

**THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN ADDRESSING DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE IN NAKISUNGA SUBCOUNTY, MUKONO DISTRICT**

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DECLARATION

I here by declare that this dissertation has been done by me and that it has never been submitted in any institution of learning for any award.

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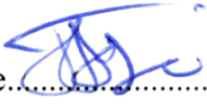
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APPROVAL

I write to approve that this dissertation has been written by Matovu Douglas and that it has never been submitted in any institution for any award.

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Table of Contents

DECLARATION	ii
APPROVAL	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
ABSTRACT	6
CHAPTER ONE	7
1.0 Introduction	7
1.1 Background	7
1.2 Problem statement	8
1.3 General objective	9
1.4 Research objectives	9
1.4 Research questions	9
1.6 Study scope	9
1.6.1 Geographical scope	9
1.6.2 Content scope	9
1.6.3 Time scope	9
1.7 Justification	10
1.8 Significance	10
1.9 Theoretical framework	11
CHAPTER TWO	12
LITERATURE REVIEW	12
2.0Introduction	12
2.1Approaches Used by Civil Society Organizations to address Domestic Violence	12
2.2 The Effect of The Interventions Used By Civil Society Organizations To Address Gender Based Violence	17
2.3 What are the barriers faced by CSOs in addressing domestic violence	21
CHAPTETR THREE	27
3.0 Introduction	27
3.1 Research Design	27
3.2 Area of study	27
3.3 Source of information	27
3.4 Population and sampling technique	28
3.5 Reliability and Validity	29
3.5.1 Reliability	29
3.5.2 Validity	29
3.6 Data collection and processing	30

3.6.1 In depth interviews	30
3.6.2 Interview Guide.....	30
3.6.3Data Analysis	30
3.7 Research procedure.	31
3.9 Study Limitations.....	31
CHAPTER FOUR:	32
4.1 Introduction.....	32
4.2 Approaches used by CDVP to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county.....	32
4.3 Effect of the interventions used by CDVP in addressing domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county.....	36
4.4 Barriers faced by CDVP in addressing domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county.....	40
CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	46
5.1Introduction.....	46
5.2 CONCLUSION	46
5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS	47
5.4 AREAS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH	48
References	49
Appendix i. Consent Form	53
Appendix ii. Interview Guide.....	54
Appendix iv. Research work plan.....	56

ABSTRACT

The study topic was the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence in Nakisunga subcounty, Mukono district. This topic was guided by three research objectives which were; (i)To establish the approaches used by Centre for Domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence Nakisunga sub county(ii) To establish the effect of the interventions used by the Centre for domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence (iii)To assess the barriers faced by Centre for domestic violence prevention in addressing domestic violence. The study adopted a phenomenological research design utilizing a qualitative research approach. A total of 25 participants took part in the study. In-depth interviews were conducted, and data was entered in Nvivo version 14. data was coded and collated and themes were created to make meaning of the study findings. The findings were analyzed thematically and presented verbatim.

The study concluded that on objective one, CDVP used awareness and education campaigns, counselling and therapy, provision of hotlines, provided low-cost legal services to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county. On objective two, the study concludes that the Legal assistance offered by Centre for Domestic violence Prevention ensured that survivors can navigate the justice system, educational campaigns have increased public knowledge about GBV, its signs, and available resources, leading to greater community vigilance and responsiveness, Economic empowerment programs enabled survivors to gain financial independence, reducing their vulnerability to continued abuse and improving their overall quality of life. on objective three, the study concludes that insufficient funding limited the scope and sustainability of CSO programs, affecting their ability to provide comprehensive services and reach a larger number of survivors. Lack of financial resources often resulted in understaffing, leading to burnout and high turnover among employees and volunteers, there were bureaucratic hurdles which made it difficult to extend services to the populace. Cultural stigmas attached to domestic violence can prevent survivors from seeking help and disclosing abuse. Lack of awareness about domestic violence, its consequences, and available resources can prevent survivors from seeking help and communities from supporting them. there were security concerns which were a barrier to addressing gender-based violence. Economic or emotional dependence on abusers prevented survivors from leaving abusive situations and seeking support.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This chapter deals with the study background, problem statement, research objectives, research questions, study scope, justification, significance and the theoretical framework.

1.1 Background

Globally, the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence is crucial, especially in the context of global events such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

On a global scale Estimates published by the WHO indicate that globally, about 1 in 3 (30%) women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence by intimate partners or non-intimate sexual violence in their lifetime.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 36% of women in sub-Saharan Africa have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV), which is higher than the global average of 30%. A 2020 study found that 44% of African women experience gender-based violence (GBV), which includes many types of abuse such as physical, sexual and emotional violence, female genital mutilation and human trafficking.

According to 2020 data, 56% of married women aged 15–49 in Uganda have experienced physical or sexual violence by their husband. This includes 36% of those who have experienced sexual violence, with 28% having experienced it in the past year (Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, 2020).

Owing to the magnitude of the problem as seen above, Civil society Organizations have been actively engaged in addressing the problem with a number of interventions. Civil Society Organizations include church founded organizations, non-faith-based organizations and government leaning CSOs.

Studies have shown that the pandemic and related lockdown policies led to an increase in domestic violence (Iesue& Casanova ,2021) and violence against children (Bhatia et al., 2021). This underlines the need for the involvement of civil society organizations in solving these problems and providing support to victims.

Furthermore, the intersectionality of domestic violence and inequality has been highlighted, highlighting the need for multidisciplinary research and action-based change in practice and science (Wilcox et al., 2020). Women's organizations have played a significant role in maintaining domestic violence as a serious social policy issue and in providing services,

support and advocacy to victims of violence (Phillips, 2008). In addition, the role of legal services in addressing domestic violence beyond civil protection orders and family law proceedings has been highlighted, highlighting the wider impact of civil society in addressing the myriad needs of victims (Hartley et al., 2013).

The impact of global events on domestic violence and the role of civil society organizations in addressing these issues cannot be underestimated. It is clear that civil society organizations play a key role in providing support, advocacy and intervention to victims of domestic violence, especially in times of crisis and heightened vulnerability.

1.2 Problem statement

Civil society organizations have for long extensively desired to address domestic violence in Uganda. However, domestic violence remains a pervasive and complex problem, affecting individuals from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. According to the 2022 Annual Crime Report, 17,698 cases of domestic violence were reported in Uganda, an increase from the 2021 report. This underscores the magnitude of the problem in Uganda. In Nakisunga sub-county, the problem of domestic violence is present. According to the 2021 Uganda police report, girls in Greater Mukono were most affected by domestic violence with 46% of cases, followed by women at 31%, men at 12%, and boys at 11% (Uganda Police Report, 2021). The above is happening and yet some CSOs are expected to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub-county.

Despite their potential to offer unique support mechanisms and platforms for advocacy, the precise impact and effectiveness of civil society organizations in mitigating domestic violence remains unclear. As a result, there is an urgent need for comprehensive research that examines the role of civil society organizations in the fight against domestic violence. This study aims to fill this gap by exploring the nuanced dynamics of civil society organization involvement in addressing domestic violence, thereby creating policy and practice for more effective intervention strategies and support systems.

1.3 General objective

An assessment of the Role of Civil Society Organizations in addressing domestic violence in Mukono district

1.4 Research objectives

- i. To establish the approaches used by Centre for Domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence Nakisunga Sub County.
- ii. To assess the barriers faced by Centre for domestic violence prevention in addressing domestic violence
- iii. To establish the effect of the interventions used by the Centre for domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence.
- iv.

1.4 Research questions

- i. What are the approaches used by Centre for Domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence Nakisunga Sub County.
- ii. What are the barriers faced by Centre for domestic violence prevention in addressing domestic violence.
- iii. What is the effect of the interventions used by the Centre for domestic violence prevention to address domestic violence?
- iv.

1.6 Study scope

1.6.1 Geographical scope

The study shall be conducted in Mukono district in Nakisunga sub county because this geographical location has cases of domestic violence. According to the 2021 meeting, girls in Greater Mukono are most affected by gender-based violence with 46% of cases, followed by women at 31%, men at 12% and boys at 11% (Uganda Police Report, 2021). The researcher also conducted the research in this sub county because it was not over ambitious in terms of resources.

1.6.2 Content scope

The study scope shall include variables identified in the study topic which shall include the role of CSOs in addressing domestic violence.

1.6.3 Time scope

The time scope was between 2018 and 2024 because this is the time when the records show that domestic violence was highest in Mukono as the police statistics revealed.

1.7 Justification

The continued occurrence of domestic violence in Uganda paused a question to researchers and policy scholars to as the question, what is not being done to end domestic violence. In relation to the above this study being carried out was justified by the need to unravel the mystery surrounding the continued occurrence of domestic violence despite the interventions which were being employed to address domestic violence.

1.8 Significance

Understanding the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in addressing domestic violence has significant implications for various stakeholders, including policy makers, practitioners, activists and victims. First, by elucidating the effectiveness and impact of civil society organizations in combating domestic violence, this research can inform the development of more targeted, evidence-based interventions. Such insights can help civil society organizations optimize their resources and strategies to better serve survivors and communities affected by domestic violence.

In addition, this research shall contribute to strengthening cooperation and coordination between the various actors involved in the prevention and response to domestic violence. By identifying best practices and areas for improvement in CSO engagement, policymakers can foster greater synergy between government agencies, nonprofits, law enforcement, and community initiatives, thereby maximizing collective efforts to eradicate domestic violence.

Additionally, examining the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence can shed light on the broader societal attitudes and structural factors that perpetuate the problem. By examining civil society advocacy efforts, awareness initiatives, and grassroots mobilization activities, this research can provide insight into the underlying cultural norms, systemic inequities, and institutional barriers that contribute to the prevalence of domestic violence. These findings are essential for promoting social awareness, promoting gender equality and promoting policy reforms aimed at creating a safer and more supportive environment for victims.

