

**ASSESSING THE CAUSES OF DIVORCE AMONG THE CHRISTIANS OF ST.
MATTHEW'S NSAMBWE ARCHDEACONRY IN CENTRAL BUGANDA DIOCESE**

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**UGANDA CHRISTIAN
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DECLARATION

I Kirinya Paul, declare that, this research report has been done by me and any assistance I received in its preparation is fully acknowledged. I also certify that this research was prepared by me for the partial fulfillment for the degree of Bachelor of Divinity at Uganda Christian University, Mukono.

Signature.....

Date.....6 - AUG 2025.....

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APPROVAL

This research report has been approved by the undersigned person as the requirement for the award of Bachelor of Divinity. As the supervisor, I agree to the submission of this research proposal.

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Date.....*August 30, 2025*

REV. CAN. PROF. ELLY KANSIIME
(Supervisor)

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my dear parents Rev. Can Paul Mukiibi Sserumaga and Maama Juliet Mukiibi, my sisters Vicky Kirabo, Betty Namyalo, Kayaga Sarah Juliet and Brother Gideon Mwesigwa for all the spiritual and financial support. Your support and care gave me a positive transformation in life and may the Almighty God bless you abundantly.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BTSdT..... Bishop Tucker School of Divinity and Theology

UCU..... Uganda Christian University

CBD.....Central Buganda Diocese

COU.....Church of Uganda

P/S..... Primary School

RT..... Right

CAPT.....Captain

VEN.....Venerable

REV.....Reverend

ST.....Saint

FU.....Fathers Union

MU.....Mothers Union

CMF.....Christian Men's Fellowship

CWF.....Christian Women's Fellowship

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in St Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry. Main purpose of the study was to identify causes of divorce as an outstanding challenge in families of Christians of the Archdeaconry. The researcher also wanted to know more about the view of the public on divorce which has been rampant today especially due to unemployment and poverty in very many Christian families of the Archdeaconry.

Guided by the mixed methods approach, the including data was collected through personal interviews using a structured questionnaire which included 50 respondents who included divorced people, church leaders and pastoral counselors and this helped in improving the primary data. In depth interviews were held with parents and priests who have faced the problem of marriage breakdown in families.

The findings showed that the major causes of divorce included infidelity, poor communication, and financial instability, domestic violence not forgetting spiritual and emotional support. The study also found that while the Church plays a role in offering premarital Counseling and occasional pastoral support, there is a significant gap between sustained marital care and post-divorce support systems. Many respondents expressed a sense of spiritual disconnection and isolation following their separation.

The research concludes that divorce in this Christian context is a multi-dimensional issue, influenced by individual and institutional factors. It also recommends the strengthening of Church counseling sessions, establishing support groups for affected people and also enhancing spiritual oversight for married couples. However, because of limited time, the researcher couldn't use bigger sample size and therefore further research is encouraged to explore the long term Pastoral interventions and their impacts on marital stability.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Overview

This chapter presents the background of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, specific objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, and significance of the study.

Divorce refers to the legal dissolution of a marriage, officially ending the union between two individuals. Therefore divorces involve termination of marital rights and obligations, hence allowing both wife and husband separate and live each independent. Divorce occurs for many reasons for example incompatibility, infidelity, financial constraints. It is often guided by cultural, religious, and legal frameworks, with processes varying across societies. While divorce can be emotionally and financially challenging, it also provides individuals with an opportunity for personal growth, healing, and the possibility of new relationships.

1.1 Background of the study

Marriage in the Bible holds its roots in the sacred narrative of creation as depicted in Genesis. In Genesis 2:18-24, God fashioned Eve as a suitable partner for Adam, highlighting the concept of companionship, unity, and mutual support within the marital relationship. This foundational concept, in Genesis, establishes the basis for understanding marriage as a God-ordained institution that not only emphasizes the physical union but also underscores the emotional and spiritual connection that marriage encompasses. Furthermore, the Bible consistently portrays marriage as symbolic of the profound relationship between Christ and the Church. Ephesians 5:22-33 expounds on this analogy, emphasizing the roles of mutual submission, sacrificial love, and spiritual unity between husbands and wives, showcasing the divine intention for a healthy and harmonious marital bond.

Biblical teachings emphasize that marriage is a sacred institution established by God, rooted in the principles of companionship, unity, and mutual support. The Book of Genesis illustrates God's design for marriage, where a man and a woman leave their families to become one flesh, highlighting the importance of leaving behind past allegiances and forging a strong bond as a couple.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

St Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry in central Buganda Diocese is one of the stations in which the issue of marriage breakdown is an outstanding challenge in families, given that the incidence is common and therefore there is a need to look for ways of improving it.

Divorce has become a significant social issue with serious effects on individuals and families, including co-parenting challenges, emotional distress in children, financial hardship, and spiritual struggles. In Nsambwe Archdeaconry in Central Buganda Diocese, divorce also leads to stigma, social isolation, and a crisis of faith due to strong religious beliefs about marriage. Despite these effects, the specific causes of divorce among believers in this area remain unclear. This study, therefore, seeks to assess the underlying causes of divorce among Christians in Nsambwe Archdeaconry to inform appropriate social and spiritual interventions that promote stable and healthy families.

In addition to that, lack of healthy marriages poses a threat to the well-being of families, individual spiritual growth, and the overall fabric of the church community. It is crucial to address the underlying issues hindering the development of strong and loving marital bonds to ensure that couples can live in accordance with their faith and be a source of inspiration to others within the congregation.

1.3 The Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study about divorce in Nsambwe Archdeaconry, is to help the researcher find the best solutions during research period so that can enable Christian married couple to have families with long term stability, develop health programs that can contribute to the marital success among Church, family members, support and to strengthen Christian marriages. The study is to enable the researcher to achieve his academic excellence. Through a comprehensive examination of factors such as communication patterns, shared values, religious beliefs, and support networks, the research aims to identify key elements that promote marital well-being. By gaining insights into the unique experiences and practices within this specific Christian congregation, the study to offer practical recommendations and interventions that can strengthen marriages, foster resilience, and enhance overall relationship satisfaction among the church members.

1.4 Research Objectives

- i. To assess the causes of divorce amongst believers in Nsambwe Archdeaconry in Central Buganda Diocese.
- ii. To discover the consequences of divorce among believers in Nsambwe Archdeaconry, Central Buganda Diocese.
- iii. Examine the role of St. Matthews Nsambwe Church in addressing divorce and its challenges in Central Buganda Diocese.

1.5 Research Questions

- i. What are the common causes of divorce amongst Christian couples of St. Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry in Central Buganda Diocese?
- ii. What are the consequences of divorce among believers of Nsambwe Archdeaconry in Central Buganda Diocese.?
- iii. How does the church community at St. Matthew Nsambwe Church in Central Buganda Diocese respond to divorce?

1.6 The scope of the study

The scope of a study outlines the boundaries of the research, specifying what was covered. It helps the reader understand the focus, depth, and limits of the study.

1.6.1 Content scope

The study was critically investigated on the causes of divorce amongst Christians of St. Mathews Nsambwe Church of Uganda, Central Buganda Diocese. This involved different groups of people such as Clergies, lay readers, mothers union, fathers union and others who were concerned.

