alpha = 0.962$) indicate high internal consistency. Dimensions: Legal Framework (0.963); Safeguarding Programs and Tactics (0.963); Fundamentalization of Rights and Participation (0.846); Territorial and Inter-Institutional Articulation (0.801); Awareness and Training (0.896); Planning and Design (0.802); Governance and Collaboration (0.829); Additional Services and Benefits (0.917); Resources and Work Group (0.936); and N.N.A. Involvement (0.902). The values obtained in each dimension support the reliability of the collected data for analysis.

For the statistical analysis, descriptive techniques were applied (measures of

central tendency and dispersion, as well as the presentation of results through frequency tables and graphs to facilitate visual interpretation. Regarding hypothesis testing and inferential analysis, advanced statistical models were used: Chi-square tests, ordinal logistic regression, and Nagelkerke's R^2 ; as well as structural equation models to study causal and correlational relationships between variables.

The research ensured the safeguarding of the rights of participants and staff of the selected

municipality, as well as scientific integrity. Informed consent approvals were obtained from adults after they were fully informed of their rights and the objectives of the study. Likewise, the necessary institutional permissions were obtained to safeguard the privacy of these documents and the acquired data, which were used only for academic purposes. Thus, compliance with ethical standards was ensured (Code of Ethics of the César Vallejo University, 2024).

Results

Descriptive diagnostic results

Table 1

Levels	Child Protection Policy		Child Advocacy Management	
	N°	%	N°	%
Poor	14	8.6%	14	8.6%
Regular	60	37.0%	51	31.5%
Suitable	88	54.3%	97	59.9%
Total	162	100.0%	162	100.0%

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: According to Table 1, more than half of the analyzed cases

(54.3% and 59.9%, respectively) consider child protection and advocacy management policies appropriate. However, a significant percentage describe them as average (37.0% in politics and 31.5% in management), indicating areas in need

of improvement. Only a small percentage (8.6% in both cases) believes they are inadequate, highlighting significant shortcomings. In conclusion, while significant progress has been made in both areas, strengthening elements that are still considered regular or insufficient is necessary to optimize the protection and defense of children.

Table 2 *Diagnoses of the levels of the dimensions for the child protection policy variable.*

Dimensions	Poor		Regular		Suitable	Total		N°	%
	N°	%	N°	%		%			
Legal framework	15	9.3%	38	23.5%	109	67.3%	162	100%	
Safeguarding programs and tactics	24	14.8%	47	29.0%	91	56.2%	162	100%	
Fundamentalization of rights and participation	23	14.2%	51	31.5%	88	54.3%	162	100%	
Territorial and inter-institutional articulation	21	13.0%	58	35.8%	83	51.2%	162	100%	
Awareness and training	34	21.0%	57	35.2%	71	43.8%	162	100%	

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The legal field is the most strengthened, with

It received 67.3% of adequate evaluations and had the lowest number of insufficient scores (9.3%). Programs and strategies for protecting and establishing rights and participation receive more than half of their evaluations in the appropriate category (54.3% and 56.2%, respectively). The lowest percentages of adequate evaluations (43.8% and 51.2%, respectively) correspond to awareness and training, as well as inter-institutional and territorial articulation. These results indicate weaknesses in awareness-raising and training activities, as well as delays in

effective articulation between actors and territorial levels. Likewise, awareness and training have the highest percentage of responses in the deficient category (21.0%), indicating that training, dissemination, and awareness require additional efforts to increase their impact. Overall, the analysis reveals that although there is a strong legal framework and significant progress in participation and operational programs, challenges remain in terms of territorial and inter-institutional integration, mainly with regard to training and awareness. Priority attention is needed in these areas to achieve comprehensive and effective protection of rights.

Table 3 *Diagnoses of levels of dimensions for the management of children's defense.*

Dimensions	Poor		Regular		Suitable		Total	
	N°	%	N°	%	N°	%	N°	%
Planning and design	21	13.0%	55	34.0%	86	53.1%	162	100%
Governance and collaboration	15	9.3%	47	29.0%	100	61.7%	162	100%
Additional Services and Benefits	21	13.0%	62	38.3%	79	48.8%	162	100%
Resources and Workgroup	19	11.7%	52	32.1%	91	56.2%	162	100%
N.N. Involvement A	13	8.0%	64	39.5%	85	52.5%	162	100%

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The levels of the different variables are shown in the table.

in the table. The dimensions linked to the administration of children's defense are divided into three categories: Deficient, Fair, and Adequate. Of the planning and design, 53.1% is at the appropriate level, 34.0% is regular, and 13.0% is deficient. This shows that most perform acceptably but could improve. Sixty-one point seven percent of governance and collaboration are adequate, while only 29.0% are regular and 9.3% are deficient, demonstrating strengthened

management in this regard. Additional services and benefits received an adequate rating of 48.8%, a fair rating of 38.3%, and a poor rating of 13.0%, indicating that they are generally adequate, though with room for improvement. The task force and resources are 56.2% adequate, 32.1% fair, and 11.7% poor. This indicates that the staff and resources are well-organized, though not perfectly. N.N.A.'s participation is 52.5% adequate, 39.5% fair, and 8.0% poor, showing good participation, though there is room for more.