By deepening our understanding of the multifaceted role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence, this research has the potential to catalyze positive change at the individual, community and societal levels. By empowering civil society organizations with evidence-based knowledge and strategies and fostering collaboration across sectors, this research can contribute to the collective effort to build a world free of domestic violence.

1.9 Theoretical framework

Civil Society Empowerment Theory

The research topic "The role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence" was guided by the theory of civil society empowerment. This theory emphasizes strategic partnerships between civil society organizations and government to create social welfare and prosperity (Rahmanto et al., 2018). Civil society organizations play a key role in creating cultural change after major historical ruptures (Bail, 2012). They are recognized for their important role in conflict and peace-building processes, although there are dilemmas when engaging in conflict situations and armed groups (Alashqar, 2021). In addition, civil society has contributed greatly to health communication over time, indicating its significant impact on public health issues (Singh & Tomar, 2020). Civil society dynamics reveal the workings and limitations of community-based approaches to civil society development (Hu & Zhu, 2020). In addition, the theory of critical collaboration shows that civil society actors who are interested in deepening emancipatory processes under moderate left-wing governments need not be subject to constituted state power, nor do they have to challenge it (Burrige, 2020).

Together, these references support civil society empowerment theory as a guiding framework for the research topic. They emphasize the role of civil society organizations in addressing societal challenges, including domestic violence. Civil society empowerment theory aligns with the complexity and dynamism of civil society and emphasizes its potential to bring about positive social change and address issues such as domestic violence.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Approaches Used by Civil Society Organizations to address Domestic Violence

Civil society organizations (CSOs) use a variety of approaches to address domestic violence, often tailored to the specific needs of the communities they serve. Some common approaches are discussed as seen below.

Direct services

Civil society organizations (CSOs) address domestic violence by offering direct services through a multifaceted approach. They play a key role in providing trauma-focused interventions for victims of domestic violence, emphasizing the importance of psychological intervention and support services (Henning & Klesges, 2002). In addition, civil society organizations have been instrumental in providing hotlines, advocacy, counseling, and shelter services for victims of domestic violence, demonstrating their comprehensive approach to addressing the diverse needs of victims (Henning & Klesges, 2002). In addition, civil society organizations have been involved in implementing tools to support domestic violence, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrating their adaptability and ability to respond to changing circumstances (Issue & Casanova, 2021). These direct services are essential to provide immediate support and assistance to individuals affected by domestic violence.

In addition, civil society organizations have been at the forefront of promoting evidence-based policies to address domestic violence, emphasizing the need for victim-centred approaches and the implementation of effective interventions (Artinopoulou, 2021). They also provide social and psychological services to victims of gender-based violence across the country and emphasize their commitment to addressing the psychological and emotional impact of domestic violence (Artinopoulou, 2021). In addition, civil society organizations have contributed to the feminization of refugees, emphasizing two-way solidarity, intersectionality, and resistance to the empowerment of refugee women and the diversification of civil society, thus extending their direct services to marginalized and vulnerable populations (Sunata & Özsoy, 2022)

Awareness and education

To address domestic violence, civil society organizations (CSOs) provide information and education services through various strategies. Research has shown that civil society organizations play a key role in raising awareness and educating communities about the incidence and impact of domestic violence. They are involved in providing educational programs to support teachers and the community in addressing domestic violence (Levesley et al., 2012). In addition, civil society organizations have contributed to the implementation of educational initiatives aimed at inspiring a new generation of researchers and solving societal challenges (Levesley et al., 2012). In addition, civil society organizations have been instrumental in providing educational services targeting specific populations, such as people who inject drugs, to address the unique challenges they face in relation to domestic violence (Hasan et al., 2020).

In addition, civil society organizations have been at the forefront of advocating for progressive policy change to combat violence against women, emphasizing the importance of education and awareness in addressing gender-based violence (Htun & Weldon, 2012). They were also involved in providing educational services aimed at dealing with psychological trauma, physical injuries and other consequences of domestic violence (Medie, 2015). In addition, civil society organizations have contributed to service user perceptions of the Integrated Domestic Abuse Program, which aims to address weaknesses and improve educational services for victims of domestic violence (Madoc-Jones & Roscoe, 2010).

Advocacy and policy reform

Civil society organizations use advocacy and policy reform to address domestic violence through a variety of strategies. Hart (1995) highlights the development of community shelters and counseling programs, as well as efforts to reform the justice system. Shum (2015) emphasizes the need for a client-centered approach considering the social and cultural influences on domestic violence. Postmus (2007) discusses cooperation between social and advocacy organizations, especially in the context of poverty and violence. Finally, Wiley (2021) emphasizes the importance of using political resources such as mobilizable units and information to achieve policy change. Together, these studies demonstrate the multifaceted nature of civil society organizations' efforts to address domestic violence.

Empowerment and support groups

The use of empowerment and support groups by civil society organizations (CSOs) to address domestic violence is a multifaceted approach that includes different strategies. Civil society

organizations have been involved in providing support groups and empowerment initiatives for individuals affected by domestic violence to improve their psychological well-being and self-efficacy Verberne et al. (2019). In addition, civil society organizations have contributed to the empowerment of parents through the participation of support groups, highlighting the positive impact of such initiatives on the well-being of families affected by domestic violence (Banach et al., 2010). In addition, civil society organizations have been instrumental in providing training and support in empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities, emphasizing the importance of empowerment principles in addressing the diverse needs of vulnerable populations (Flatt-Fultz & Phillips, 2012).

In addition, civil society organizations have been at the forefront of advocating for political change and legal confrontation of domestic violence, emphasizing the need for empowerment initiatives to address the systemic issues associated with domestic violence (WELI & SALMAN, 2023). They have also been involved in providing educational interventions and support to health professionals in addressing domestic violence, emphasizing the importance of empowerment in improving domestic violence response (Zorjan et al., 2017). Additionally, civil society organizations have contributed to the prevalence of domestic violence in different regions, highlighting the implications for counseling and the need for empowerment interventions (Taylor, 2016).

In summary, civil society organizations use empowerment and support groups to address domestic violence by providing psychological support, empowerment training, and advocating for policy change. Their role extends to empowering individuals and communities affected by domestic violence, highlighting the importance of empowerment initiatives in addressing the multifaceted impacts of domestic violence.

Crisis Intervention and Hotlines

To address domestic violence, civil society organizations (CSOs) use crisis intervention and hotlines as key tools to provide immediate support and assistance to individuals affected by domestic violence. Crisis intervention and hotlines serve as essential resources for individuals in distress, offering emotional support, safety planning, and referrals to support services such as counseling and shelter Richards et al. (2021). Research has shown that civil society organizations play a key role in running crisis intervention hotlines and services, especially in times of crisis and heightened vulnerability such as the COVID-19 pandemic (Perez-Vincent et al., 2020; Perez-Vincent & Carreras, 2022). These services have helped respond to the

increase in domestic violence and provide timely assistance to survivors in need (Perez-Vincent et al., 2020; Perez-Vincent & Carreras, 2022).

In addition, civil society organizations have been actively involved in advocating for policy reforms to increase the effectiveness of crisis intervention and domestic violence hotline services. They have contributed to the development of progressive policies aimed at strengthening crisis intervention and hotline response, thereby ensuring that individuals experiencing domestic violence have access to immediate support and assistance (Htun & Weldon, 2012). Additionally, civil society organizations have been at the forefront of monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of crisis intervention and hotline services to improve the quality and responsiveness of these essential resources (Htun & Weldon, 2012).

In summary, civil society organizations use crisis intervention and hotlines as critical components of their efforts to address domestic violence. These services play a vital role in providing immediate support, safety planning and referrals to victims of domestic violence, and civil society organizations are actively advocating for policy reforms to increase the effectiveness of crisis intervention and hotline services.

Cultural and community-specific initiatives

Civil society organizations use cultural and community-based initiatives to address domestic violence by tailoring interventions to the unique cultural context and needs of different communities. These initiatives are designed to address cultural barriers, provide culturally specific support and empower individuals in their communities. For example, civil society organizations recognize the importance of both culturally specific and mainstream domestic violence interventions, challenging notions of 'cultural privacy' and 'racial anxiety' when working with minority communities Burman et al. (2004). This approach highlights the need for interventions that are sensitive to cultural nuances and responsive to the diverse needs of minority groups.

In addition, civil society organizations engage in community organizing and combating domestic violence, recognizing cultural norms and social structures that contribute to women's subordination and prevent access to employment or educational opportunities, thereby normalizing violence and preventing women from acknowledging their experiences like violence. (Menon & Allen, 2020). By understanding and addressing these cultural norms, CSOs seek to empower individuals and communities to challenge and change harmful cultural practices.

Additionally, an African-centered approach to domestic violence has been proposed that offers culturally competent responses to domestic violence as experienced by African-American families (Bent-Goodley, 2005). This approach recognizes the importance of cultural competence and empowerment in the context of addressing domestic violence in specific cultural communities.

Civil society organizations also recognize the need for culturally specific theories and interventions to address domestic violence in specific ethnic and immigrant communities, such as Asians and Asian Americans (Yick & Oomen-Early, 2008). Tailoring interventions to the unique cultural and contextual factors that influence the experience of domestic violence is critical to effectively addressing the needs of these communities

Collaboration and Partnerships

Civil society organizations use collaboration and partnership as a core strategy for addressing domestic violence. These initiatives include working with various stakeholders to develop comprehensive responses to domestic violence, including advocacy, support services and policy reform. For example, emphasize the importance of improving community collaboration and incorporating the values of compassion, empathy, care, and ethics into emergency or strategic plans within individual agencies to ensure public safety during a pandemic (Rauhaus et al., 2020). Similarly, Gebo (2022), highlights the potential of public health and criminal justice partnerships in intersectoral violence prevention and emphasizes the need for careful articulation and attention to collaborative challenges in order to meet collaborative goals.

