

**COVID-19 AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: A case study of Bugujju
Village, Mukono Municipality**

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SI8B15/047

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES IN
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AWARD OF DEGREE
OF A BACHELORS IN SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION OF
UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

September, 2023




**UGANDA CHRISTIAN
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Declaration

I, **ABER MAJORINE**, hereby declare this research "Covid-19 and domestic violence against women" as my original piece of work supervised by Mr. Kiwanuka Anthony, lecturer at Uganda Christian University. This research has never been submitted to any institution.


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Signature

28/09/2023
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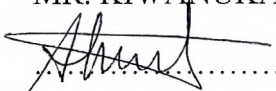
Date.

Approval

This is to certify that this research on "Covid-19 and domestic violence women. A case study of Bugujju village, Mukono municipality" was carried out by Aber Majorine; with the registration number SI8B15/047.

It has been examined and found acceptable for the award of a Degree in Bachelors of Social Work and Social Administration from Uganda Christian University.

MR. KIWANUKA ANTHONY



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Signature

28.09.2023
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Date

Dedication

This research is dedicated to all who stood by me and enabled me to finish this research even when I was giving up. To my family and friends who were there when I needed them.

Acknowledgement

I thank the Almighty God for the great and mighty work he has done in enabling me to finish my work without serious hardships.

My family, my mother, siblings, and others that have made sure that my studies in any stage of my life was smooth.

My supervisor, Mr. Kiwanuka Anthony who has been patient with me during this time.

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Abstract

This study was carried out on Covid 19 and Domestic Violence on Women in Bugujju, Mukono. Very many women are challenged by domestic violence especially during the lockdown. A case in point, a woman was denied money to buy food for the family by her husband which forced her to raise this concern and was physically abused by her husband. This also affected the children as well. Violence can be brutal and fatal to the victims as it causes psychological, physical and emotional breakdown. Before the pandemic cases of domestic violence that were reported were many. The study is expected to help the researcher in the fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's degree of Social Work and Social Administration of Uganda Christian University.

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List of Acronyms

COVID-19:	Coronavirus 2019 Disease
MoE:	Ministry of Education
MoH:	Ministry of Health
LG:	Local Government
UNICEF:	United Nations Children Funds
WHO:	World Health Organization
PTS:	Post Traumatic Stress
MoGLSD:	Ministry Of Gender Labor and Social Development
ILO:	International Labor Organization
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
GoU:	Government of Uganda
NGOs:	Non-Government Organizations
CBOs:	Community Based Organizations
GBV:	Gender Based Violence

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Domestic violence is an increasing social problem in many societies. It then took another leap in the year 2020 with the breakout of the COVID-19 pandemic. The study was on COVID-19 and domestic violence on women. This chapter provides the background of study, objectives of study, research questions, the scope of study and the significance of the study.

1.2 Background of Study

Domestic violence is a social problem that is very common in every community. It affects all people not leaving out any person; it does not discriminate people by race, sex, faith, age, name it, domestic violence has an impact on all. Domestic violence defined as the action or behavior that is aggressive towards an intimate person within a household. It may be the woman, children, elderly, house help and even the men. The united nation defined it as a pattern in any relationship that is used to gain, maintain and control over an intimate partner.

Since the lock-out was introduced, just 5 weeks ago domestic abuse services have experienced between a 26.86% and 120% increase in calls. Services directed at helping perpetrators change of behavior have also experienced a 25% increase in calls. (Pearce, 2020)

Domestic violence is also known as or it is termed as intimate partner violence or even domestic abuse. This abuse does take various forms thus emotional, physical, verbal, sexual and even economic or financial. Many are ignorant of these forms of domestic violence though they are familiar with the physical form. The major perpetrators in this case tend to be men though women do weigh in this too as they are charged with cases of child neglect, and battering.