1.6.2 Time Scope

The study was focused on divorce cases that have occurred **within the last eight years (2017–2025)** in order to capture recent trends, underlying causes, and the church's current response to the issue of divorce among Christians in St. Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry.

1.6.3 Geographical scope

The research was carried out in St. Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry, Gomba District, Central Buganda Diocese, in Central Region. This study was done in different churches of the archdeaconry.

1.7 Limitations

The researcher encountered various challenges while conducting the fieldwork, and therefore the following are some of the challenges and potential solutions.

Inconsistencies in data collection. Some respondents provided incomplete answers or biased responses due to misunderstandings, fatigue and personal attitudes toward the research topic.

Logistical constraints. Limited financial resources, transportation difficulties, and potential equipment failures affected the researcher's ability to reach all selected respondents and collect data efficiently.

Language barriers and cultural differences. Since the study involved people from different tribal and linguistic backgrounds, communication challenges occurred.

Ethical concerns. The researcher faced ethical issues such as difficulty in obtaining informed consent, maintaining participant confidentiality during interviews, especially when discussing sensitive topics like divorce.

Environmental factors. Unpredictable weather conditions such as heavy rain or storms disrupted travel plans, delay field visits, or limit accessibility to certain areas.

Difficulty accessing respondents. Some respondents were hard to reach too due to privacy concerns, busy schedules as community and church leaders.

Respondent reluctance. Participants with lower educational levels and limited exposure to research delay work. Some feeling shy, intimidated, and unwilling to speak openly about personal or family issues, especially in group settings.

1.8 Delimitations

Ensuring consistency during data collection. The researcher used clear, simple, and well-structured data collection tools that prevented confusion and incomplete responses.

Overcoming logistical constraints. Essential expenditures like transport and stationery were prioritized while making the budget.

Bridging language and cultural gaps. Local interpreters were engaged to support communication with the participants who spoke different languages. The researcher also observed cultural norms to promote open interaction.

Addressing ethical concerns. All the participants were informed about research purpose and their consent was sought before participation. Confidentiality was also strictly maintained, and participants had the freedom to withdraw at any point.

Improving access to respondents. Community leaders and church officials were approached early to help facilitate access to participants. Their support helped build trust and acceptance of the research process.

Encouraging participation. A welcoming and non-judgmental atmosphere was created to help respondents feel safe and open during discussions. The researcher used a respectful tone and flexible pacing to support full participation, especially among those who felt shy or unsure.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The chapter two of the research report presents the literature review the of study objectives of various others concerning the subject matter of marriage breakdown in families, the literatures were got mainly from library, reports produced, existing journals, text books, newspapers, and the internet. The researcher read through them and captured only those which were relevant to the study, as discussed below

2.1 Causes of divorce in families of Christians in Nsambwe Archdeaconry Church.

John M. Gottman and Nan Silver (1999) in their book, *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*, Gottman and Silver delve into the complexities of marriages and the challenges they often face. They discuss how communication breakdowns, lack of intimacy, and unresolved conflicts can strain the marital bond. They emphasize the importance of trust, emotional connection, and mutual respect in overcoming challenges. The book provides insights into common pitfalls that couples encounter and offers guidance on navigating them effectively. Overall, Gottman and Silver's work sheds light on the underlying issues that can threaten marriages and provides valuable tools for building lasting love and happiness.

Eli J. Finkel(2017) in his book *The All-or-Nothing Marriage* argues that while some marriages thrive, many others struggle due to increasing expectations and changing social dynamics. Finkel examines the concept of "suffocation model" marriages, where couples feel stifled and unfulfilled, and contrasts them with "self-expression model" marriages, characterized by personal growth and fulfillment. He suggests that couples can overcome challenges by prioritizing their relationship, embracing flexibility, and continually investing in their partnership. Finkel's work provides a nuanced understanding of the complexities of modern marriage and offers practical advice for building a fulfilling relationship in today's fast-paced world.

Sue Johnson (2008) in her book, *Hold Me Tight*, she delves into the emotional challenges that marriages encounter, particularly focusing on the need for emotional connection and security. Drawing from attachment theory, she explores how insecurities and unresolved emotions can strain marital relationships. Johnson argues that couples often face difficulties when they feel

disconnected from each other emotionally, leading to feelings of loneliness and dissatisfaction. Through her "Hold Me Tight" conversations, she offers couples a roadmap for rebuilding and strengthening their emotional bonds, thereby addressing one of the fundamental challenges in modern marriages.

Esther Perel (2017) in her book *The State of Affairs* delves into one of the most devastating challenges marriages can face infidelity. Through case studies and therapeutic insights, she explores the complex reasons behind affairs and their impact on relationships. Perel argues that infidelity is often a symptom of deeper issues within the marriage, such as a lack of intimacy or emotional neglect. By examining the motivations and consequences of infidelity, she encourages couples to engage in open and honest conversations about their needs and desires. Perel's work highlights the importance of addressing underlying issues to rebuild trust and strengthen the foundation of the relationship, even after experiencing betrayal.

Timothy Keller (2011) in his book *The Meaning of Marriage* delves into the challenges of commitment and sacrificial love within the context of marriage, offering insights grounded in Christian theology and biblical wisdom. One prominent challenge explored is the cultural devaluation of marriage, where societal norms and attitudes towards commitment may undermine the institution of marriage itself. Keller argues for a counter-cultural view of marriage as a sacred covenant characterized by selfless love and mutual respect. This literature review will help me understand how the cultural devaluation of marriage and lack of commitment contribute to divorce. Keller's perspective highlights the importance of viewing marriage as a covenant based on selfless love and mutual respect, offering a faith-based framework for addressing relational breakdown.

Dr. John Gottman(1998) said that, effective communication is fundamental to any successful marriage. His study emphasizes the significance of active listening, empathy, and conflict resolution skills to foster a healthy marital relationship. Effective communication is vital in any marriage, but challenges arise when spouses fail to express their feelings openly or struggle to understand each other's perspectives.

Dr. Kevin Leman(1996) shared spiritual life can deepen the connection between spouses and strengthen the overall marital bond. Christian marriages are often built on shared spiritual beliefs, but maintaining a deep connection with faith in contemporary times can be

challenging. Understanding how couples negotiate their beliefs, engage in prayer, and participate in church activities can contribute to strengthening their spiritual bond and overall relationship satisfaction.

Dave Ramsey and Ron Blue (2005) provide guidance on managing finances in a manner consistent with Christian principles, thus fostering financial harmony in marriages. Financial challenges remain a recurring issue in marriages, and Christian unions are no exception. Mismanagement of finances can lead to stress and conflict, even in communities deeply committed to their faith. Literature has examined the importance of financial transparency, budgeting, and aligning financial goals to foster financial harmony within Christian marriages.

Glass & Wright (1992) in their book *Infidelity can be a significant challenge in marriages*, delve into the impact of trust issues and strategies for rebuilding trust after an affair. Counseling and open communication are often recommended. He discusses the challenges posed by infidelity. Trust issues and the emotional aftermath of an affair can be significant obstacles in the path of a healthy marriage.