It is also noted that civil society organizations engage in long-term partnerships and collaborations to address domestic violence, recognizing the practical and philosophical potential of partnership frameworks in supporting women to achieve safety (Welsh, 2022). In addition, civil society organizations focus on building trust, disseminating best practices and supporting the creation of partnership platforms and networks to address domestic violence (Dvaladze et al., 2020). This collaboration is consistent with the growing worldwide literature recommending the importance of community networks in addressing domestic violence (Alefaio-Tugia & Hodgetts, 2021).

Additionally, civil society organizations are working with academics, nonprofits, and others to promote evidence-based practice and improve oral health care for victims of domestic violence (Desrosiers & Kim, 2019; Abel et al., 2012). This collaboration includes overcoming challenges to achieve successful partnerships and effectively address domestic violence

(Desrosiers & Kim, 2019). However, it is important to note that partnership approaches can face challenges, particularly in criminal justice-based approaches to local domestic violence problems (Harvie & Manzi, 2011).

2.2 The Effect of the Interventions used by Civil Society Organizations to address Gender Based Violence

Increased awareness and knowledge

Raising awareness and knowledge among the various stakeholders is essential to effectively address domestic violence. Health professionals should maintain a high level of awareness of the possibility of domestic violence, especially among pregnant women (Richardson et al., 2002). Training programs can equip counselors with the knowledge and skills to raise awareness and work effectively with clients experiencing domestic violence and their families (Rodriguez & E, 2020). Similarly, education of nursing students is key to preventing and reducing domestic violence against women (Khazaienejad et al., 2019). In addition, a study in Pakistan highlighted that knowledge of social signs and physical symptoms of domestic violence can help identify victims early (Saleem et al., 2021). In addition, a review highlighted that a brief intervention targeting domestic violence can be effective in improving attitudes, knowledge and role understanding among dental hospital staff (Warburton et al., 2006). Additionally, the educational intervention increased the acceptability, knowledge, and confidence of domestic violence advocates to offer HIV care information, discuss eligibility for pre-exposure prophylaxis, and initiate counseling with survivors of intimate partner violence (Willie et al., 2022).

However, it is important to note that the effectiveness of awareness and knowledge in dealing with domestic violence is influenced by various factors. For example, critics have questioned whether business-focused education programs on domestic violence can be truly effective if they avoid a broader analysis of gender politics (Wilcox et al., 2020). In addition, caution needs to be exercised in the way the media is used to raise awareness of domestic violence, as problems have been caused by certain approaches (Boniface, 2022). Furthermore, it is important to consider the impact of external factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to increased concerns about domestic violence in various countries (Gulati & Kelly, 2020).

Empowerment of victims

Victim empowerment is a crucial aspect of effectively addressing domestic violence. Research has shown that empowerment strategies play a significant role in addressing mental health issues faced by victims of domestic violence (Su et al., 2021). Empowerment can include practical solutions to reduce victims' exposure to the abuser and increase their access to mental health services, especially under challenging circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic (Su et al., 2021). Furthermore, empowerment programs designed to address domestic violence have been highlighted as a means of inspiring new directions for creating effective ways to address domestic violence (Kasturirangan, 2008). The goal of empowerment is common in the context of domestic violence and is emphasized in the risk assessment literature as a crucial aspect of victim assessment (Richards et al., 2019). Additionally, victim advocacy, which is believed to be empowering, is associated with positive effects on the prosecution of domestic violence crimes (Morgan & Coombes, 2013). Additionally, women's experiences of domestic violence and mental health have been examined in the context of empowerment strategies, demonstrating the potential of empowerment interventions to improve the lives of women affected by domestic violence (Lloyd et al., 2017).

However, it is important to consider the broader context in which empowerment strategies are implemented. For example, the effectiveness of treatment and recovery for victims of domestic violence has been highlighted, emphasizing the importance of aligning service processes with relevant legislation and ensuring the effectiveness of recovery programs (Cahyaningutomo, 2020). In addition, the role of cadres in empowering victims of domestic violence has been highlighted, especially in community settings where they play a key role in overcoming cases of domestic violence (Yulianti, 2021). In addition, victim participation has been identified as key to the successful resolution of domestic violence cases, emphasizing the importance of allowing victims to participate in the legal process (Robinson & Cook, 2006).

Improved access to support services

Better access to support services plays a vital role in addressing domestic violence. Research has shown that improved access to support services can lead to practical solutions to reduce victims' exposure to the abuser and increase their access to mental health services, especially in challenging circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic Su et al. (2021). In addition, interventions for women who report domestic violence during and after pregnancy have been shown to improve quality of life, increased use of safe behaviors, improved family and social support, increased access to community resources, increased use of referral services, and

reduced numbers of mothers. depression (Daley et al., 2020). In addition, a community-supported clinical program in rural Kenya was found to be acceptable and feasible, assist pregnant women in accessing gender-based violence (GBV) services, and raise GBV awareness (Turan et al., 2013). Additionally, intergenerational intervention for women's empowerment has been identified as a strategy to mitigate domestic violence, emphasizing the importance of research to guide program planning and policy making (Krishnan et al., 2012).

However, it is important to consider the perspectives of women with lived experience of domestic and family violence on access to health care, as preliminary findings suggest that nurses have opportunities to facilitate access in relation to accessibility, acceptability and appropriateness of services (Hollingdrake et al. ., 2022). In addition, the study on assisting women victims of violence who face multiple barriers to services highlights the unique challenges faced by women with multiple barriers to accessing services and highlights the need for programs that target services to such women (Zweig et al., 2002). In addition, a study on improving access to sexual violence support for marginalized individuals highlights the specific barriers these communities face in accessing support services and how services could address them (Love et al., 2017).

Promoting healthy relationships

Supporting healthy relationships is a fundamental approach in dealing with domestic violence. Research has shown that health promotion activities are essential for the prevention and control of domestic violence against women (Semahegn&Mengistie, 2015). It has been suggested that promoting healthy relationships can contribute to the prevention of domestic violence by targeting associated factors and protecting women from victimization (Semahegn&Mengistie, 2015). Furthermore, it is important to understand and differentiate between types of intimate partner violence, as this can lead to more effective partnerships and policies aimed at reducing violence and its destructive effects on families (Kelly & Johnson, 2008). In addition, religious leaders can play a significant role in promoting healthy relationships between couples and preventing domestic violence by incorporating topics of healthy marital relationships into their sermons and organizing workshops and seminars on the topic (Choi, 2015).

Education and awareness, especially among women, have been identified as key elements in minimizing the acceptance of domestic violence (Akram, 2021). Additionally, interventions such as Dating Matters™, which focus on primary prevention among young adolescents, have been highlighted as important in addressing dating violence and promoting healthy

relationships (Tharp, 2012). It has also been suggested that addressing domestic violence requires creative and relevant solutions that keep family members safe and identify and address abuse (Bent-Goodley, 2005).

In addition, it is essential to recognize the vital role of dental care providers in identifying symptoms of domestic violence, promoting intervention and support, and contributing to the well-being and safety of individuals affected by domestic violence (Levin, 2023). In addition, couple training courses have been proposed to improve women's emotional maturity as a means of preventing domestic violence between couples (Afkhazadeh et al., 2022). Socio-economic status has been found to influence the decision to adopt healthy behaviors and create appropriate social and family relationships, thus influencing the level of domestic violence against women (Dabaghi, 2023).

Advocacy for policy change

Advocacy for policy change has been shown to be effective in addressing domestic violence. Research has shown that community-based interventions for women with abusive partners can lead to a reduction in violence, indicating the effectiveness of advocacy in addressing domestic violence at the community level Sullivan & Bybee (1999). Additionally, a previous pilot evaluation of a community-based advocacy program for women with abusive partners demonstrated positive change in women's lives even two years after the intervention and highlighted the long-term effectiveness of advocacy interventions (Bybee & Sullivan, 2002). In addition, advocacy for victims of domestic violence aims to facilitate informed decisions regarding disclosure of abuse and to emphasize the role of advocacy in empowering victims to make informed decisions (An & Choi, 2019).

However, it is important to consider the potential challenges and limitations of advocating for policy change in addressing domestic violence. For example, while advocacy for victims of domestic violence has produced significant improvements in victim services, there are cases where advocacy fails, demonstrating the complexity and potential unintended consequences of advocacy (McDermott & Garofalo, 2004). In addition, interaction between community agencies has been identified as a significant factor in predicting case outcomes and women's perceptions of the legal system's response to domestic violence and sexual assault, highlighting the need for coordinated advocacy efforts across multiple agencies (Zweig & Burt, 2006).

Cultural and social transformation

Cultural and social transformation plays a significant role in addressing domestic violence. Research has shown that the impact of culture and minority status in the United States on women's experience of domestic violence is influenced by family structure, immigration, acculturation, oppression, and community response, highlighting the need for culturally competent best practices and multidisciplinary approaches. working with various survivors of domestic violence, Kasturirangan et al. (2004) Children, 2013). In addition, social support and distress among inner-city African American women have been examined, emphasizing the importance of understanding the importance of social support in different ethnic and cultural groups (Thompson et al., 2000). In addition, cultural traditions and social norms, such as the social construction of marriage, the shame associated with divorce, and the status of daughters-in-law in some societies, are used to justify domestic violence and prevent victims from seeking help, suggesting the influence of cultural and social barriers on help-seeking behavior (Childress, 2017).

In addition, the role of culture in shaping attitudes towards tolerance, perceptions of available options and experiences with the host society in terms of access to political, legal and social resources was acknowledged, emphasizing the need to recognize the role of culture in addressing domestic issues. violence (Yick & Oomen-Early, 2008). In addition, the impact of advancing women's economic and social rights in reducing vulnerability to repeated domestic violence has been highlighted, showing the importance of social and cultural change in ending domestic violence (Williams & Walklate, 2020). In addition, culturally-focused counseling and an African-focused approach to domestic violence have been suggested as effective strategies within community-based organizations linked to local services and supports, emphasizing the importance of culturally sensitive interventions (Gondolf & Williams, 2001; Bent-Goodley, 2005).