Bivariate results**Table 4** *Cross table of child protection policy with child defense management and ordinal regression of the general hypothesis.*

Child Advocacy Management		Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	10	3	1	14
	%	6.2%	1.9%	0.6%	8.6%
Regular	N°	4	38	9	51
	%	2.5%	23.5%	5.6%	31.5%
Suitable	N°	0	19	78	97
	%	0.0%	11.7%	48.1%	59.9%
Total	N°	14	60	88	162
	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude	Chi Square		gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	120.192	102.645		2 <0.00	56.6%
Final	17.546				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table shows that 48.1% of participants consider

The child protection policy and management of child defense have an adequate level. Meanwhile, 23.5% qualify them as having a regular level. The statistical model shows an adequate fit, with a

significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 56.6%, indicating that politics account for more than half of the variation in management. These results suggest that strengthening policies can significantly improve advocacy management for children.

Table 5 *Cross-table of the Child Protection Policy with planning and design and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 1.*

Planning and design		Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	12	7	2	21
	%	7.4%	4.3%	1.2%	13.0%
Regular	N°	2	36	17	55
	%	1.2%	22.2%	10.5%	34.0%
Suitable	N°	0	17	69	86
	%	0.0%	10.5%	42.6%	53.1%
Total	N°	14	60	88	162
	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100.0%

Model	Logarithm verisimilitude	Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	105.228	87.137	2 <0.00	48.6%
Final	18.091			

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table shows that 53.1% of cases evaluate the policy

of child protection, planning, and design as appropriate. Meanwhile, 34% consider the policy mediocre, and 13% consider it insufficient. When the policy is deemed appropriate, the majority (69 out of 86) also consider the design and planning appropriate. Conversely, when policies are poor

or average, planning tends to be less appropriate. The statistical model shows an adequate fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$) and a Nagelkerke R^2 of 48.6%. This suggests that approximately 49% of the variability in planning can be attributed to the quality of child protection policies. These results emphasize the importance of strengthening policies to optimize child protection design and planning

Table 6 Cross-table of the Child Protection Policy with Governance and collaboration and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 2.

Governance and collaboration		Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	9	5	1	15
	%	5.6%	3.1%	0.6%	9.3%
Regular	N°	4	28	15	47
	%	2.5%	17.3%	9.3%	29.0%
Suitable	N°	1	27	72	100
	%	0.6%	16.7%	44.4%	61.7%
Total	N°	14	60	88	162
	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	78.409		58.878	2 <0.00	36.8%
Final	19.531				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table illustrates the relationship between governance and

Collaboration and Child Protection Policy. It shows that 61.7% of cases consider governance, collaboration, and child protection policy adequate together, while 29% consider them average and 9.3% consider them inadequate. When the policy is adequate, the majority (72 out of 100) view governance and collaboration

positively. In situations with regular or deficient policies, governance tends to be less effective. The statistical model shows a good fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 36.8%, meaning the quality of the child protection policy explains over 33% of the variability in collaboration and governance. These results highlight the importance of strengthening policies to optimize collaborative child protection management.

Table 7 *Child Protection Policy Cross-Table with Additional Services and Benefits and Ordinal Regression of Specific Hypothesis 3.*

Additional Benefits	Services and	Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	11	8	2	21
	%	6.8%	4.9%	1.2%	13.0%
Regular	N°	2	39	21	62
	%	1.2%	24.1%	13.0%	38.3%
Suitable	N°	1	13	65	79
	%	0.6%	8.0%	40.1%	48.8%
Total	N°	14	60	88	162
	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	99.206		77.490	2 <0.00	44.2%
Final	15.717				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table illustrates the correlation using ordinal regression.

between "Additional Services and Benefits" and the "Child Protection Policy." The table shows that 48.8% of cases evaluate the additional services and benefits as adequate in conjunction with the child protection policy, while 38.3% consider them to be regular and 13% consider them to be deficient. The majority (65 out of 79) appreciate the additional services and benefits

when the policy is appropriate. When the policy is regular or poor, the perception of these services is usually less positive. A good fit with the statistical model was observed, as indicated by a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 44.2%, indicating that the quality of the child protection policy can explain nearly half of the variability in services and benefits. These results underscore the importance of strengthening policies to optimize the quality and availability of services and benefits in child protection.

Table 8 *Child Protection Policy Cross-Table with Resources and Working Groups and Ordinal Regression of Specific Hypothesis 4.*

Resources and Working Groups		Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	11	5	3	19
	%	6.8%	3.1%	1.9%	11.7%
Regular	N°	3	29	20	52
	%	1.9%	17.9%	12.3%	32.1%
Suitable	N°	0	26	65	91

	%	0.0%	16.0%	40.1%	56.2%
	N°	14	60	88	162
Total	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	78.760		59.770	2 <0.00	36.4%
Final	18.990				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: According to the table, 56.2% of the cases evaluate

As appropriate resources and working groups in conjunction with child protection policy. Thirty-two percent consider them regular, and 11.7% consider them inadequate. When the policy is appropriate, the majority (65 out of 91) view the resources and work teams positively. In scenarios with deficient or regular policies, the evaluation

of resources is usually less favorable. The statistical model is a good fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 of 36.4% indicates that the quality of the child protection policy accounts for more than a third of the variation in resources and work groups. This shows that, to optimize the availability and organization of resources and teams focused on child protection, policies must be strengthened.