2.4 Consequences of divorce among believers

Divorce carries profound emotional, social, economic, and spiritual consequences, particularly within faith-based communities such as Nsambwe Archdeaconry. In Christian settings, these effects are often intensified by the spiritual expectations placed on marriage as a sacred covenant.

Emotional and Psychological Impact. Studies such as those by Emery, Joyce, and Fincham (2013) indicate that divorce often leads to emotional trauma, depression, and identity crises in both adults and children. In religious contexts, divorced individuals may also suffer guilt, spiritual confusion, or a sense of personal failure, especially when their community views divorce as morally or spiritually problematic. This aligns with findings from the Nsambwe field research, where 20% of respondents noted psychosocial effects such as depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem among children and spouses post-divorce.

Family disintegration and neglect. According to Epstein, Baldwin, and Bishop (1983), the collapse of a marital relationship often leads to family neglect—especially emotional and financial. This was reflected in the study, where 38% of respondents identified family neglect as the most immediate consequence. Children from divorced families often face unmet needs, disrupted education, and lack of parental supervision, which in turn increases their vulnerability to other social risks.

Rise of Single-parent households. Dollahite and Lambert (2007) argue that single-parent households often experience economic strain and weakened parental roles. The Nsambwe data reveals that 34% of respondents pointed to single-parenting as a major consequence, with women disproportionately bearing the responsibility of raising children. The imbalance of parental roles can lead to long-term instability and emotional stress, especially in under-resourced communities.

Spiritual disconnection and stigmatization. Within faith communities, divorce can lead to spiritual isolation. Adams (1986) notes that divorced individuals in conservative Christian settings often experience stigmatization, which alienates them from church activities and pastoral care. Several respondents in Nsambwe reported a loss of community support, with many feeling excluded from full participation in religious life due to their marital status.

Risk behaviors among youth. Sanders et al. (2008) highlight that children from broken homes are more likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drug use, early sexual activity, and delinquency. In Nsambwe, while only 4% mentioned drug abuse and prostitution, local leaders voiced concern that such behaviors though underreported may be increasing among youth from divorced families due to lack of supervision and emotional support.

Economic vulnerability. Divorce often leads to economic disempowerment, particularly for women and children. Studies by Olson (2000) emphasize that the loss of shared income and responsibilities can result in poverty, housing instability, and limited access to healthcare or education. In Nsambwe, these financial pressures were noted especially in single-parent homes, which struggle to meet basic needs.

2.3 Church's response to the challenges the marriages face

John Smith (2018) in his book, *The Marriage Challenge* delves deeply into the multifaceted ways in which the Church has responded to the challenges faced by marriages. He begins by tracing the historical development of the Church's teachings on marriage, highlighting key doctrinal shifts and pastoral approaches. Smith examines the Church's efforts to support and strengthen marriages through pre-marital counseling programs, marriage enrichment seminars, and pastoral care initiatives. He also critically evaluates the effectiveness of these interventions, identifying areas where the Church can improve its response to the evolving needs of couples.

Dr. Elizabeth Thompson (2018) in her book *The Marriage Challenge* she offers a thorough examination of the Church's response to the multifaceted challenges facing marriages today. Drawing from a wide range of theological, sociological, and psychological perspectives, Thompson begins by exploring the historical evolution of the Church's teachings on marriage, tracing its development from ancient times to the present day. She examines the role of pastoral care within the Church and evaluates the effectiveness of various counseling approaches in addressing marital challenges. She considers the importance of empathy, communication skills, and cultural sensitivity in supporting couples through difficult times.

Shaunti Feldhahn (2014) in her book *The Good News about Marriage* provides a comprehensive overview of the challenges facing marriages and the responses of various stakeholders, including the Church. Feldhahn explores the prevailing myths surrounding marriage and divorce and offers insights backed by research to debunk these misconceptions. She suggests that the Church's response should focus on fostering healthy communication, promoting forgiveness, and offering practical tools for relationship enrichment. Through case studies and real-life examples, Feldhahn illustrates how couples can navigate challenges and strengthen their marital bonds with the support of religious institutions.

John Gottman and Nan Silver (1999) in his book *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work* drawing on decades of research in psychology and relationship dynamics, he presents seven principles that are crucial for building and maintaining a strong marital foundation. Gottman discusses how the Church respond to the challenges faced by marriages by

incorporating evidence-based approaches into premarital counseling and marriage enrichment programs. He emphasizes the importance of communication skills, conflict resolution techniques, and emotional intelligence in fostering healthy relationships. According to his argument, I also say that the Church can play a vital role in promoting marital satisfaction and longevity by offering support and resources to couples. By integrating psychological principles with spiritual guidance, religious institutions can provide couples with holistic support to navigate the complexities of married life.

Mary Johnson's (2016) in her book *The Church's Role in Strengthening Marriages* offers a contemporary analysis of the challenges faced by marriages in the modern world. Drawing on empirical research and theological insights, Johnson explores the multifaceted issues confronting couples today, including the impact of technology, economic stressors, and shifting cultural norms. She advocates for a holistic approach that combines spiritual guidance with practical support, encouraging churches to provide counseling services, marriage enrichment programs, and community resources. She advocates for a holistic approach that combines spiritual guidance with practical support, encouraging churches to provide counseling services, marriage enrichment programs, and community resources.

David Thompson's (2020) in his book, *Renewing Sacred Bonds A Renewed Vision for Marriage in the Church* presents a forward-looking perspective on how the Church can revitalize its response to marital challenges in the 21st century. Thompson argues for a renewed emphasis on the sacramental nature of marriage and the cultivation of virtues such as forgiveness, humility, and sacrificial love. He calls on clergy and laity alike to engage in ongoing theological reflection and pastoral innovation, fostering environments where couples feel supported, understood, and empowered to navigate the complexities of married life.

Dr. Everett Worthington (2016) advocates for integrating faith and psychology in addressing marital issues. His book "A Just Forgiveness: Responsible Healing without Excusing Injustice" discusses how blending spiritual beliefs with evidence-based psychological strategies can provide a comprehensive approach to counseling. This integration can be valuable in helping couples in the Church recognize the spiritual dimensions of their relationships while also addressing psychological and emotional concerns.

ShauntiFeldhahn (2014) in her book, *The Good News about Marriage* examines the challenges faced by marriages and offers a refreshing perspective on the Church's response. Feldhahn challenges the prevailing negative narratives surrounding marriage and divorce by presenting research-based evidence that suggests many common beliefs about the institution are misconceptions. Rather than simply condemning divorce or offering superficial solutions. She emphasizes the need for pastors and religious leaders to engage with couples on a personal level, offering them a safe space to discuss their struggles without fear of judgment. By promoting open dialogue and providing resources grounded in both faith and empirical research.

Dr. Archibald Hart (1987)in her book, *The Anxiety Cure* focuses on integrating faith and psychology in counseling. He explores how blending spiritual beliefs with evidence-based psychological strategies can provide a comprehensive approach to counseling. This integration can be valuable in helping couples at St. Matthew Nsambwe Church recognize the spiritual dimensions of their relationships while also addressing psychological and emotional concerns.