2.3 What are the barriers faced by CSOs in addressing domestic violence

Civil society organizations (CSOs) working to address domestic violence face various barriers that can hinder their effectiveness and impact. Some of these barriers are discussed as seen below.

Limited Funding

First, limited funding limits the availability and accessibility of appropriate resources, such as domestic violence shelters and mental health systems, which are critical to providing support to victims of domestic violence Overstreet & Quinn (2013). In addition, a lack of financial

resources may impede the implementation of comprehensive domestic violence screening programs, limiting the ability to identify and support those affected by domestic violence (Elliott et al., 2002; Chen et al., 2007). In addition, insufficient funding may hinder the development and dissemination of educational materials and training programs for health professionals and service providers, impacting the quality of care and support available to survivors (Gillespie et al., 2022; Kuskoff & Parsell, 2020).

In addition, limited funding may contribute to the stigma associated with domestic violence by limiting the ability of civil society organizations to conduct awareness campaigns and community support initiatives aimed at challenging misconceptions and encouraging help-seeking behavior (Murray et al., 2015). In addition, lack of financial resources may hinder the development of comprehensive programs that address the complex interplay of domestic violence, mental health, and relationship problems, limiting the effectiveness of interventions (Abraham & Tastsoglou, 2016; Oliver & Jaffe, 2018). In addition, insufficient funding may hinder the provision of culturally specific and community-specific initiatives to address domestic violence, limiting the ability to tailor interventions to the unique cultural contexts and needs of different communities (Das, 2012).

Fragmentation and competition

Fragmentation and competition present significant barriers to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in effectively addressing domestic violence. These challenges hinder the ability of CSOs to provide comprehensive and coordinated responses to domestic violence, impacting the support and services available to survivors. The following references provide insights into the impact of fragmentation and competition as barriers to addressing domestic violence: Reference Overstreet & Quinn (2013) highlights the impact of contextual barriers, such as inadequate structural responses and inaccessibility to appropriate resources, which can deter help-seeking behaviors among survivors of intimate partner violence. Fragmentation and competition may contribute to the lack of coordinated and accessible resources, exacerbating the challenges faced by survivors in seeking help and support. Reference Usanov et al. (2023) explores barriers to screening for domestic violence using an ecological framework, identifying factors at different levels, including ontogenic, microsystem, exosystem, and macrosystem barriers. Fragmentation and competition may contribute to organizational structures that are not conducive to screening, hindering the development of a cohesive and integrated approach to addressing domestic violence. Reference Murray et al. (2015) discusses the impact of stigma

surrounding domestic and sexual violence, which can be perpetuated by fragmentation and competition among service providers and advocacy organizations. The stigma may limit resources available for victims and survivors, further exacerbating the challenges in addressing domestic violence.

Legal and regulatory challenges:

The legal and regulatory framework can act as a barrier to civil society organizations' efforts to address domestic violence in several ways. Macmanus (1989) highlights the difficulties in implementing domestic violence policies, particularly in states with equal rights amendments. Hemmons (1981) emphasizes the need for comprehensive domestic violence programs, including legal and social support services, to effectively implement domestic violence laws. Bintliff (1996) identifies societal and professional barriers that limit the emergency response to domestic violence, suggesting a need for better criminal law. Shan (2012) further highlights the inadequacy of criminal regulation in controlling domestic violence and calls for improvements in legal provisions. Together, these studies suggest that the legal and regulatory framework may hinder the efforts of civil society organizations by creating implementation problems, lacking the necessary support services, and failing to effectively control domestic violence.

Stigma and discrimination

Stigma and discrimination have a significant impact on the efforts of community service organizations (CSOs) to address domestic violence. The experience of stigma and discrimination has been found to be associated with unsafe sexual practices among women living with HIV (Mehta et al., 2019). In addition, stigma presents challenges at the individual and societal levels in addressing domestic and sexual violence (Murray et al., 2015). proposed the Health Stigma and Discrimination Framework, a global framework to inform research, intervention development, and policy on health-related stigma, including domestic violence-related stigma (Stangl et al., 2019). It further highlighted the urgent need for trauma-informed anti-stigma interventions to address stigma, discrimination and violence, particularly among women living with HIV (Logie et al., 2019). The study highlighted the importance of addressing the inequities and injustices that produce and perpetuate the stigma, discrimination, powerlessness, and violence experienced by individuals, including those with chronic pain (Wallace et al., 2021).

Additionally, the impact of stigma and discrimination extends to the perpetration of psychological intimate partner violence among sexual minority men, where higher levels of enacted stigma were associated with higher rates of physical intimate partner violence perpetration (Harris & Mahalik, 2023). Additionally, studies have shown that gender minority youth experience significant discrimination and stigma, which contributes to disparities in mental health and substance use issues (Miller, 2022). Effects of sexual violence on psychosocial outcomes such as depressive/anxiety symptoms, somatic complaints, and poor functioning have also been associated with perceived stigma and poor community relationships among victims of sexual violence (Amone-P'Olaket al., 2015).

Security concerns

Safety concerns significantly affect the ability of Community Service Organizations (CSOs) to address domestic violence. The involvement of private security companies in addressing the security concerns of victims of domestic violence has been noted (Harkin, 2017). However, acute concerns about the immediate personal threat of victims of domestic violence are highlighted, especially when compared to other typical clients of private security services, such as shopping centers or large business operators (Harkin & Fitz-Gibbon, 2016). This underscores the unique and critical safety needs of victims of domestic violence that civil society organizations must address.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased contacts through domestic violence hotlines and websites, suggesting a surge in the safety needs of survivors (Huq et al., 2021). This increase in demand for support further underlines the vital role of civil society organizations in addressing security issues in the context of domestic violence.

In addition, the impact of domestic violence on the mother-child relationship and preschool functioning has been documented, emphasizing the need for safety and security for the entire family unit (Levendosky et al., 2003). In addition, the implications of emotional safety theory for understanding child psychopathology in the context of domestic violence highlight the importance of addressing safety issues to mitigate the psychological impact on children (Davies et al., 2006).

Cultural and language barriers

Cultural and language barriers significantly affect the ability of community service organizations (CSOs) to effectively address domestic violence. The intersection of cultural stigma and societal beliefs was identified as a major barrier to help seeking by domestic violence victims Overstreet & Quinn (2013). This stigma delegitimizes the experiences of

individuals facing abuse, making it difficult for them to seek help from civil society organizations. He further highlighted those cultural perceptions of abuse, religious beliefs, and feelings of embarrassment, fear, and shame act as barriers to seeking services for domestic violence among American Muslim women, highlighting the influence of cultural factors (Oyewuwo-Gassikia, 2016).

Language barriers have also been identified as a significant obstacle in addressing domestic violence. Research has shown that language barriers complicate physician-patient interaction, especially when the presence of a translator is involved (Julliard et al., 2008). In addition, a study of Spanish-speaking women found that language barriers had a negative effect on disclosure, suggesting that language may hinder effective communication and disclosure of domestic violence experiences (Jatoi & Breitkopf, 2011).

Additionally, the impact of cultural barriers on immigrant women's perceptions and responses to domestic violence within the legal system has been documented, highlighting additional complexities immigrant women face in seeking justice and support (Graca, 2017). In addition, they identified insufficient time, difficulty solving problems, and discomfort with interviewing as barriers to domestic violence screening, further highlighting the multifaceted challenges posed by cultural and language barriers (Hoffman, 2015).

Lack of institutional support

Lack of institutional support significantly hampers the ability of Community Service Organizations (CSOs) to effectively address domestic violence. highlighted the lack of bilingual service providers in mainstream institutions and lack of knowledge of resources among newcomers as barriers to addressing domestic violence (Reina et al., 2013). This lack of institutional support exacerbates the challenges faced by victims, particularly those from immigrant and minority communities, in accessing adequate help and support.

The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated the lack of institutional support, with mental health services and domestic violence support mechanisms either delaying or canceling their services due to lockdowns and social distancing measures (Su et al., 2021). This situation has left many victims of domestic violence without the necessary mental health solutions and support, further underscoring the impact of institutional constraints on addressing domestic violence.

He further emphasized the need for changes at the institutional and legal level to effectively address domestic violence and highlighted the essential role of institutional support in creating

an environment conducive to addressing domestic violence (Kimuna et al., 2012). A lack of institutional change and support can hinder the implementation of effective interventions and legal measures to combat domestic violence.

Additionally, he identified lack of time and experience, stigma associated with patient disclosure, and lack of effective post-disclosure interventions as major barriers perceived by healthcare providers to responding to domestic violence (Yeung et al., 2012). This lack of institutional support within the health care setting can hinder the identification and resolution of cases of domestic violence.

Trauma and Burnout

The impact of trauma and burnout on community service workers (CSOs) when dealing with domestic violence is significant. Research has shown that professionals who suffer from symptoms of compassion fatigue and burnout are less effective in helping trauma survivors, Killian (2008). This highlights the critical need to address the impact of trauma and burnout on the well-being and effectiveness of CSO staff.

In addition, studies have identified the prevalence of secondary traumatic stress and burnout among domestic violence advocates, highlighting the negative effects of workplace factors on employee well-being (Slattery & Goodman, 2009). Experiences of trauma counselors have also been associated with burnout, with client workload and employment status as staff members related to subscales of burnout (Baird & Jenkins, 2003). These findings underscore the significant impact of trauma and burnout on the workforce in civil society organizations.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the challenges, leading to burnout, moves to non-client-facing roles, or leaving the job altogether among domestic violence workers (Wells, 2023). This highlights the urgent need to address the mental health and well-being of CSO staff, particularly in the context of increased stress and trauma during a pandemic.