Table 9 Cross-table of the Child Protection Policy with Child and Adolescent Involvement and Ordinal Regression of the Specific Hypothesis 5.

Child and adolescent involvement		Child Protection Policy			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	8	4	1	13
	%	4.9%	2.5%	0.6%	8.0%
Regular	N°	5	36	23	64
	%	3.1%	22.2%	14.2%	39.5%
Suitable	N°	1	20	64	85
	%	0.6%	12.3%	39.5%	52.5%
Total	N°	14	60	88	162
	%	8.6%	37.0%	54.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	74.938		54.969	2 <0.00	34.4%
Final	19.969				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: According to the table, 52.5% of cases

, respondents consider the commitment of children and adolescents to the child protection policy to be appropriate. Meanwhile, 39.5% consider it regular, and 8% consider it

insufficient. When the policy is deemed appropriate, 64% of respondents (54 out of 85) also consider getting involved to be appropriate. Participation tends to be less rewarding in situations with poor or adequate policies. The model adequately fits the data, as evidenced by a

significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 34.4%, indicating that approximately one-third of the variability in involvement is due to political quality. This emphasizes that strengthening child

protection policies encourages the active and effective participation of children and adolescents in these procedures.

Table 10 *Cross-table of the dimension Legal Framework with the management of the defense of children and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 6.*

Legal framework		Child Advocacy Management			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	6	5	3	14
	%	3.7%	3.1%	1.9%	8.6%
Regular	N°	8	22	21	51
	%	4.9%	13.6%	13.0%	31.5%
Suitable	N°	1	11	85	97
	%	0.6%	6.8%	52.5%	59.9%
Total	N°	15	38	109	162
	%	9.3%	23.5%	67.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude	Chi Square		gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	74.735	54.301		2 <0.00	34.4%
Final	20.433				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: According to the table, 67.3% of cases are considered appropriate.

The legal framework and management of the defense of children. On the other hand, 23.5% rated it as fair, and 9.3% rated it as deficient. When management is adequate, 85% of the cases also consider the legal framework to be appropriate. The legal framework is usually perceived as less positive in situations of poor or

adequate management. The statistical model is a good fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 34.4%, suggesting that the quality of child advocacy management accounts for approximately one-third of the variability in the legal framework. This underscores the importance of improving management to effectively implement a robust legal framework for child protection.

Table 11 *Cross-table of the dimension of protection programs and tactics with the management of child defense and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 7.*

Safeguarding programs and tactics		Child Advocacy Management			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	8	4	2	14
	%	4.9%	2.5%	1.2%	8.6%

Regular	N°	12	27	12	51
	%	7.4 ^o %	16.7%	7.4 ^o %	31.5%
Suitable	N°	4	16	77	97
	%	2.5%	9.9%	47.5%	59.9%
Total	N°	24	47	91	162
	%	14.8%	29.0%	56.2%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	84.291		62.218	2 <0.00	38.5%
Final	22.073				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: In 56.2% of cases, the strategies and

Protection programs and child advocacy management are appropriate. Twenty-nine percent consider them normal, and 14.8% consider them insufficient, as indicated in the table. When management is appropriate, 77 out of 97 respondents rate the protection strategies and programs positively. Assessments are usually

less favorable in contexts with poor or adequate management. The model has an adequate fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 is 38.5%, suggesting that more than one-third of the variability in protective tactics and programs can be explained by child advocacy administration. This underscores the importance of improved management to ensure effective child protection programs.

Table 12 Cross-table of the dimension of fundamentalization of rights and participation with the management of the defense of children and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 8.

Fundamentalization of rights and participation		Child Advocacy Management			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	10	3	1	14
	%	6.2%	1.9%	0.6%	8.6%
Regular	N°	11	28	12	51
	%	6.8%	17.3%	7.4%	31.5%
Suitable	N°	2	20	75	97
	%	1.2%	12.3%	46.3%	59.9%
Total	N°	23	51	88	162
	%	14.2%	31.5%	54.3%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude		Chi Square	gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	93.976		74.082	2 <0.00	44.3%
Final	19.893				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table shows that 54.3% of cases consider

The management of children's defense, as well as their fundamentalization and participation in terms of rights. Meanwhile, 31.5% view them as average, and 14.2% deem them insufficient. The majority (75 out of 97) rate these aspects positively when management is appropriate. Evaluations are usually less positive in situations

of mediocre or regular management. The model shows an adequate fit, with a significant chi-square ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 of 44.3% indicates that the quality of child defense management accounts for nearly 50% of the variation in fundamental rights and participation. This underscores the importance of strengthening management to promote active participation in child protection and ensure the effective realization of children's rights.