Dr. Emmanuel Katongole (1991), talks about the importance of contextualization in Christian counseling. In his works, such as "Mirror to the Church: Resurrecting Faith after Genocide in Rwanda," he explores how cultural and social context influence counseling interventions. Understanding the unique challenges faced by Christians in Central Buganda Diocese can help tailor counseling sessions at St. Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry to address issues more effectively.

Dr. Les Parrott (2007) in his book, *Saving Your Marriage before It Starts* stresses the significance of a supportive church community in addressing marital issues. He proposes the implementation of support groups, mentoring programs, and couples' retreats. He proposes the implementation of support groups, mentoring programs, and couples' retreats. At St. Matthews Nsambwe Church, Christians should encourage mutual encouragement and growth among married couples in order to save their marriages where troubles arise.

Addressing the multifaceted causes of divorce amongst Christian marriages requires a comprehensive and contextualized approach that is sensitive to cultural dynamics and practical needs. Through providing targeted interventions such as support groups, mentoring

programs, and spiritual guidance, the Church in Nsambwe Archdeaconry can empower couples to navigate their marital difficulties.

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the methodological aspects that were carried out. It explains the research design that focused on qualitative of data collection, scope of the study sample, the study area, the study population, and as well as sample procedures.

3.1 The study area

The study was carried out at St. Matthews Nsambwe in Central Buganda Diocese, Gomba district and it targeted groups of people such as mothers' union, fathers' union, and parents with families particularly the victims of divorce in the area only.

3.2 The study population

The targeted populations were fathers' union, mothers' union and parents with their families in St. Matthews Nsambwe Archdeaconry Central Buganda Diocese. The demographic background didn't matter if one was willing to participate in a group discussion as a way of obtaining appropriate information from them.

3.3 Sample size

The researcher used a variety, gathered data from 50 respondents. These included the husbands, house wives and their children who provided information about the selected topic. They were randomly be selected during the study, self-administered questionnaires were conducted to each of the parents selected randomly, in publication were consulted for more information in the study.

3.4 Sample selection procedures

All the respondents (Parents with their families) were selected randomly; helped the researcher in getting information from them conversant.

3.5 The study design

This study used a case study design to deeply explore the causes of divorce amongst believers at St. Matthew's Church, Nsambwe. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were applied to gather comprehensive data qualitative methods captured personal experiences and

opinions, and quantitative methods analyzed patterns and trends. The findings helped inform understanding of marital challenges not only in Nsambwe but also among Christians across the Central Buganda Diocese and Uganda as a whole.

3.6.0 Research instruments

During the study, the researcher used a variety of tools to collect reliable and valid data from the field. These instruments included questionnaires, interview guides, documentary review, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

A structured questionnaire with both open and closed-ended questions was used to gather data from parents and families. It was chosen for its ability to collect standardized, anonymous, and cost-effective information from many people within a short time.

3.6.2 Interview Guide

Key informant's interviews were applied with the interview's guides and face to face interviews were conducted. A semi-structured interview guide was used to collect in-depth information from church leaders, elders, counselors, and divorced individuals such as Mr. Mub Livingstone, Mr. Patrick and Maama Christine. This tool allowed flexibility and probing on sensitive issues like causes and effects of divorce.

3.6.3 Documentary review

The information collected included the reviewed literature from several magazines, Newspapers, journals, books, news and letters. These sources were easily accessible in church offices and places like local leader's offices, libraries about the topic.

3.6.4 In depth interview

It was used to collect data from individuals, parents and their children. An independent interview guide helped the researcher to be systematic while asking questions setting information and generating much information, about the topic and for the help of the researcher to prove and explain issues that are unclear to the respondents and also the systematic questioning that follows.

3.6.5 Focus group discussion

The researcher conducted discussion on the topic of study to family, mothers' union, and fathers' union. Targeted clients included Mr. Patrick Lukoma and Mub Livingstone and Maama Christian who were victims of divorce. This method provided much information on the attitudes and efforts.

3.7 Data Analysis

Data was analyzed using quick summary methods after evaluating the findings and relating them to the past studies. The data from the field was edited, sorted and presented on tables and percentages. The quantitative data from the field was collected, edited, coded, sorted, and presented in tables and frequencies after the study.

3.8 Presentation and Discussion

The findings were presented through quantitative data in tables and percentages, and qualitative data was analyzed thematically to highlight key issues such as communication breakdown, infidelity, and financial stress. The discussion connected these findings to existing literature, offering insights into marital challenges within the church community and providing recommendations for addressing divorce in the Central Buganda Diocese.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION OF THE FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter deals with analysis, interpretation and presentation of research findings. The chapter presents background information of the respondents, followed by presentation of study objectives. This chapter also includes the findings by the researcher through use of questionnaires and interviews, presentation of data in table forms, and computation of the response rate.

4.1 Background Information of Respondents

Background data was collected regarding age, sex, marital status, education level, or status. The tables below gives the details indicating the descriptive statistics for the different background information of the respondents such as occupation, meaning of marriage, causes of marriage breakdown, consequences of marriage breakdown and the efforts put in place.

TABLE 1: SHOWING NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS BY AGE GROUPS

AGE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
18-24	06	12%
25-34	18	36%
35 and above	26	52%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The above table 1 indicates that majority of the respondents 52% (26/50) were in the age bracket of 35 and above years, 36% (18/50) were within the age bracket of 25-34 years, 12% (6/50) were in the age bracket of 18-24. This implies that majority of the respondents were 35 years and above, therefore, they were mature enough to provide relevant information in regards to causes of divorce in Nsambwe Archdeaconry, Central Buganda Diocese.

TABLE 2: SHOWING EDUCATION STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS.

EDUCATIONAL STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
'O' Level	12	24%
'A' Level	15	30%
'A' Level and above	15	30%
Others	08	16%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The results from table 2, indicates that "A" Level and above had the same percentage of educational status at 30% (15/50) compared to 24% (12/50) and 16% (08/50) but they all answered the questionnaires given to them during the study.

According to the research it was cited that most people who were affected by marriage breakdown were people above 'A' Level who are affected by the problem because most of the educated ladies are being affected by women emancipation.

The educated people who reached at least 'A' Level were against marriage breakdown which was a clear manifestation that had been in school and could understand the topic. These were mainly women activists, politicians among others.

The rest who were not educated were women and not aware of their rights so this made them more vulnerable to marriage break down. So the illiterates comprised of the majority of people. This group was made up of mainly mothers who are not allowed to go school by their parents and let to get married early.

TABLE 3: SHOWING THE OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND OF THE RESPONDENTS.

OCCUPATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Unemployed	26	52%
Self employed	6	12%
Employed	18	36%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

From the study findings in table 3 above, the unemployed of 52% (26/50) self employed 12% (6/50) employed 36% (18/50). Basing on the above findings in Archdeaconry, it was noted most people were not employed comprised of the majority. They comprised of males and house wives.

The self employed came second and they were believed to have had capital to which they used to start up businesses such as selling retail shops and others were involved to charcoal businesses to certain their families.

The employed were the least people and they claimed to have been in school so they qualified for professional jobs. Among the categories were the teachers, health workers, community social workers. The researcher noted that there is a need for greater emphasis on the encouraging self income generation projects to reduce poverty.