Additionally, the impact of burnout on posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms has been examined in a variety of work settings, emphasizing the need to address burnout in the context of occupations characterized by violence and trauma (Kim et al., 2019). In addition, the well-being and needs of helpline workers supporting victims of domestic violence have been studied, suggesting the importance of ongoing support to reduce the impact on their home and social lives, thereby improving well-being and job satisfaction (Taylor et al., 2018).

CHAPTETR THREE

3.0 Introduction

This focuses on the research design, area of study, sources of information population and sampling techniques, data collection and analysis and study limitations.

3.1 Research Design

The study adopted a phenomenological research design, utilizing a qualitative research approach. Using a phenomenological research design to examine the role of CSOs in addressing domestic violence was beneficial given its focus on understanding the lived experiences and perspectives of individuals involved in or affected by domestic violence and CSO interventions. Phenomenological research design aimed to explore the nature of human experiences and the meanings that individuals attribute to these experiences within their specific contexts (Groenewald,2004). This approach was particularly important when studying domestic violence and the various ways in which civil society organizations engage with and support victims.

The phenomenological research design allowed for an in-depth exploration of the subjective experiences of individuals affected by domestic violence, including survivors, advocates, and service providers. Using this approach, enabled the researcher to gain insight into the lived experiences, perceptions, and emotional responses of individuals involved in domestic violence situations, as well as their interactions with civil society organizations. This can provide a rich understanding of the challenges survivors face, the effectiveness of support services and barriers to accessing help.

3.2 Area of study

The study area was Nakisunga sub county in Mukono district. This was because Nakisunga sub county was on record for having cases of domestic violence in Mukono district. The other reason was that Nakisunga sub county is manageable in terms of conducting the study.

3.3 Source of information

The study used both primary and secondary sources of data. The use of both primary and secondary sources of data was essential to gain a comprehensive understanding of the topic and ensure the validity and reliability of the research findings. The cited references offered insight into the importance of using primary and secondary sources in research across various disciplines.

Primary sources, as he points out (Telila, 2019), provided first-hand information obtained directly from the field, which included interviews which were used in this study. This type of data was valuable for capturing authentic experiences and perspectives related to the research topic. For example, in the context of studying the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence, primary sources could include interviews with survivors, advocates, and service providers, as well as direct observation of the organizations' activities.

On the other hand, secondary sources as mentioned by (Megawan & Suryawan, 2019) include existing data and literature that have been collected, analyzed and interpreted by other researchers. These sources may include scholarly articles, books, reports, and databases. Secondary sources provide valuable context, background information, and existing knowledge about a topic, allowing researchers to build on previous findings and theories. In the context of studying the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence, secondary sources may include academic studies, best practice reports and organizational documents.

The use of primary and secondary sources is further emphasized by (Srivastava, 2022) who emphasizes the difference between primary and secondary quantitative strategies in data collection. This distinction is important because it allows researchers to tailor their data collection methods to specific research questions and objectives and to ensure that the data obtained is consistent with the research objectives.

In addition, Pettersson (2022) and Weiner et al. (2015) emphasize the critical role of primary sources in promoting critical thinking and literacy, as well as the importance of secondary sources in providing broader context and analysis. This highlights the complementary nature of primary and secondary sources in enriching the research process and increasing the depth and breadth of understanding. Additionally, Cox et al. (2009) and Berger et al. (2009) highlight the value of secondary data sources in comparative effectiveness research and demonstrate how existing data can be used to answer research questions and improve causal inference. This illustrates the practical utility of secondary sources in addressing complex research questions.

3.4 Population and sampling technique

The study population included victims of domestic violence, and officials of civil society organizations that work on issues of domestic violence in Mukono district.

Sampling Technique

The target population (victims of domestic violence) were arrived at by use of purposive sampling who were accessed by using the Snowbowl technique due to the sensitivity of the subject under study.

Category	Population of study	Target population	Sampling technique
Victims of domestic violence	30	20	purposive
Officials working with CSOs in Mukono	10	5	purposive
Total	40	25	

3.5 Reliability and Validity

3.5.1 Reliability

To ensure the reliability of the study, the researcher considered the credibility criteria established by Guba and Lincoln in the 1980s. These criteria replaced Morse's (2015) reliability, trustworthiness, and transferability terminology for achieving rigor, reliability, validity, and generalizability. The credibility criteria and techniques proposed by Lincoln and Guba were essential to ensure the validity and reliability of qualitative data (Rezaiye et al., 2021). These included credibility, portability, reliability and provability (Forero et al., 2018). These criteria were key to determining the truth value (internal validity), applicability (external validity), consistency (reliability) and neutrality (objectivity) of qualitative research (Singh et al., 2021).

3.5.2 Validity

Validity in qualitative research refers to the extent to which findings accurately represent the phenomenon under investigation and can be defended when challenged (Bashir et al., 2008). One way to ensure validity was to use a procedural approach, which emphasized the importance of each phase of qualitative research and affected the quality of the entire study (Hayashi et al., 2021). In addition, the use of established criteria such as trustworthiness, authenticity, criticality and integrity helped to ensure the quality of the study (Nuuyoma et al., 2020). In addition, the Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research (COREQ) checklist and accepted guidelines were followed to ensure the quality, validity and reliability of qualitative research (Faija et al., 2022). It was also important to recognize the critical role of the researcher

as an “instrument” in the research process, as the researcher's perspectives and actions affected the validity of the study (Pyett, 2003).

In addition, it was crucial to consider the transferability of research findings, which referred to the extent to which the findings of a particular investigation are applicable in other contexts or with other subjects/participants (Thomas & Magilvy, 2011). This consideration increased the external validity of the study. In addition, the use of a reflective approach and community validation contributed to establishing the credibility of the reported findings, thereby increasing the validity of the research (Salzano, 2023). Furthermore, ensuring objectivity and preventing bias or prejudice from influencing the results contributed to the validity of the study (Jayasuriya, 2012).

3.6 Data collection and processing

3.6.1 In depth interviews

The study conducted in depth interviews to collect data. In-depth interviews were a valuable method for collecting data on the role of civil society organizations in addressing domestic violence. This approach enabled the generation of detailed descriptions and provided a unique constellation of responses to the needs of women experiencing domestic violence (Kabonga & Zvokuomba, 2021; Hartley et al., 2013).

3.6.2 Interview Guide

The use of an interview guide in in-depth interviews was essential to generate comprehensive and focused data. The interview guide served to systematically and comprehensively probe the respondents and ensured that the interview remained focused on the desired line of action (Jamshed, 2014). It provided the interviewer with a structured framework that ensured coverage of key topics while allowed for flexibility and exploration of unexpected avenues (Chiaranai et al., 2022). This structured approach was particularly valuable in qualitative research as it helped standardize the data collection process and ensured that all participants were asked similar questions, making it easier to compare responses (Mohammed et al., 2023). In addition, the use of an interview guide helped ensure that essential questions were answered while engaging participants in an in-depth, interactive dialogue that allowed for spontaneous and richly descriptive responses (Cooper, 2005).

3.6.3 Data Analysis

Data was entered into nvivo 14. coding was undertaken to ensure that meaningful data patterns were identified. Thematic analysis was undertaken. This is because thematic analysis provided a systematic and flexible approach to identifying patterns of meaning, making it theoretically

flexible and suitable for capturing a wide range of experiences and perspectives (Noyola et al., 2020). This method allowed for deeper analysis and greater objectivity compared to other data collection approaches such as questionnaires (Moradi et al., 2019). In addition, thematic analysis made it possible to summarize key features of big data, highlight similarities and differences in the data, and make the analysis relevant to policy development (Hapsari et al., 2021).

The study used thematic analysis because thematic analysis provided a structured framework for analyzing qualitative data that allowed for the identification of recurring patterns or themes in the data (Braun & Clarke, 2006). It was particularly valuable for exploring and understanding complex phenomena as it draws on primary qualitative research and other established methods to provide a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the data (Holm & Severinsson, 2013). Thematic analysis also enabled the generation of rich, descriptive data, allowing researchers to explore and capture a wide range of experiences and perspectives.

3.7 Research procedure.

The researcher secured a letter from the research ethics committee of Uganda Christian University authorizing him to conduct the research in Nakisunga sub county. This letter was presented to the Chief Administrative Officer and the Resident District Commissioner to allow the researcher to conduct the study.

3.9 Study Limitations

The study was limited by the fear of the participants to take part in the study due to the sensitive nature of the study. This study concerns domestic violence and confidentiality is key. In this respect some participants may fear to participate. However, the researcher shall address this by giving assurance to the participants that their confidentiality is guaranteed and that no one shall get to know about their conversation with me. Codes shall be allocated to the different participants to ensure that their identity is concealed.

CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF STUDY FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Approaches used by CDVP to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) employ various approaches to address domestic violence, focusing on prevention, intervention, and advocacy. Some common approaches include:

4.2.1 Awareness and Education Campaigns

Campaigns to educate the public about domestic violence, its signs, and how to seek help.

The study found that the organization used awareness and education campaigns to address domestic violence. This was recorded as seen below;

“We use awareness campaigns to educate people about the dangers of domestic violence. We go churches, mosques, and also organize barazas to educate the people about the need to avoid domestic violence and how it can be done. so far this has registered success to some extent” **(program officer, Centre for Domestic Violence prevention, 1st July 2024)**

The above findings are supported by other studies which show that campaigns are essential components of a multi-stakeholder approach to combating domestic violence (Adjah & Agbemafle, 2016). They aim to educate both victims and perpetrators about the consequences of domestic violence and available support services (Su et al., 2021). Factors contributing to domestic violence such as patriarchy, cultural beliefs and low levels of education can be addressed through educational initiatives (Mshweshwe, 2020). Public education campaigns are critical to raising awareness of the potential lethality of domestic violence and the importance of seeking help (Cheng & Jaffe, 2019).