Table 13 *Cross-table of the territorial and inter-institutional articulation dimension with the management of the defense of children and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 9.*

Territorial and inter-institutional articulation		Child Advocacy Management			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	11	3	0	14
	%	6.8%	1.9%	0.0%	8.6%
Regular	N°	7	29	15	51
	%	4.3%	17.9%	9.3%	31.5%
Suitable	N°	3	26	68	97
	%	1.9%	16.0%	42.0%	59.9%
Total	N°	21	58	83	162
	%	13.0%	35.8%	51.2%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude	Chi Square		gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	84.459	61.466		2 <0.00	38.1%
Final	22.993				

Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: As shown in the table, 51.2% of cases have

A positive opinion of the management of children's defense and inter-institutional and territorial articulation. For their part, 35.8% consider it adequate, while 13% consider it inadequate. The majority (68 out of 97) evaluate articulation positively when management is appropriate. Evaluations are usually less positive

in situations of mediocre or regular management. The model has an appropriate fit, with a significant chi-square value ($p < 0.00$). Nagelkerke's R^2 of 38.1% shows that approximately 38% of the variability in inter-institutional and territorial articulation can be explained by the quality of child advocacy management. This underscores the importance of enhancing management to foster stronger collaboration between territories and institutions.

Table 14 *Cross-table of the dimension of awareness and training with the management of child defense and ordinal regression of the specific hypothesis 10.*

Awareness and training		Child Advocacy Management			Total
		Poor	Regular	Suitable	
Poor	N°	11	2	1	14
	%	6.8%	1.2%	0.6%	8.6%
Regular	N°	14	30	7	51
	%	8.6%	18.5%	4.3%	31.5%
Suitable	N°	9	25	63	97
	%	5.6%	15.4%	38.9%	59.9%
Total	N°	34	57	71	162
	%	21.0%	35.2%	43.8%	100.0%
Model	Logarithm verisimilitude	Chi Square		gl Sig.	R2 Nagelkerke
Intersection	83.360	57.372		2 <0.00	36.0%
Final	25.988				

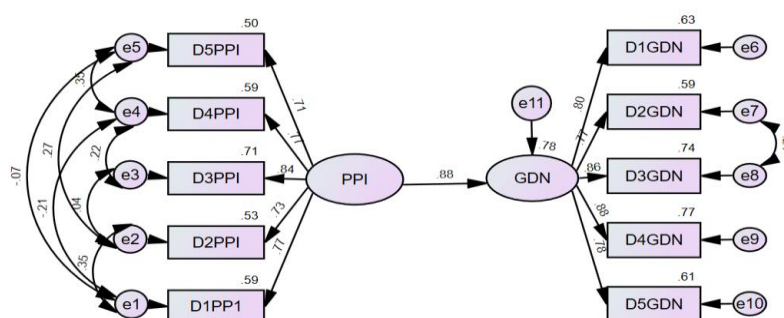
Note: Development of data collection in the participating sample.

Interpretation: The table shows that 43.8% of cases evaluate the

Awareness and training, as well as management of the defense of children, are considered appropriate. On the other hand, 35.2% consider them regular, and 21% consider them deficient. When management is appropriate, 63% of respondents (63 out of 97) also positively rate training and awareness. Evaluations are less

Multivariate result

favorable in situations of ineffective or adequate management. The model fits well, with a significant chi-square value ($p < 0.00$). A Nagelkerke R^2 of 36% indicates that child advocacy administration is responsible for slightly more than one-third of the variation in this aspect. This suggests that strengthening training and awareness in child protection requires improving management.

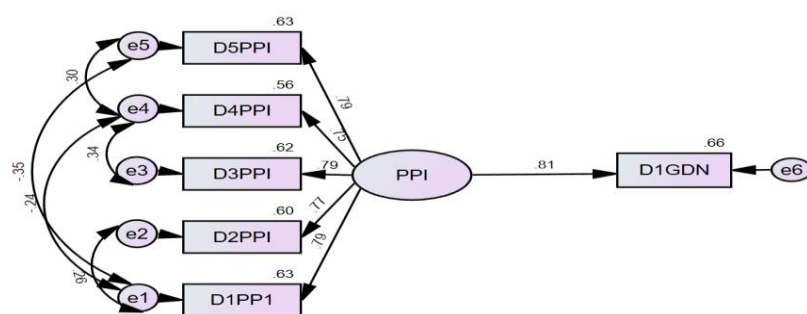
Figure 1 *Diagram of the impact of the child protection policy on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.*

Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation. In this structural model, a direct connection is observed between child protection policy and child defense management. Both are considered regular or adequate.

between child protection policy and child defense management. Both variables are considered

Figure 2 *Diagram of the Impact of the Child Protection Policy on the Planning and Design Dimension in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad, 2025.*



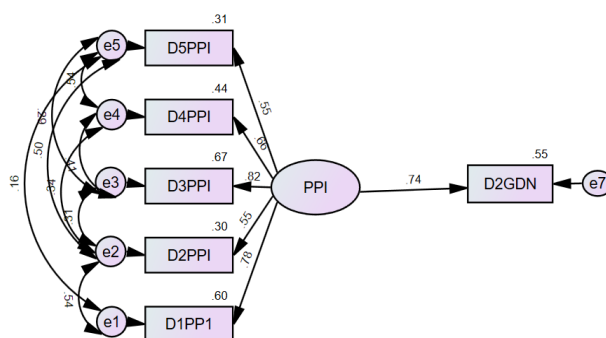
Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model, the adjustment indices are as follows:

An IFC of 0.999, an RMSEA of 0.031, and an X^2/df ratio of 1.157 were reported in relation to

the impact of child protection policy on the planning and design dimension. These results demonstrate that the model is appropriately adapted based on frequently established literature standards ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$). Overall, the indices support the validity of the proposed model, which clarifies the significant causal relationship (0.81) between child protection policy and the planning and design dimension, explaining 66% of its variance.