4.2 Understanding of marriage breakdown

TABLE 4: SHOWING THE REAL MEANING OF MARRIAGE BREAK DOWN

MEANING OF MARRIAGE BREAKDOWN	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Separations and divorce	26	52%
Lack of total commitment	18	36%
Misunderstanding on marital affairs	6	12%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

Depending and basing on the information from the study was revealed that separation and divorce were 52% (26/50) lack of total commitments 36% (18/50) misunderstanding 12% (6/50) according to the respondents.

Item no. 4, aimed at identifying the real meaning of marriage breakdown challenges in families. According to the respondents in the field, they defined it as when the marriage is unstable, no love, mutual love, lack of respect, disagreements hence leading to separation of couples or partners due to poor linkages in the entire family. During the study, majority of the respondents revealed it in the questionnaires given to them as the way of getting their views and responded negatively. According to the research, different definitions for marriage breakdown and this showed me that, this incidence has been happening in the society.

4.3 Causes of divorce in Christian families

TABLE 5 : SHOWING THE MAJOR CAUSES OF DIVORCE IN FAMILIES

CAUSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Poverty	16	32%
Sickness	12	24%
Alcoholism	2	04%
Drug abuse	3	06%
Religious factors	8	16%
Bride Price	5	10%
Moral degradation	4	08%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

Basing on the results from the table 6, Poverty was 32% (16/50) Therefore according to the data presented above, poverty is the most prevalent cause of divorce as cited 32 out of the respondents. According to community leaders, many couples face financial issues that have lead to stress, unmet needs, and conflicts. Poverty in households affects ability to provide food, health care, education and thereby straining the marriage. My general view suggests that economic hardship is a foundation that undermines the sustainability of the Christian marriages and result into divorce.

(Sickness 24%) Sickness was discovered as the second leading cause of divorce and particularly incurable diseases like HIV/AIDS as respondents reported. Chronic illness imposes emotional and financial burdens on the family and In many families, spouses blame each other for the condition leading to mistrust, blame, and ultimately separation of partners. To add on that, caring for a chronically ill partner often brings in psychological exhaustion and communication breakdown.

Religious differences cited by 16% by respondents as the cause of divorce. These conflicts arise because spouses hold divergent religious beliefs and practices that affects decisions about worship, child upbringing and family values. According to Pastors in the archdeaconry, some Christians who are married to Muslims have separated because of the overnights prayers, over day worship which non Christians don't value. This religious incompatibility was caused as a result of interfaith marriages and sometimes changing of religious affiliations after marriage.

Bride price issues (10%) Some respondents mentioned that failure to meet the traditional cultural obligations related to dowry has also led to divorce cases. According to Rev Can Paul Mukiibi the archdeacon of Nsambwe, intermarriages has boosted this were by a muganda marries a munyankole and sometimes fails to meet the price supposed to pay. This eventually breaks marriages.

Moral degradation (8%) This deals with behaviors like infidelity, dishonest, involvement in pornography. According to the mother's union group, the decline of Christian moral values has led to separations among the Christian families.

Drug abuse and alcoholism. Although few respondents reported this (6% and 4%), they were considered vital. Alcoholism and child abuse has increased habits like domestic violence, financial management, and breakdown in communication particularly when addicted spouse neglects their family roles and hence divorce.

Item No. 5 aimed at identifying the causes of marriage breakdown in families and the following were identified alcoholism, financial hardships, cultural beliefs, lack of marital love, drug abuse, sickness like AIDs, moral degradations, permissiveness, pornography, bad

company, mental problems, unfaithfulness, poverty, divorce, all were related by the respondents in the study.

It was identified that most families where the fathers take alcohol, they tend to have confusion in their homes and sometimes the husbands cheat their wives which can cause marriage breakdown. These findings indicate that Christian marriages are challenged not only by external factors but also internal relationship dynamics that need deep and thorough check to address them.

Theologically on this, causes of divorce in Christian marriages for example sickness, religious conflicts and moral decline highlight not only social issues or personal but also weakening spiritual foundation of marriage. Biblically marriage is sacred designed to show Gods love and unity as Paul teaches in (Ephesians 5:25-33), although without spiritual commitment, forgiveness and mutual support, marriages easily breaks. Strengthening marriages of Christians requires both addressing practical problems and renewing core Christian values like love, faith, patience, and prayer.

4.4 Consequences of divorce

TABLE 6: SHOWING THE CONSEQUENCES OF DIVORCE ACCORDING TO THE RESPONDENTS.

CONSEQUENCES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Family Neglect	19	38%
Single parent families	17	34%
Psychosocial impact	10	20%
Drug abuse	2	04%
Prostitution	2	04%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

Table 7, indicates that it caused family neglect which was 38%(19/50) the data shows that family neglect was the most cited consequence of divorce by the respondents. This includes both the physical and emotional neglect of the children including dependants when parents abandon their roles after separation .The neglect has often brought unmet basic needs, disrupted education, exposure of harmful environments.

Single parent's families. As a result of divorce, single parent's families were the second most common result as of 34% by the respondents. 17/50) In the most cases, women were left to care for the children alone after separations and struggle to feed the families since men tend to focus on other families. Single mothers are often struggling with poverty, face difficulties providing emotional, financial, and moral support, which can lead to further instability within the household.

Psychosocial impacts were cited by 20%(10/50) of participants. These include emotional trauma, mental health issues, depression, stress, and low self-esteem, particularly among children affected by the breakdown of their parents' marriage. Respondents explained that children from divorced families often feel unloved, isolated, or confused about their identity and purpose.

Drug usage 4% (2/50) and prostitution 4% (2/50) were mentioned less frequently (each by 4% of respondents), they are serious secondary consequences. Respondents observed that some youth from broken homes, especially girls, engage in risky behaviors for survival, while boys may resort to drug use due to emotional distress or peer influence.

Accordingly, the biggest percentage was families as a result of unfaithfulness by their husbands who end up even practicing polygamy causing more confusion in the family. Most women have been single parents in the Archdeaconry because their husbands have rejected them due to poverty and they cannot sustain their families.

Item No. 7aimed at identifying the consequences of marriage breakdown in families and the following were mentioned, high rate of street children, spread of HIV/AIDs, families neglect, lack of parental care moral degradation, mental and psychological problems, low self esteem to the children and were revealed in the study.

There was psychosocial impact on all the people affected by marriage breakdown in their families; these may make children escape from home, think of committing suicide because they think they are not loved by anyone.

The effects of divorce are long lasting and affect children's future relationships and their perspective on marriage. Personally I think, some children think they are not loved anymore, and they blame themselves for the breakup. Others even talk of committing suicide. It's really

painful to see a child suffer like that when the parents could have solved their issues diplomatically and peacefully.”

The below section addresses the strategies and interventions that have been put in place by Nsambwe Archdeaconry in Central Buganda Diocese to overcome the rapid growth of divorce cases among Christian families. The aim was to assess both church-led and community-based efforts focused at promoting stable, godly marriages and reducing marital breakdown.