Campaigns can target specific populations, such as men, to raise awareness of domestic violence, disseminate information about support services, and encourage individuals to use these services (Stanley et al., 2012). By raising awareness and knowledge about domestic violence, these campaigns enable individuals to recognize and report abuse (Cardoso, 2023). In addition, educational efforts can focus on changing gender-related attitudes and promoting interventions in cases of violence (Menon & Allen, 2020). In societies where patriarchal systems prevail, educating women and their husbands can be an effective strategy in preventing domestic violence (Başar & Demırcı, 2018).

Raising awareness of domestic violence through campaigns can help victims and perpetrators seek support and ultimately reduce involvement in violent environments (Zamba et al., 2022). By raising community awareness of domestic violence, these campaigns contribute to the protection of victims and the prevention of further violence (Mahdy, 2023). In addition, campaigns can lead to improved literacy, awareness of legal rights, and screening of victims in healthcare settings, thereby addressing domestic violence as a public health problem (George et al., 2016).

4.2.2 Support Services for Victims

The study established that Centre for domestic violence prevention provided support services in form of providing hotlines and helplines that offer 24/7 helplines for victims to call for immediate assistance and counseling.

“We have provided families that are at risk of domestic violence our helplines and hotlines to call as and when need be, to get our assistance. We also offer shelters and safe houses to provide temporary housing for victims who are fleeing abusive situations”

(Program officer, Centre for Domestic violence prevention, 1st July 2024).

Support services for victims of domestic violence are essential in addressing and combating this pervasive issue. These services empower individuals to break free from abusive situations, seek assistance, and work towards healing and recovery. One crucial aspect of support services is the provision of counseling and therapy, which helps victims cope with the trauma of domestic violence and rebuild their lives Suchmasasi et al. (2021). Counseling services offer victims a safe space to process their experiences, address their emotional well-being, and develop coping strategies to navigate the challenges they face (Wasco et al., 2004). Additionally, support services provide victims with information about their rights, options, and available resources, empowering them to make informed decisions about their situations (Wasco et al., 2004). Moreover, support services assist victims in accessing legal aid and navigating the legal system, which is crucial in obtaining protection orders, securing custody of children, and addressing other legal matters related to domestic violence (Chiappetta, 2019). Legal aid services help victims understand their legal rights, file necessary paperwork, and represent them in court proceedings, ensuring their voices are heard and their interests are protected (Kiamanesh & Hauge, 2018). Furthermore, support services can include practical assistance such as securing housing, financial support, and other resources essential for victims to rebuild their lives independently from their abusers (Kiamanesh & Hauge, 2018). By addressing the practical needs of victims, support services enhance their safety, stability, and overall well-being (Kiamanesh & Hauge, 2018)

4.2.3 Counseling and Therapy

The study established that Centre for domestic violence prevention used counselling and therapy to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county.

“We also offer counselling and therapy to help victims recover and rebuild their lives”

(Program officer, Centre for Domestic violence prevention,1st July 2024)

This was also supported by some of the victims of gender-based violence who had received counselling and therapy as seen below;

“Yes, I have received counseling and therapy from Centre for Domestic Violence

Prevention “**(Victim of gender-based violence,2nd July 2024)**

Counseling and therapy are essential in addressing domestic violence by providing victims with support, guidance and tools to cope with trauma and break free from violent situations. These interventions help victims navigate the emotional and psychological effects of domestic violence.

Therapeutic interventions for victims of domestic violence focus on trauma recovery, mental health promotion, and empowerment. By addressing the psychological impact of abuse, counseling and therapy help victims process their experiences, manage symptoms of trauma, and work towards healing and recovery Kelly & Johnson (2008). These interventions offer victims a safe space to express emotions, explore coping strategies, and restore self-esteem and agency (Ferrari et al., 2018).

Counseling and therapy can be tailored to the specific needs of victims of domestic violence, taking into account factors such as cultural background, age and individual circumstances. For example, solution-focused counseling has been effective in reducing rates of violence and increasing the quality of life of pregnant women at risk of domestic violence (Mohammadi et al., 2021). Empowering women through training and counseling sessions can significantly reduce domestic violence and strengthen emotional bonds in couples (Mohammadi et al., 2021).

4.2.4 Legal Assistance and Advocacy

The study established that CDVP provided free or low-cost legal services to help victims obtain restraining orders, navigate the legal system, and pursue justice.

“We provide free legal services to victims of domestic violence in this area” **(Executive**

Director, Centre fo Domestic Violence Prevention,2nd July 2024)

This was also corroborated by one of the beneficiaries of the legal services offered by Centre for Domestic Violence prevention.

“I have received legal assistance from Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention” (Victim of Domestic violence, 2nd July 2024)

Legal aid and advocacy is essential in addressing domestic violence by providing victims with the necessary support, protection and resources to navigate the legal system and seek justice. Legal interventions can empower victims, hold perpetrators accountable and prevent further abuse.

Paralegals are skilled at navigating the complexities of the legal system, accompanying survivors to court hearings, and advocating on their behalf with law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges Cuomo (2020). By providing legal representation and support, advocates ensure that victims' voices are heard, their rights are protected, and their interests are prioritized in the legal process (Chiappetta, 2019).

Protective orders, a common legal response to domestic violence, serve as a critical tool to ensure the safety and well-being of victims (Cordier et al., 2019). These civil orders provide legal protection by limiting the abuser's contact with the victim, preventing further abuse, and offering survivors a sense of security (Cordier et al., 2019). Legal advocates play a key role in helping victims obtain and enforce protective orders, thereby reducing the risk of recidivism in domestic violence cases (Cordier et al., 2019).

In addition, legal advocacy efforts are critical to driving systemic change, influencing policy reforms, and improving the legal framework to better protect victims of domestic violence (Golovko et al., 2023). By advocating for legislative changes, increased funding for support services, and improved coordination between government agencies and NGOs, legal advocates contribute to creating a more supportive and responsive environment for victims (Stamatakis, 2024).

4.2.5 Economic Empowerment Programs

The study established that CDVP carries out programs to empower the victims of domestic violence.

“We have programs that are aimed at empowering victims of domestic violence” (program officer, Centre for Domestic Violence, 2nd July 2024).

“Yes I have benefited from the empowerment programs offered by CDVP “(Victim of domestic violence, 2nd July 2024)

Economic empowerment programs play a significant role in addressing domestic violence by providing women with the financial independence, resources and opportunities that can help them break out of abusive situations and build a future free of violence. These programs

empower women to make decisions about their lives, increase their self-esteem and reduce their vulnerability to abuse.

Research has shown that economic empowerment, along with higher education and adjusted cultural norms, can serve as a protective factor against intimate partner violence (IPV) (Dalal, 2011). By providing women with economic freedom and employment opportunities, these programs contribute to reducing the risk of IPV and increasing women's ability to assert their rights and make decisions that support their well-being (Dalal, 2011).

Microfinance-based empowerment programs have been found to have positive effects on the prevention of domestic violence, as evidenced by studies conducted in South Africa (Dalal & Lindqvist, 2010). By offering women financial resources, training, and support, these programs enable women to become economically self-sufficient, thereby reducing their dependence on abusive partners and increasing their ability to leave abusive relationships (Dalal & Lindqvist, 2010).

By combining these approaches, CSOs aim to create a comprehensive and multi-faceted response to domestic violence, addressing both immediate needs and long-term solutions.

4.3 Effect of the interventions used by CDVP in addressing domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county

The interventions used by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to address gender-based violence (GBV) have various significant effects, including positive impacts on individuals, communities, and broader societal norms. Some of the key effects are discussed below

4.3.1 Improved Safety and Well-Being of Survivors

The study established that the Shelters and safe houses provided by CDVP to victims of domestic violence offered immediate refuge and safety for survivors.

“We have been able to safeguard many victims of domestic violence” (Program officer CDVP, 2nd July 2024)

“I was protected by CDVP during the time I was having problems with my former husband” (Victim of domestic violence 2nd July 2024).

Shelters and safe houses are specifically designed to protect and assist women and children from domestic violence and other forms of abuse, with the aim of controlling and reducing the prevalence of violence and its harmful effects Sharifi (2024). By providing a safe environment, these facilities promote the empowerment of intimate partner violence survivors and offer a supportive environment where individuals can access resources and help address their needs (Nnawulezi et al., 2018).

Survivors of gender-based violence have different housing needs and preferences, which underscores the importance of offering a variety of housing options, including domestic violence shelters, crisis hotels, transitional and long-term housing, group housing, safe housing on campuses for college students and financial and logistical assistance (Rizo et al., 2020). By providing a range of housing options, shelters meet the unique needs of survivors and ensure access to safe and appropriate housing.

4.3.2 Legal Support

The study established that the Legal assistance offered by centre for Domestic violence Prevention ensured that survivors can navigate the justice system, obtain restraining orders, and seek justice, contributing to their overall sense of safety and empowerment.

“We have secured restraining orders for many of our clients/survivors of domestic violence” **(Program officer, CDVP,1st July 2024)**

“Our legal team has attended to over 50 cases last year and the court has ruled in the favor of the victims and this is a win for us as CDVP” **(Executive Director, Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention,2nd July 2024)**

“I have benefitted from the legal assistance offered by CDVP to victims of domestic violence and am grateful because this enabled me to get justice and be protected from my abusers” **(Victim of Domestic violence,2nd July 2024)**

Legal aid allows victims to apply for protective orders, such as restraining orders, which are essential to keep them safe and prevent further abuse. These orders limit the abuser's contact with the victim and provide a legal mechanism to enforce boundaries and prevent future violence Chiappetta (2019). Legal aid services help victims understand their rights, fill out the necessary paperwork, and represent them in court proceedings to obtain protective orders.

In addition, legal aid helps victims gain custody of children, secure and maintain housing, remedy identity theft, and maintain employment. By addressing these legal needs, victims are empowered to rebuild their lives independently of their perpetrators and achieve stability and safety. Research has shown that legal representation is effective in helping victims of domestic violence navigate the legal process, obtain protective orders, and gain custody of their children.

4.3.3 Public Awareness

The study established that educational campaigns have increased public knowledge about GBV, its signs, and available resources, leading to greater community vigilance and responsiveness.