Figure 3 *Diagram of the Impact of the Child Protection Policy on the Governance and Collaboration Dimension in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad, 2025.*

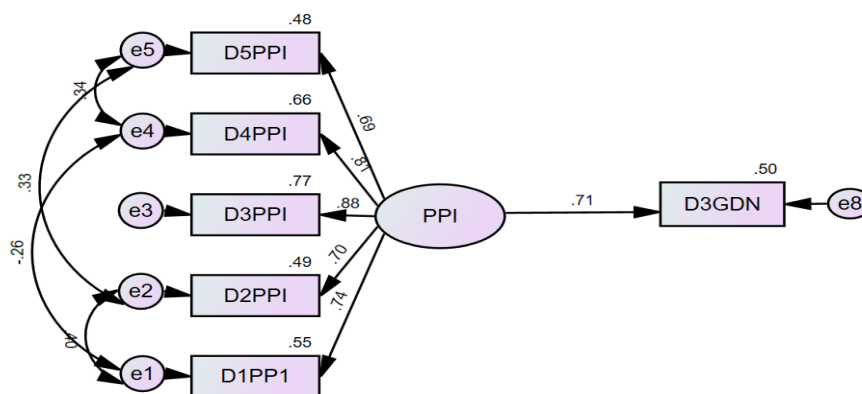


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model, the following have been reported:

Following the adjustment indices, the results suggest that the model fits well according to the

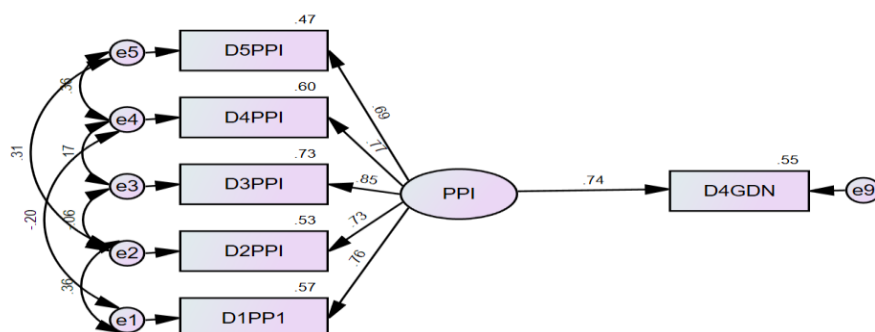
Figure 4 *Diagram of the Impact of the Child Protection Policy on the Additional Services and Benefits Dimension in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad, 2025.*



Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model, the adjustment indices analyzing the effect of child protection policy on governance and collaboration show an X^2/df ratio of 0.505, an

Figure 5 *Diagram of the Impact of the Child Protection Policy on the Resources and Working Group Dimension in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad, 2025.*



frequently defined literature guidelines ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$): a CFI of 1.000, an RMSEA of 0.000, and an X^2/df ratio of 0.447. Taken together, the indices support the validity of the suggested model in clarifying the effect of child protection policy on governance and collaboration. The model shows a high causal relationship of 0.74, indicating that 55% of child protection policy is reflected in this dimension.

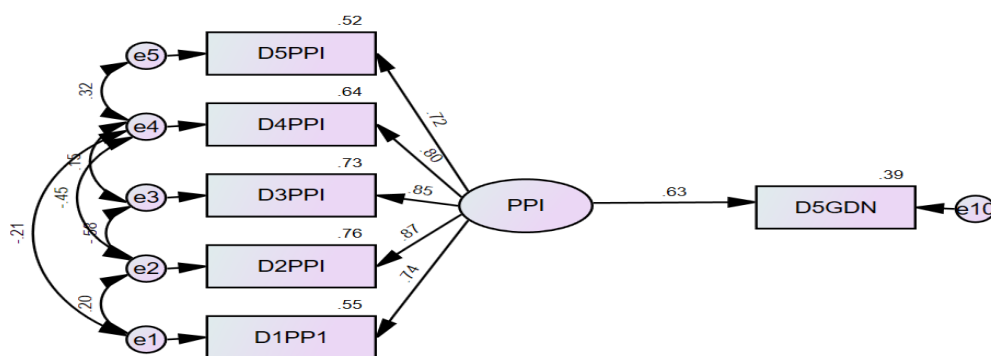
RMSEA of 0.000, and a CFI of 1.000. According to the literature's usual guidelines ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$), these values suggest an appropriate model fit. Overall, the indices support the validity of the model that illustrates the effect of child protection policy on additional services and benefits, which has a high causal relationship of 0.71. In this dimension, 50% is explained by child protection policy.

Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: The adjustment indices examining the effect of the child protection policy on the governance and cooperation dimension of this structural model are as follows: a CFI of 1.000, an

X^2/df ratio of 0.248, and an RMSEA of 0.000. These values indicate an acceptable model fit according to usual literature guidelines ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$). Overall, the indices support the validity of the model used to analyze the effect of child protection policy on the resources and work group dimension. There is a high causal relationship (0.74) between the two, and 55% of the resources and work group dimension is explained by child protection policy.

Figure 6 Diagram of the Impact of the Child Protection Policy on the Involvement of Children and Adolescents in a Municipal Ombudsman's Office, La Libertad, 2025.

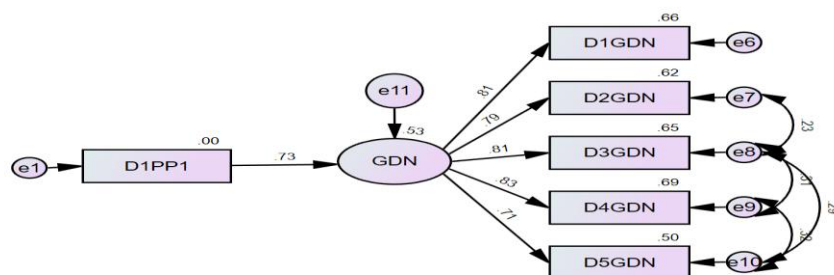


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model, the adjustment indices analyzing the effect of child protection policy on collaboration and governance reveal an X^2/df ratio of 0.999, an

RMSEA of 0.000, and a CFI of 1.000. According to commonly established literature guidelines ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$), these values suggest an adequate model fit. Overall, the indices support the validity of the proposed model for describing the effect of child protection policy on the participation of children and adolescents. This is evidenced by a high causal relationship ($r = 0.63$) and the fact that politics explain 39% of this dimension.

Figure 7 Diagram of the impact of the legal framework dimension on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.

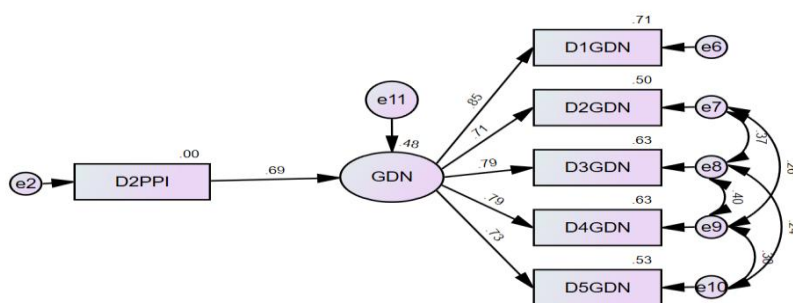


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model analyzing the influence of the legal framework dimension on child defense management, the following results are reported: a CFI of 0.997, an

X^2/df ratio of 1.429, and an RMSEA of 0.052. According to the established literature guidelines ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$), these results indicate that the model has an acceptable fit. In general, these indices support the validity of the suggested model to describe the effect of the legal framework dimension on child defense management, which has a high causal relationship (0.73), and explains 53% of child defense management by the legal framework dimension.

Figure 8 Diagram of the impact of the dimension of protection programs and tactics on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.

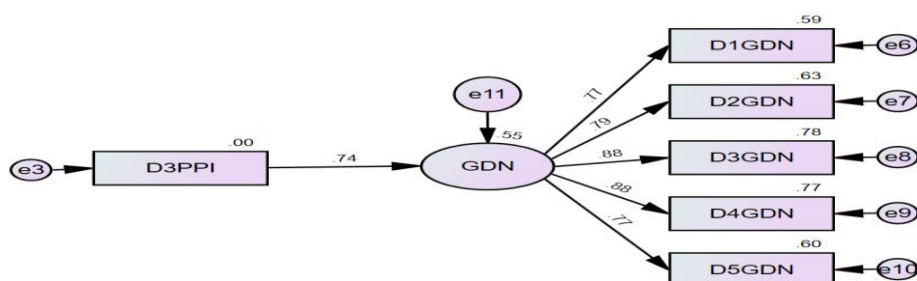


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model examining the effect of shelter program and tactic dimensions on child advocacy management, the following fit indices were reported: an X^2/df ratio of 1.997, an RMSEA of 0.079, and a CFI of 0.993.

Taking into account the standards frequently found in the literature ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$), these numbers reflect a satisfactory model fit. Overall, the indices support the validity of the proposed model for describing the impact of shelter program dimensions and tactics on child advocacy management, indicating a strong causal relationship ($r = 0.69$) and explaining 48% of such management.

Figure 9 Diagram of the impact of the dimension of fundamentalization of rights and participation on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.