Theological Conclusion on this therefore the consequences of divorce such as family neglect, single parenthood, psychological trauma, and moral decline reflect a deep disruption of God’s intended design for the family. Scripture presents marriage and family as sacred institutions meant to provide love, stability, and a nurturing environment (Genesis 2:24; Malachi 2:16). Divorce not only breaks the covenant between spouses but also deeply wounds children and communities, often leading to long-term emotional and spiritual scars. Theologically, this calls the Church to be a healing presence, offering counseling, support, and biblical guidance to restore broken relationships and uphold the sanctity of marriage.

4.5 Church’s efforts to curb divorce

TABLE 7 : SHOWING THE EFFORTS PUT IN PLACE IN CURBING DIVORCE BY NSAMBWE ARCHIDEACONRY.

EFFORTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
General family counseling	6	12%
Faithfulness	18	36%
Referral and networking with other service providers like police.	8	16%
Holding family workshops	6	12%
Joining religious groups	12	24%
Total	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

From table7 above, reveals that many efforts were put in sensitizing the masses about the being faithful to their partners with 36% (18/50), According to the data, promotion of faithfulness among spouses is the most emphasized effort in curbing divorce, as reported by

respondents. Faithfulness both emotional and physical was repeatedly highlighted as the Biblical principle that sustains Christian marriages. Church leaders and Christian department heads like mothers union, fathers union, CWF and CMF emphasize this value during sermons, counseling sessions and workshops urging married partners to uphold trust and avoid adultery or dishonesty.

The Archdeacon of Nsambwe Ven Paul Mukiibi supported this with “Hebrews 13:4 (NIV) *“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.”* And he strongly affirms the sanctity of marriage warns against adultery and dishonesty, aligning perfectly with what is taught in counseling and workshops in order to promote marital faithfulness.

Joining religious groups 24% (12/50), this was the second most cited effort. The respondents mentioned that being part of church groups such as mothers union, fathers Union, youth fellowships, CMF, CWF among others offers ongoing moral and spiritual support.) These groups promote mutual accountability, prayer, mentorship among couples.

Referrals to external service providers such as police and professional counselors made up 16% of the responses. Working with service providers shows that the church does not work in isolation; it acknowledges the need for professional intervention in cases involving domestic violence, legal disputes, or psychological trauma. The partnership between the church and government or NGO services has helped address complex cases that require expertise beyond pastoral care.

Lastly general family counseling and holding family workshops scored the same 12% (6/50). Each accounted for 12% of the efforts. The session focused often on communication, financial management, Role in marriage according to the bible, parenting, and conflict resolution. Workshops are commonly held during church missions, marriage weeks, or diocesan events and are open to both married couples and those preparing for marriage.

Campaigns have been carried out so that people come down that people should know their rights in the family. This has been to by sensitizing the masses through radios, news papers, and workshops about faithfulness which was discovered to be the best way of marriage breakdown in the society, and the concerned authority like the police, religious leaders, and counselors should intervene.

Item No. 8 which aimed at identifying ways of curbing down the mentioned problem being faithful, mutual love, seeking guidance, and counseling from elders or friends, personnel, respecting the traditional beliefs, encouraging the couples to repent, respecting each other one's interests, preaching tolerance among the married couples all were revealed as the way of curbing down the mentioned problems which is seeming a serious challenges in families

The Church's efforts to curb divorce, such as promoting faithfulness, offering counseling, encouraging fellowship, and collaborating with service providers, reflect a deep theological commitment to uphold the sacredness of marriage. Biblically, marriage is a covenant ordained by God (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:6) and is to be honored and preserved through love, forgiveness, and mutual respect. By teaching principles such as faithfulness (Hebrews 13:4), humility, and reconciliation, the Church serves as both a spiritual guide and a support system for struggling couples. These interventions not only aim to prevent divorce but also to restore broken relationships in line with God's redemptive purpose.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, SUGGESTIONS, AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 INTRODUCTION

The chapter of the report presents the summary of the findings, conclusion, recommendation and suggestions for further research; the research was on the causes of divorce in families. It also involved an investigation of the church role to the breakdown of marriages in St Matthew Nsambwe Archdeaconry. The methodological aspect includes sampling of right from parents to the top communities.

5.1 Summary

This study set out to assess the causes and consequences of divorce among believers in Nsambwe Archdeaconry, Central Buganda Diocese, and to examine the role of the church in addressing these challenges.

Regarding the first objective, findings revealed that the most prominent causes of divorce in the area are poverty, chronic illness, and religious incompatibility. Poverty emerged as the leading factor, cited by 32% of respondents, causing stress and unmet needs within households. Chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS were also significant, contributing emotional and financial burdens. Additionally, interfaith conflicts and failure to meet bride price obligations were reported to create tension, especially in cross-cultural or inter-religious marriages. Other contributing factors included alcoholism, moral decay, and drug abuse—all of which disrupt trust and communication in marriages.

In relation to the second objective, the consequences of divorce among believers were found to be far-reaching and deeply disruptive. The most immediate impact cited was family neglect, where children suffered emotionally and physically due to parental separation. Single-parent households were also prevalent, particularly those led by women who struggled with financial and emotional support responsibilities. Respondents noted that children from divorced homes were more vulnerable to low self-esteem, depression, and behavioral issues. Though less common, some youth turned to drug use and prostitution as a response to the instability caused by divorce. These findings confirm that the breakdown of marriage leads not only to relational rupture but to broader emotional and social consequences within the community.

For the third objective, the role of St. Matthew's Nsambwe Church in addressing divorce was evaluated. The church was found to actively promote faithfulness in marriage through sermons, counseling, and group teachings an effort cited by 36% of respondents as the most effective intervention. In addition, church groups such as the Mothers' Union, Fathers' Union, and other fellowships offer ongoing support and mentorship for couples. Family workshops and general counseling sessions were also reported, although on a smaller scale. The church collaborates with external service providers, including police and professional counselors, particularly in cases of domestic violence or legal conflict. However, despite these efforts, findings suggest that the church needs to strengthen its long-term pastoral care and post-divorce support to better assist those navigating the aftermath of marital breakdown.

5.2 Conclusion

It's important for the parties to understand their rights and responsibilities in marriages. Clergy, lay readers and the Church have major role to play in order to safe guard the Christian marriage in Central Buganda. Parties should be educated on the key principles of marriage before constructing their marriages.

Marriage breakdown has been of the most alarming situation that has caught on the area of research. A lot of effort has been put in curbing the challenge however, let it be the concern of each and every individual to come up and advocate for the matrimonial rights and obligations.

Conclusively basing on the research findings about the causes of marriage breakdown in the Archdeaconry, to me it's specially meant that the rate of marriages breakdown was on a high rate in the area because there is high rate of unemployment, poverty, polygamy. This was unstressed when one parent lost his job then he decided to leave his family get working woman, so the continued poverty in the area has also been responsible for the act. So the role of the government and other stake holders is to establish policies to be followed before people are married, so as to help reduce the challenges of marriage breakdown in families.

The findings of research indicate marriage breakdown in families is common regardless of any background but in the study all objectives as shown in chapter one, were all achieved appropriately and all their findings are indicated in chapter four of this report and never the less all the factors are responsible for the seeming marriage breakdown challenges in families and the information revealed is also applicable.