“Our campaigns against domestic violence have increased awareness on the dangers of domestic violence and this has led to the reduction in cases of domestic violence in this

subcounty. We used to have about ten cases of domestic violence a month reported to us but now this has changed ever since we kick started efforts to carry out awareness campaigns” **(Executive Director, CDVP,2nd July 2024)**

“Through the efforts of CDVP, we have been made aware of the dangers of domestic violence and now we work towards avoiding it in all ways” **(Chairman LCIII, Nakisunga subcounty).**

Public awareness campaigns are crucial in reducing cases of gender-based violence by raising awareness, changing attitudes, and promoting behavior change. These campaigns educate the public about the prevalence, impact, and consequences of gender-based violence, fostering a culture of intolerance towards such behaviors Jewkes et al. (2015). They challenge societal norms and stereotypes that perpetuate gender-based violence, aiming to shift attitudes and behaviors condoning or enabling abusive actions. By disseminating information about available support services, legal protections, and avenues for seeking help, these campaigns empower individuals to recognize abuse, seek assistance, and access resources that enhance their safety and well-being (Kim, 2023). Moreover, public awareness campaigns contribute to changing social norms and promoting gender equality, fundamental in preventing gender-based violence. Educational interventions challenging stereotypes, promoting healthy relationships, and empowering individuals to recognize and address violence have been shown to reduce violent behavior and foster respectful interactions (Villardón-Gallego et al., 2023). By empowering individuals to challenge harmful beliefs and behaviors, awareness campaigns create a foundation for building a more equitable and violence-free society.

4.3.4 Economic Empowerment and Independence

Economic empowerment programs enabled survivors to gain financial independence, reducing their vulnerability to continued abuse and improving their overall quality of life.

This was through skills development and employment services increase survivors' chances of obtaining stable employment, which is critical for long-term stability and safety.

“Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention has successfully economically empowered over 30 victims of domestic violence through skills development and these have been able to find gainful employment, while others have become entrepreneurs” **(Executive Director, CDVP,2nd July 2024)**

This was corroborated by one of the beneficiaries of the empowerment programs as seen below

“I am a beneficiary of CDVP skilling program, and through that I was able to start my own tailoring and cloth making business and am now empowered. I was able to even find

a loving man who doesn't abuse me” **(Former victim of domestic violence,1st July 2024)**

Economic empowerment programs are critical to supporting the financial independence of victims of domestic violence. These programs equip individuals with the necessary tools, resources, and skills to achieve economic autonomy and freedom from abusive situations. By increasing victims' financial knowledge, skills and confidence, these initiatives empower them to manage their finances independently and create security plans for their financial future Styliana (2018).

Victims of domestic violence often experience economic crises, job loss, and financial insecurity, which can increase their vulnerability to abuse due to their reliance on the perpetrator (Sharma & Khokhar, 2021). Strategies such as microfinance, group savings, and livelihood efforts aim to provide women with financial security and independence, ultimately reducing the prevalence of intimate partner violence (Dalal et al., 2022).

Recognizing economic dependence as a significant barrier for many women in abusive relationships, battered women's advocates are increasingly incorporating economic issues into domestic violence interventions (Sanders et al., 2007). These efforts focus on increasing victims' financial literacy, promoting economic self-sufficiency, and reducing their dependence on abusers for financial support.

4.3.5 Self-Efficacy of survivors of domestic violence

The study established that empowerment programs enhance survivors' sense of agency and self-efficacy, enabling them to make informed decisions and regain control over their lives.

“Some of the survivors of domestic violence have been empowered that they now feel a sense of self efficacy” **(Program officer, Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention,2nd July 2024)**

“I feel economically empowered now that I can make my decisions without having to fear about a man abusing me because now, I feel empowered as I have a business that generates revenue for me”. **(Survivor of Domestic violence,1st July 2024)**

Empowerment programs are critical to empowering domestic violence victims' sense of agency and self-efficacy. These programs aim to equip survivors with the tools, resources and support to regain control of their lives, make informed decisions and restore their self-worth and autonomy Cattaneo & Chapman (2010).

Participation in empowerment programs allows survivors to cultivate a stronger sense of self-efficacy that reflects their belief in their ability to achieve goals and overcome challenges

(Garcia et al., 2019). These initiatives typically focus on strengthening survivors' confidence, skills and knowledge to enable them to move towards healing, recovery and independence (Quattrochi et al., 2019).

Empowerment programs often target women who have experienced gender-based violence, recognizing that women survivors may have developed disempowering beliefs as a coping mechanism or encountered barriers to adopting empowering beliefs and preferences (Cattaneo et al., 2020). Through these programs, survivors are encouraged to challenge disempowering beliefs, assert their rights, and take steps to regain their agency and power (Menon & Allen, 2021).

Overall, the interventions of CSOs play a crucial role in addressing GBV by providing immediate support to survivors, preventing future violence, and fostering a more equitable and just society. While challenges remain, the positive effects of these interventions are substantial and contribute to long-term social transformation.

4.4 Barriers faced by CDVP in addressing domestic violence in Nakisunga Sub County.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) face numerous barriers when addressing domestic violence, which can hinder their effectiveness and limit their reach. These barriers can be broadly categorized into structural, societal, and resource-related challenges. Here are some of the key barriers:

4.4.1 Resource Constraints

The study established that insufficient funding limited the scope and sustainability of CSO programs, affecting their ability to provide comprehensive services and reach a larger number of survivors. This was submitted by the executive director who submitted as seen below,

“We are constrained by limited resources which make it difficult for us to provide services to a wider section of the people since we receive many cases of domestic violence” **(Executive Director, Centre for Domestic violence prevention, 2nd July 2024)**

The above study finding is supported by O'Reilly & Peters (2018) who argue that Resource constraints are a significant barrier to civil society organizations (CSOs) addressing domestic violence. The limited availability of resources such as finance, staff and time prevents civil society organizations from responding effectively to cases of domestic violence. Research has shown that economic abuse, inadequate structural responses, and lack of access to adequate resources such as domestic violence shelters and mental health systems are key contextual barriers that hinder efforts to combat domestic violence

(Overstreet & Quinn, 2013). Additionally, a lack of time, resources, and trust among health care providers in screening and referring cases of domestic violence further exacerbates this problem (O'Reilly & Peters, 2018). Added to this is the reluctance of health professionals to inquire directly about domestic violence due to factors such as lack of knowledge, fear of crime and time constraints (Bacchus et al., 2003).

4.4.2 Staffing Challenges

Lack of financial resources often results in understaffing, leading to burnout and high turnover among employees and volunteers. The low staffing is caused by the limited resource envelope. “The low staffing levels negatively affect service delivery to the population which we serve” **(Executive Director, Centre for Domestic violence prevention, 2nd July 2024)**

Low staffing significantly affects the efforts of civil society organizations (CSOs) to address domestic violence. Lack of staff can lead to increased workload, burnout and reduced capacity to provide comprehensive support to victims of domestic violence. Research has shown that CSO staff often need to strike a balance between addressing therapeutic needs and robust risk management in a complex patient cohort, highlighting the challenges they face due to limited staffing (O'Sullivan et al., 2020). In addition, the staffing of domestic violence services requires careful consideration, emphasizing the importance of having sufficient numbers of trained staff to effectively manage and respond to incidents of domestic violence (Hayati et al., 2014)

4.4.3 Bureaucratic Hurdles

The study established that there were bureaucratic hurdles which made it difficult to extend services to the populace. Complex and slow legal processes can discourage survivors from seeking justice and accessing necessary services.

“The bureaucracy with police affects the process of fast-tracking domestic violence perpetrators which hinders justice for the victims of domestic violence” **(Executive Director, CDVP, 2nd July 2024)**

Bureaucratic obstacles present a significant challenge to effectively addressing domestic violence. The bureaucratic and lengthy consultation processes used by some domestic violence forums and agencies can lead to formal and rigid outcomes, resulting in a decline in participant engagement over time and hindering the consultation process Hague & Mullender (2006). Additionally, bureaucratic control exercised by police departments over aspects of domestic violence policy implementation can create barriers that affect the enforcement of legislation aimed at combating violence against women (Farris & Holman, 2015). This bureaucratic

influence can prevent institutions from responding to the needs of victims of domestic violence and hinder the successful implementation of policies and interventions.

4.4.5 Cultural and Societal Norms

The study established that Cultural stigmas attached to domestic violence can prevent survivors from seeking help and disclosing abuse.

“Some of the victims of domestic violence have confessed to us how cultural barriers prevented victims of domestic violence from seeking help from both the police and the civil society organizations like Centre for Domestic violence prevention. This is a barrier to addressing domestic violence” **(Program officer, CDVP, 2nd July 2024)**

This was also shared by one of the survivors of domestic violence who was quoted as seen below;

“I used to fear reporting the abuse that my husbanding was carrying out on me because of my culture which encourage total submission of the wife to the husband, until I was encouraged by officials from CDEV who had come for a sensitization drive in my parish” **(Survivor of domestic violence, 1st July 2024)**

Cultural and societal norms can act as significant obstacles to addressing gender-based violence by perpetuating harmful beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors that condone or normalize violence against women. These norms often reinforce traditional gender roles, power dynamics, and expectations that contribute to the perpetuation of gender-based violence Stewart et al. (2021). In many societies, patriarchal structures and gender inequalities uphold social norms that subordinate women, limit their autonomy, and justify violence against them (Sikweyiya et al., 2020). Cultural norms that emphasize male dominance, control, and entitlement can create an environment where gender-based violence is tolerated or even justified (Vu et al., 2017). These norms may shape individuals' perceptions of acceptable behavior, influence power dynamics within relationships, and hinder efforts to challenge and address violence against women (Hayati et al., 2011). Moreover, societal norms that stigmatize victims, blame survivors for the violence they experience, or prioritize family harmony over individual well-being can discourage victims from seeking help and reporting abuse (Gruskin et al., 2014). These norms may create barriers to disclosure, support, and intervention, perpetuating a culture of silence and impunity around gender-based violence (Alesina et al., 2016). Additionally, cultural factors such as shame, fear of social stigma, and lack of awareness about available resources can

further deter victims from seeking assistance and accessing support services (Alesina et al., 2020). These factors may reinforce feelings of isolation, powerlessness, and helplessness among survivors, making it challenging for them to break free from abusive situations.