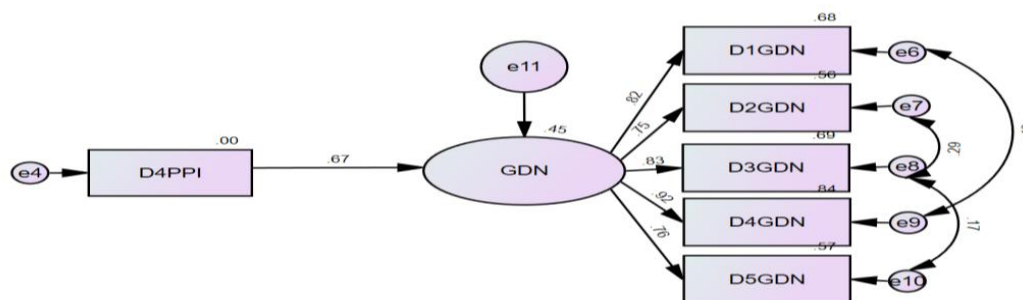


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model, the adjustment indices evaluating the impact of the dimension of fundamentalization of rights and participation on the management of children's defense are reported: an X^2/df ratio of 1.978, an RMSEA of 0.078, and a CFI of 0.986. These values indicate an acceptable model fit according to commonly established literature criteria (X^2/df

< 5 , $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$). In summary, the indices support the validity of the proposed model for describing how the dimension of fundamentalization of rights and participation affects the administration of children's defense. The causal relationship is strong ($r = 0.74$), indicating that 55% of child defense management is based on this dimension.

Figure 10 *Diagram of the impact of the territorial and inter-institutional articulation dimension on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.*

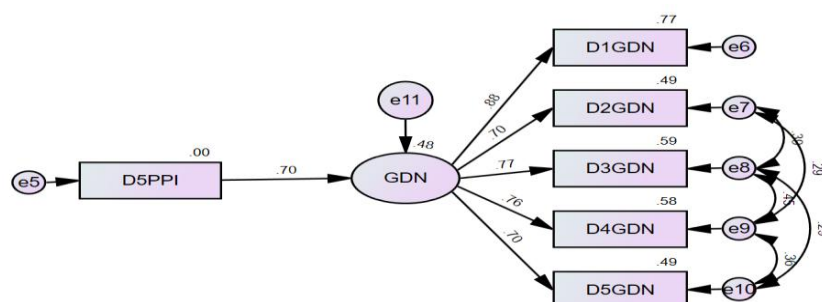


Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: This structural model, which measures the effect of territorial and inter-institutional articulation on the administration of child defense, is reported to have an acceptable fit. The adjustment indices are as follows: a CFI

of 0.992, an RMSEA of 0.069, and an X^2/df ratio of 1.768. According to the criteria typically used in the literature, these values indicate that the model is adequate ($X^2/df < 5$, $RMSEA \leq .08$, and $CFI \geq .90$). In general, the indices support the validity of the suggested model in describing how territorial and interinstitutional articulation influence the management of child defense, with a high causal relationship of 0.67, explaining 45% of this management.

Figure 11 *Diagram of the impact of the awareness and training dimension on the management of the defense of children in a municipal ombudsman's office, La Libertad, 2025.*



Note: Observed variables (dimensions) are represented by rectangles, while latent variables appear in circles; The arrows show the direction of the relationship, and the numbers in the center reflect the strength of the influence.

Interpretation: For this structural model examining how awareness and training affect child advocacy management, the following numbers indicate an acceptable fit of the model according to the standards usually set in the literature: an X^2/df ratio of 2.018, a CFI of 0.993, and an RMSEA of 0.080. Overall, the indices

support the validity of the proposed model for analyzing the impact of awareness and training on child advocacy management, demonstrating a strong causal relationship ($r = 0.70$), where 48% of the variance in management is explained by these factors.

Conclusions

Forty-eight point one percent of participants rated both as adequate, and 23.5% rated both as regular. Nagelkerke's R^2 is 56.6%. These results demonstrate that strengthening the policy significantly improves child advocacy management. The structural model confirms a direct and relevant connection between child protection policy and child advocacy management. There is an adequate fit ($X^2/df = 2.033$, $RMSEA = 0.080$, $CFI = 0.977$), a high causal relationship (0.88), and 78% of the variation in child advocacy management is explained by child protection policy.

Child protection policy shows predominantly regular levels (54.3% in general, 23.5% in the legal framework, 29.0% in programs, and 35.8% in articulation), which are primarily due to chronic budget limitations in Peruvian municipalities like La Libertad. This limits the implementation of multisectoral programs despite solid legal frameworks (Law No. 27972). Low awareness (21.0%) stems from a lack of specific campaigns and constant training. This issue is exacerbated by high personnel turnover in municipal ombudsmen's offices, causing a decrease in the technical knowledge of the work team. These patterns demonstrate deficiencies in inter-institutional coordination (35.8% average), due to weak collaboration between local governments, DEMUNA, and MIMP. This collaboration prioritizes reactive responses over preventive responses in the protection of minors.

The predominant average levels in the management of child defense (59.9% adequate overall; 38.3% for services, 39.5% for participation, and 34.0% for planning) are due to cyclical budgetary limitations in municipalities such as La Libertad. These limitations restrict the possibility of scaling services despite having solid basic planning (Law No. 27972). Regular

governance (29%) and mixed resources (32.1% are regular, despite 56.2% being adequate) are consequences of the high turnover rate of technical personnel in DEMUNA and weak inter-institutional coordination with MIMP. MIMP prioritizes reactive operations over strategic ones. These patterns demonstrate gaps in multisectoral collaboration. Although high levels of N.N.A. involvement (52.5%) partially compensate for operational deficiencies, complete coverage is not achieved due to a lack of sustained financing.