There is likely an exploration of how faith, specifically the Christian faith practiced within the community, influences marital dynamics. This may include discussions on how religious beliefs, values, and practices either mitigate or exacerbate challenges within marriages.

Based on the findings, the research may propose recommendations for interventions to address marriage breakdowns effectively within the Christian community of Nsambwe Church. These interventions might involve enhancing existing support structures, providing targeted counseling services, or implementing educational initiatives to promote healthy marital relationships.

The study likely underscores the importance of community engagement in addressing marital challenges. It may advocate for the active involvement of church leaders, members, and other stakeholders in creating a supportive environment for couples facing marital difficulties.

After conducting research on the causes of divorce among Christians of St. Mathews Church, it is evident that there are several significant factors contributing to this issue. Through a thorough examination of various aspects such as communication breakdown, financial stress, lack of conflict resolution skills, and societal influences, it becomes clear that marriages within this Christian community are susceptible to strain and dissolution.

One of the key findings of the research is the impact of communication breakdown within marital relationships. Poor communication can lead to misunderstandings, resentment, and emotional distance between spouses, ultimately eroding the foundation of the marriage. Additionally, financial stress emerged as a prominent factor contributing to marital discord. Economic challenges can place immense strain on couples, leading to arguments, feelings of inadequacy, and ultimately, marital breakdown.

Addressing the challenges of marriage breakdown among Christians requires a multifaceted approach. Interventions aimed at improving communication skills, providing financial support and guidance, fostering healthy conflict resolution strategies, and addressing societal influences are essential. Additionally, offering marital counseling, support groups, and educational programs within the church community can help strengthen marriages and promote healthier family dynamics. By acknowledging and addressing these challenges, the church can play a pivotal role in supporting couples and reducing the incidence of marriage breakdown within its congregation.

5.3 SUGGESTIONS

Basing on the in the field several parents looked at divorce in families as the main cause of marriage breakdown among married couples while others sited poverty, misunderstandings, and alcohol so this has been a great challenge.

Divorce as a challenge in families of Christians of Nsambwe Archdeaconry Church in Central Buganda, has caused great concern in the areas and Diocese at large especially those families which have been affected by the challenges hence this study was designed to investigate the underlying factors responsible for marriage breakdown challenges in families of Nsambwe Archdeaconry as the main case study, chapter two, highlights various literature review as on the marriage breakdown challenges in general in relation to families, Chapter three of the study prescribes the methods used in data collection during the study and lastly Chapter Four and Five shows data presentations in tables and percentages, summary, discussion, recommendations, questionnaires, references, and the map area where the search took place.

5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

After finding out and analyzing all the problems that have led to divorce, the researcher has gone on to give some recommendations. Looking at the family situation, these families should sensitize about how dangerous these acts is to the community. Also the concerned authority should come up advice couple who are unstable in marriage. Looking at married couples today, there is gender imbalance where women are not given chance comment about their marital status to the concerned authorities for help due fear from their husbands who may punish them. There should be promotion of equality and equality in society because its through this that all people will be considered as having the same right with the ministry this can be through sensitizing people about equity and equality.

Parents should seek premarital counseling before the real marriage to avoid the identified problems. Community leaders should try much as possible to cooperate and work with the community so as to ensure that these problems are completely eliminated. This can be possible through calling and organizing conferences against marriage breakdown.

Parents should also attend and seek spiritual counseling as the way of upholding the principles of marriages. This can imply to men who practice polygamy, which was cited as one of the causes of marriage breakdown. Christianity says “one man, one woman” so people should practice monogamy so as to reduce high rate of marriage breakdown.

Parents should be encouraged to be committed to their families and partners to avoid domestic violence which is leading to separation. They should also have enough for parental love to their couples or partners; this can be done by providing the conjugal rights to each partner as required of them to help in controlling the high rate of marriage breakdown in families.

They should also repent and ought to forgive one another in case of any misunderstandings. This can be done by joining Christian Associations in Churches which can help to hold the marriage affairs and also respect the traditional values of each other to enable them know their roles in the family.

According to the matrimonial Rights and Obligations, it teaches about the rights which have significant role in human affairs and benefits accrue depend them are incalculable. Peace and satisfaction in the life of the married couples mostly depend upon their mutual good relations. Love is the main theme adding to their quantum and happiness between husband and wife.

Couples should be committed to one another; this is because if they are committed no one will cheat on the other. The Bible clearly says that, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”¹ Matthew 5:27-28

Married couples should also put emphasis on the scriptures by reading them and also putting them into actions. For example the Bible says, “And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastely, and marry another commits adultery².” Matthew 19:9 if married couples put into practice it will cease the rampant marriage breakdowns in families.

¹ Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version 1989.

² Gospel according to Matthew 19:9

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APPENDICES

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRES

Dear respondent, I am KIRINYA PAUL a student at Uganda Christian University (U.C.U) pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Divinity. Kindly assist me to fill this questionnaire which seeks your opinion concerning causes of divorce in families of Christians of St Matthew's Nsambwe Archdeaconry, where by your contributions will enhance the strategies to reduce causes of divorce in families of Christians of St. Matthew's Nsambwe Archdeaconry and Central Buganda at large. I assure you that your opinion will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, and your personal details will not be exposed.

APPENDIX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE ASSESSING THE CAUSES OF DIVORCE IN FAMILIES

1. Demographic Information

a. What is your age?

18-24 25-34 35 and above

b. What is your gender?

Male Female

c. What is your marital status?

Single Married Divorced

d. How many children do you have?

e. What is your level of education?

'O' Level 'A' Level 'A' Level and above Others

f. What is your Employment Status?

Unemployed Employed Self Employed

2. Experience of Marriage Breakdown

i. How long have you been married?

ii. Have you ever experienced a divorce? Yes No

iii. If yes, what were the primary reasons for the divorce?

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.....

3. Impact on Children

a. If you have children, how did they react to the marriage breakdown?

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.....
.....

b. What challenges did your children face as a result of the breakdown?

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.....
.....

c. How did you support your children through the process?

.....
.....

4. Social Support

▪ Did you seek support from friends or family during the marriage breakdown? If yes, How helpful was the support you received?

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.....
.....

▪ Did you utilize any professional support services, such as counseling or therapy?

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.....

Did you experience any stigma or discrimination as a result of the marriage breakdown?

.....

5. Financial Challenges

a. Did the causes of divorce result in financial difficulties for you or your family?

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b. If yes, what were some of the major financial challenges you faced?

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.....
.....

C. How did you cope with these financial challenges?

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.....
.....

6. Rebuilding Life after Divorce

a) How did you go about rebuilding your life after the divorce?

.....
.....

b) Did you find it challenging to trust again or enter into new relationships?

.....
.....

c) What strategies did you find helpful in moving forward positively?

.....
.....

d) What are your hopes for the future following the breakdown of your marriage?

.....
.....

7. Reflections, lessons learned and Advice

❖ Looking back, what do you think could have been done differently to prevent the marriage breakdown?

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.....

❖ What lessons have you learned from your experience of marriage breakdown?

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.....

What advice would you give to others going through a similar experience of marriage breakdown?

.....
.....

Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience with marriage breakdown?

.....
.....