4.4.6 Lack of Awareness and Education

Lack of awareness about domestic violence, its consequences, and available resources can prevent survivors from seeking help and communities from supporting them.

“So many victims of domestic violence are still ignorant about domestic violence and so they don’t report cases of domestic violence, and this a barrier” **(program officer CDVP, 2nd July 2024)**

This is supported by earlier research which shows that Lack of awareness and education is a significant barrier to addressing domestic violence, preventing both victims and professionals from effectively recognizing, responding to, and preventing abuse. Victims may experience difficulties in seeking help due to limited knowledge of available services, fear of repercussions and privacy concerns Kunasagran (2024). This lack of awareness can prevent victims from accessing support and protection, perpetuating their vulnerability to abuse (Vonkeman et al., 2019).

Healthcare professionals, including nurses and doctors, may also face barriers related to education and awareness of intimate partner violence that affect their ability to identify and intervene in cases of domestic violence (Arrab & Ibrahim, 2018). Lack of training and education can leave healthcare providers feeling unprepared and lacking confidence in addressing domestic violence, resulting in missed opportunities for early intervention and support (Kirk & Bezzant, 2020).

Security and Safety Concerns

The study established that there were security concerns which were a barrier to addressing gender-based violence.

This was reported by the program officer of CDVP who argued that “security concerns cause victims to hold back and not report the cases of domestic violence” **(Program officer, CDVP, 2nd July 2024)**

Victims of domestic violence may hesitate to seek help due to fear of retaliation by the abuser, concerns about privacy and confidentiality, and doubts about the effectiveness of available

interventions Boxall et al. (2020). These safety concerns can prevent victims from disclosing abuse, accessing support services, and taking steps to leave abusive relationships.

Domestic violence professionals may also face safety concerns that hinder their ability to effectively address cases of abuse. For example, safety and security risks in court mediation programs can impede the fair and safe resolution of domestic violence cases (Pearson, 1997). Concerns about the safety of victims, professionals and the effectiveness of interventions can pose challenges in providing appropriate support and protection to victims of domestic violence.

4.4.7 Dependency on Abusers

The study found that Economic or emotional dependence on abusers can prevent survivors from leaving abusive situations and seeking support.

“We have registered cases where some victims of domestic violence fear seeking help because they entirely depend on their husbands who in most cases are the abusers which is a barrier in addressing domestic violence” **(Program officer, CDVP, 1st July 2024)**

This is supported by earlier research which shows that dependence on abusers can prevent victims of domestic violence from seeking help because of various factors that influence their decision-making and ability to seek help. Research shows that victims may face internal and external barriers that hinder their help-seeking behavior Beaulaurier et al. (2005). These barriers may include feelings of shame, fear of consequences, privacy concerns, and lack of awareness of available support services (Huntley et al., 2019).

Victims of domestic violence may experience psychological consequences such as fear, anger, depression, and low self-esteem, which may further inhibit their willingness to seek help (Leone et al., 2007). Additionally, societal factors, including gender norms, power dynamics, and cultural expectations, may contribute to victims' reluctance to disclose abuse and seek help (Rohn & Tenkorang, 2022).

In addition, victims may face issues related to their financial dependence on the abuser, which may limit their ability to seek help on their own. Economic factors such as lack of financial resources, housing insecurity, and fear of losing financial support can create significant barriers to leaving abuse and seeking help (Sharma & Khokhar, 2021).

Despite these barriers, CSOs continue to play a crucial role in addressing domestic violence through resilience, innovation, and persistent advocacy. Overcoming these challenges often requires a multifaceted approach, involving collaboration with government agencies, increased funding, public education, and policy reforms.

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the conclusion and recommendations.

5.2 CONCLUSION

The study concludes as follows

- On objective one, the study concludes that Centre for Domestic violence prevention used the following approaches to address domestic violence.
- The study concludes that the organization used awareness and education campaigns to address domestic violence.
- The study established that Centre for domestic violence prevention provided support services in form of providing hotlines and helplines that offer 24/7 helplines for victims to call for immediate assistance and counseling.
- The study established that Centre for domestic violence prevention used counselling and therapy to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county
- The study established that CDVP provided free or low-cost legal services to help victims obtain restraining orders, navigate the legal system, and pursue justice.
- The study established that CDVP carries out programs to empower the victims of domestic violence.

On objective two, the study concludes that the effects of the approaches used by Centre for Domestic violence prevention had the following effects as seen below.

The study concludes that there was improved safety and well-being of survivors

- The study concludes that the Legal assistance offered by Centre for Domestic violence Prevention ensured that survivors can navigate the justice system, obtain restraining orders, and seek justice, contributing to their overall sense of safety and empowerment.
- The study concludes that educational campaigns have increased public knowledge about GBV, its signs, and available resources, leading to greater community vigilance and responsiveness.

- The study concludes that Economic empowerment programs enabled survivors to gain financial independence, reducing their vulnerability to continued abuse and improving their overall quality of life.
- The study concludes that empowerment programs enhanced survivors' sense of agency and self-efficacy, enabling them to make informed decisions and regain control over their lives.

On objective three the study concludes as follows,

- The study concludes that insufficient funding limited the scope and sustainability of CSO programs, affecting their ability to provide comprehensive services and reach a larger number of survivors
- The study concludes that Lack of financial resources often results in understaffing, leading to burnout and high turnover among employees and volunteers.
- The study concludes that there were bureaucratic hurdles which made it difficult to extend services to the populace.
- The study concludes that Cultural stigmas attached to domestic violence can prevent survivors from seeking help and disclosing abuse.
- The study concludes that Lack of awareness about domestic violence, its consequences, and available resources can prevent survivors from seeking help and communities from supporting them.
- The study concludes that there were security concerns which were a barrier to addressing gender-based violence
- The study concludes that Economic or emotional dependence on abusers can prevent survivors from leaving abusive situations and seeking support

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concludes as follows,

There should be increased funding for activities of Centre for domestic violence prevention so as to increase the provision of services to a wider section of people in Nakisunga sub county.

The increase in funding can as well enable the increase in staffing levels so as to reduce burnout that is experienced by the employees.

There should be reduction in the bureaucracy levels so as to expedite the process of granting justice to victims of domestic violence in Nakisunga Sub County.

5.4 AREAS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Research should be conducted on a similar topic while utilizing a pragmatic approach

A similar study should be carried out but covering a wider geographical location so as to provide results for comparison.

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Appendix i. Consent Form

I am Matovu Douglas, a student of Uganda Christian University offering a bachelors degree in Governance and international relations. I am currently conducting a research study as part of the requirement for me to graduate with my degree. I request that you participate in this study since you are suitable and deemed resourceful to this study.

There is no financial gain attached to this study, but the outcome can be of importance in addressing issues of domestic violence.

In case of any concern regarding the study, please contact the researcher on Telephone number- 0776551916.

Appendix ii. Interview Guide

What approaches are used by CSOs to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county

- i. Could you please provide an overview of your organization and its mission in the field of domestic violence prevention?
- ii. How long has your organization been dealing with domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- iii. What motivated your organization to focus on this issue specifically in Nakisunga sub county?
- iv. What specific approaches or strategies does your organization use to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- v. Could you describe any programs or initiatives your organization has implemented to address domestic violence?
- vi. How do you identify and prioritize the needs of individuals affected by domestic violence in the community?
- vii. Are there any partnerships or collaborations that your organization is involved in to increase its efforts to combat domestic violence?
- viii. What are some of the main challenges your organization faces in its efforts to address domestic violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- ix. Can you share any success stories or positive outcomes from your organization's interventions?
- x. How does your organization measure the effectiveness of its interventions in reducing domestic violence?
- xi. How does your organization involve the local community in its initiatives to address domestic violence?
- xii. What strategies do you use to raise awareness of domestic violence and promote behavior change in the community?
- xiii. Plans for the future:
- xiv. What are the future plans or goals of your organization in the area of domestic violence prevention in Nakisunga sub county?
- xv. Is your organization considering any new approaches or strategies in the future?

2 What is the effect of the interventions used by CSOs to address gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?

- i. What motivated your organization to focus on this issue specifically in Nakisunga sub county?
- ii. What specific interventions or strategies is your organization using to address gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- iii. Could you describe any programs or initiatives your organization has implemented to address gender-based violence?
- iv. How do you tailor your interventions to the unique needs and challenges faced by individuals affected by gender-based violence in the parish?
- v. Are there any partnerships or collaborations that your organization is involved in to increase its efforts to combat gender-based violence?
- vi. In your opinion, what have been the main effects or outcomes of the interventions implemented by your organization in addressing gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- vii. Can you provide any specific examples or success stories resulting from your organization's interventions?
- viii. How does your organization measure the effectiveness of its interventions in reducing gender-based violence and supporting victims?
- ix. How does your organization engage the local community in its initiatives to address gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- x. What strategies do you use to raise awareness of gender-based violence and promote gender equality in the community?
- xi. What are some of the main challenges your organization faces in its efforts to address gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?
- xii. Were there any lessons learned or unexpected problems you encountered while implementing your interventions?
- xiii. What are the future plans or goals of your organization regarding the prevention of gender-based violence in Nakisunga sub county?

Appendix iv. Research work plan

Activity	Time frame	Material needed	Person responsible
Concept and proposal writing	One month	Laptop, internet and power	Researcher/student
Data collection	One week	Recorder	Research Assistant and the student
Dissertation writing	One month	Laptop	student
Disertation submission	One week		