Together, deficient and fair levels reach 47.0% of participants, showing that nearly half require substantial improvements in planning and designing their child protection policies. The model's explanatory capacity (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 0.486$) and its excellent fit indices ($CFI = 0.999$, $RMSEA = 0.031$, and $X^2/df = 1.157$) confirm this relationship's validity. In this context, child protection policy exerts a high causal relationship ($r = 0.81$), and 66% of the variability in planning and design is explained by child protection policy.

The deficient and fair levels of governance and collaboration are evident in 38.3% of participants (9.3% and 29.0%, respectively), showing a significant margin for improvement in this dimension of child protection policy. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 36.8\%$), and its fit indices are excellent ($CFI = 1.000$, $RMSEA = 0.000$, $X^2/df = 0.447$), supporting the validity of the analyzed relationship. Similarly, a high causal relationship (0.74) is observed, whereby 55% of the variability in governance and collaboration is explained by child protection policy. This justifies prioritizing intervention at deficient and regular levels.

Deficient and regular levels of additional services and benefits account for 51.3% of participants (13.0% and 38.3%), showing a significant margin for improvement in this dimension of child protection policy. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 44.2\%$), and its fit indices are excellent ($X^2/df = 0.505$, $RMSEA = 0.000$, $CFI = 1.000$). This supports the validity of the analyzed relationship. Similarly, a high causal relationship (0.71) is observed,

whereby 50% of the variability in additional services and benefits is explained by child protection policy.

It can be concluded that deficient and regular levels of resources and working groups account for 43.8% of participants (11.7% and 32.1%), showing that an important margin for improvement exists in this dimension of child protection policy. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 36.4\%$), and its fit indices are excellent (CFI = 1.000, $X^2/df = 0.248$, RMSEA = 0.000), supporting the validity of the analyzed relationship. Similarly, a high causal relationship (0.74) was observed, whereby 55% of the variability in resources and working groups was explained by the child protection policy, justifying intervention priorities at deficient and regular levels.

Deficient and regular levels of children's and adolescents' involvement account for 47.5% of participants (8.0% and 39.5%, respectively), showing a significant margin for improvement in this child protection policy dimension. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 34.4\%$), and the fit indices are excellent ($X^2/df = 0.999$, RMSEA = 0.000, CFI = 1.000). These results support the validity of the analyzed relationship. Similarly, a high causal relationship (0.63) is observed, whereby 39% of the variability in the participation of children and adolescents is explained by the child protection policy, which justifies prioritizing intervention at deficient and regular levels.

Deficient and regular levels of the legal framework account for 40.8% of participants (8.6% and 31.5%, respectively), indicating an area in need of improvement related to the management of children's defense. According to the usual criteria, the results show a moderate explanatory capacity (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 34.4\%$) and an acceptable fit of the model (CFI = 0.997, $X^2/df = 1.429$, RMSEA = 0.052). Additionally, a high causal relationship ($r = 0.73$) was observed, whereby the legal framework dimension explained 53% of the variability in the management of child defense, justifying the

prioritization of interventions at deficient and regular levels.

This model shows that deficient and regular levels of protection programs and tactics account for 46.3% of participants (14.8% and 29.0%, respectively), indicating a significant opportunity for improvement in this area. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 38.5\%$), and its fit indices are satisfactory ($X^2/df = 1.997$, RMSEA = 0.079, and CFI = 0.993), aligning with typical literature criteria. Additionally, a high causal relationship (0.69) was observed, whereby 48% of the variability in child advocacy management was explained by the shelter programs and tactics dimension. This justifies prioritizing interventions at the deficient and regular levels.

Deficient and regular levels of fundamentalization of rights and participation account for 45.7% of participants (14.2% and 31.5%, respectively), showing a considerable margin for improvement in this dimension related to the management of children's defense. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate-high (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 44.3\%$), and its fit indices are acceptable according to the literature's usual criteria ($X^2/df = 1.978$, RMSEA = 0.078, CFI = 0.986). Additionally, a high causal relationship ($r = 0.74$) was observed, whereby 55% of the variability in child defense management was explained by the fundamentalization of rights and participation dimension. This justifies prioritizing intervention at deficient and regular levels.

The deficient and regular levels of territorial and inter-institutional articulation account for 48.8% of participants (13.0% and 35.8%, respectively), indicating a significant area for improvement in this dimension related to the management of children's defense. The model's explanatory capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 38.1\%$), indicating that a significant portion of the variability in child defense management is associated with territorial and inter-institutional articulation. The adjustment indices are as follows: CFI = 0.992, RMSEA = 0.069, and $X^2/df = 1.768$. The causal relationship is 0.67, and territorial and inter-institutional articulation

explains 45% of the variability in the management of child defense.

Deficient and regular levels of awareness and training account for 56.2% of participants (21.0% and 35.2%, respectively), showing a significant need for improvement in this area related to child defense management. The model's explanatory

capacity is moderate (Nagelkerke's $R^2 = 36.0\%$), and the fit indices are acceptable ($X^2/df = 2.018$, CFI = 0.993, and RMSEA = 0.080), aligning with typical literature criteria. Additionally, a strong causal relationship ($r = 0.70$) was observed, whereby 48% of the variability in child defense management is explained by awareness and training.

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