APPENDIX 2: Key Informant Interview Guide

Title of the Study:

Assessing the Causes of Divorce Among Believers Of Nsambwe Archdeaconry Central Buganda Diocese.

Target Group:

Key Informants (Church Leaders – Pastor, Elders, Marriage Counselors)

Purpose:

This interview seeks to obtain detailed information from church leaders regarding the causes of divorce among believers, biblical teachings on marriage and divorce, and the role of St. Matthew’s Nsambwe Church in addressing divorce-related challenges.

Section 1: Introduction (To be read by the interviewer)

Thank you for accepting to participate in this interview. I am conducting research on the causes of divorce among believers at St. Matthew’s Nsambwe COU. Your responses will help us understand the underlying causes, the church’s role, and how biblical teachings are applied. Your responses will remain confidential and will only be used for academic purposes. You may choose not to answer any question you are uncomfortable with. May I proceed?

Section 2: Background Information

1. Name (optional): _____
2. Gender: _____
3. Age: _____
4. Position in the Church: _____
5. Number of years in leadership: _____
6. Marital status: _____

Section 3: Interview Questions

A. On Causes of Divorce Among Believers

1. In your experience as a church leader, what are the most common causes of divorce among Christian couples in this church?
2. Are there patterns or recurring issues you have observed in most divorce cases?
3. Do you think personal spirituality or religious commitment influences marital stability?

B. On the consequences of divorce.

4. **4.** What emotional or psychological effects have you observed in individuals who have gone through divorce?
5. How does divorce affect the roles and responsibilities of single parents in your church community?
6. Are there any patterns of behavior (e.g., drug abuse, early pregnancy, school dropout) that appear to increase among youth from divorced families?
7. In your view, what long-term consequences does divorce have on the moral and spiritual growth of families in the Archdeaconry?

C. On the Church's Role in Addressing Divorce

8. Does St. Matthew's Nsambwe COU have any programs or ministries that support married couples?
9. How effective are these programs in reducing marital conflict and preventing divorce?
10. What challenges has the church encountered in addressing marital breakdown among its members?
11. Are there any success stories where the church has helped restore broken marriages?
12. What more can the church do to prevent divorce among believers?

Section 4: Closing

13. Is there anything else you would like to share about the causes of divorce or the church's response?

Thank you very much for your time and valuable insights.

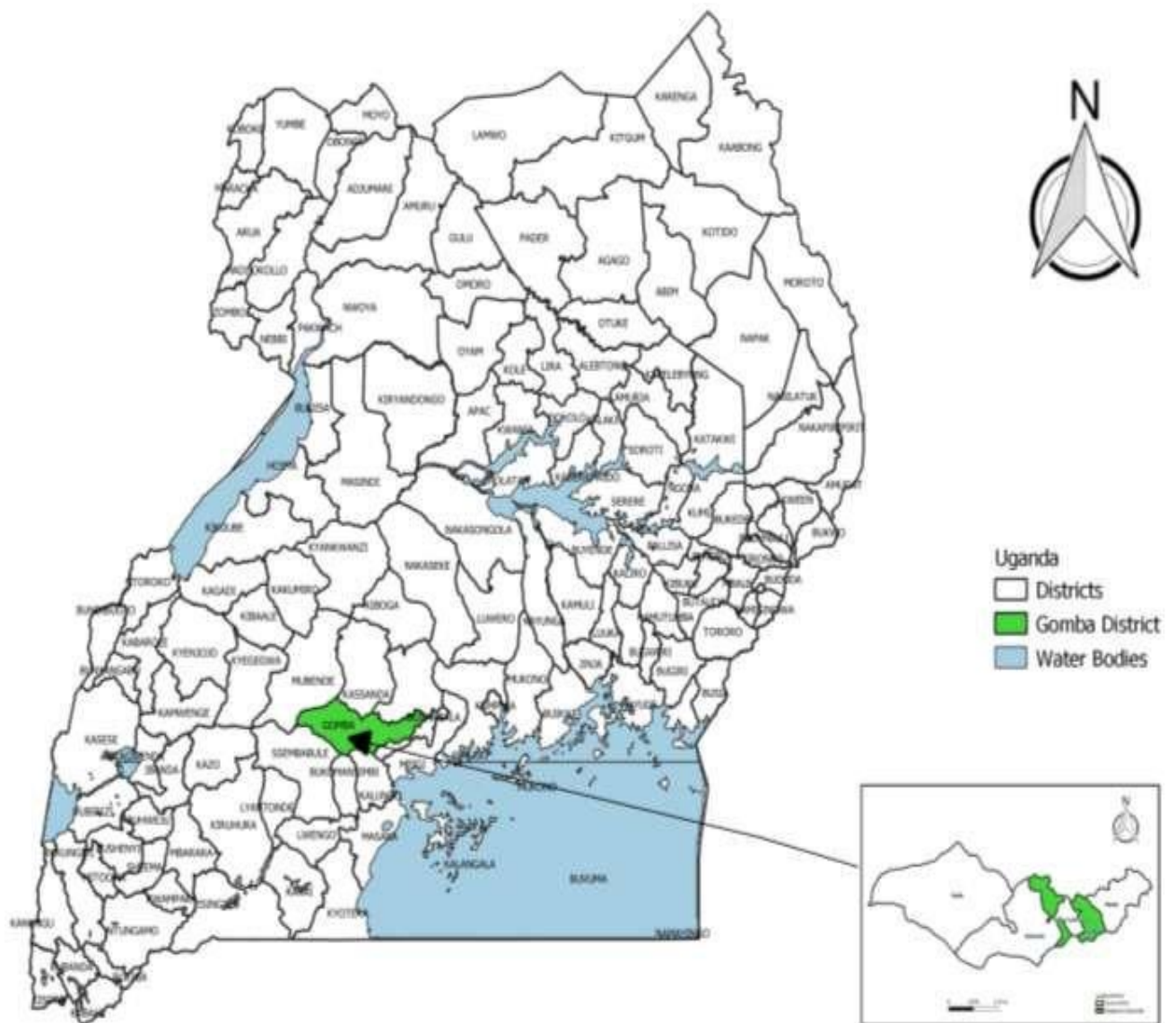
APPENDIX 3: PROPOSED RESEARCH TIMETABLE FOR FIELD STUDY IN NSAMBWE, GOMBA DISTRICT (CENTRAL BUGANDA DIOCESE)

Activity	Time Frame
Literature Review	May 18 – May 25, 2025
Development of Research Instruments	May 26 – June 2, 2025
Data Collection (Questionnaires, Interviews, FGDs)	June 3 – June 20, 2025
Data Analysis	June 21 – June 25, 2025
Report Writing and Final Review	June 26– July 17, 2025
Submission of Final Report	August

APPENDIX 4: MAP OF THE STUDY AREA

The research will be conducted in Nsambwe, a local community situated in Gomba District, which lies in the Central Region of Uganda, within the Central Buganda Diocese of the Church of Uganda. Gomba District is part of the traditional Buganda Kingdom and is located approximately 90 kilometers west of Kampala, the capital city of Uganda.

The map below presents the geographical context of the study area, highlighting Gomba District within the Buganda Region, and indicating the approximate location of Nsambwe where the field research will be carried out.



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