Before the pandemic cases of domestic violence that were reported were many. This only increased during the lockdown period. On December 31st 2019, there was said to be a breakout of the coronavirus; on the 30th of January, 2020, the pandemic was announced a global

emergency. The coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid 19) was described as a flu similar to the influenza of 2009. This disease was said to claim the life of a person by causing acute respiratory complications. Uganda has lost a great number of its population to this virus.

In the month of March Uganda had its lockdown. This was brought up as a preventive measure however it just escalated other social issues such as domestic violence. It is during this period that the authorities thus the police and other organizations received reports on various cases of domestic violence.

Uganda's ministry of gender, labor and social development on Tuesday issued a stern warning to perpetrators of domestic violence against women and children during the COVID-19 period. Tumwebaze, minister of gender, labor and social development told reporters here that there has been an increase in gender-based violence (GBV) as the country is under lockdown to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Some of these cases have already claimed lives of Ugandans even before COVID-19 does so, Tumwebaze said, noting that between March 30 and April 28, a total of 3,280 cases of GBV were reported to police. This is in addition to 283 cases of Violence against Children, according to the ministry. Tumwebaze said those found guilty would face the law. "These acts of violence degrade the dignity of humanity and are therefore unacceptable. The perpetrators of this vice must be dealt with decisively and in a timely manner in accordance with the law," the minister said. He urged law enforcement agencies like the police to act tough against GBV. Uganda instituted a 35-day lockdown, which ends on May 5, to curb the spread of COVID-19. The country currently has 79 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and of these 47 have been discharged after successful treatment, according to the ministry of health. (Hauxia, 2020)

1.3 Problem statement

Domestic violence a growing and reoccurring social illness. It is a problem known to many people however many people find it a challenge to rid the society of it. Brought about by many situations, this social illness claims many lives psychologically, physically, mentally and even spiritually. The Uganda police registered over 3000 cases of domestic violence within just a month.

During time of crisis, families normally face increased risk of exposure to domestic violence (Stark, L and Landis D, 2016). Although violence is known to be pervasive in all settings,

emergencies can disrupt existing protective structures and create multiple circumstances that can lead to various forms of violence, abuses and exploitation in homes. In spite of the global awareness of the need to address domestic violence in crisis affected settings, its prevalence seems difficult to determine in light of large numbers of cases that go unreported as well as the limited resources often in places for gathering this type of evidence in emergency context. Globally, the victims of domestic violence are overwhelmingly women and they tend to experience more severe forms of violence (Luttamaguzi, Nannozi, 2020).

The covid-19 pandemic played a role in increasing the cases of this problem. This problem. The findings from a study conducted by UN in 49 countries Uganda inclusive in 5 regions, there is an increase of vulnerability and risk factors of violence for women and girls during the Covid-19 pandemic (UN Women, 2020)

This is the Shadow Pandemic growing amidst the COVID-19 crisis and we need a global collective effort to stop it. As COVID-19 cases continue to strain health services, essential services, such as domestic violence shelters and helplines, have reached capacity. More needs to be done to prioritize addressing violence against women in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. (Mlambo-Ngcuka, 2020)

This never ending situation has encouraged the Interventions from Non-Government Organizations (NGO's) and the Government of Uganda (GoU). The rising cases have encouraged different groups of people to Intervene.

1.4 Objectives of study

1.4.1 General objectives

The major objective was to assess the causes, effects and possible solutions to covid 19 on domestic violence against women.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

- i. To examine the major causes of domestic violence against women during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ii. To establish the effects of domestic violence on women amidst the covid 19 pandemic

- iii. To find out what can be done to address domestic violence against women faced during the covid 19 pandemic.

1.5 Research questions

- i. What are the causes of domestic violence against women during the COVID- 19 pandemic?
- ii. What are the effects of domestic violence against women amidst the covid 19 pandemic?
- iii. What are the possible solutions to domestic violence against women in the face of covid 19 pandemic?

1.6 Scope of study

The scope of study is sub divided into; geographical scope, the time scope and the content scope

1.6.1 Geographical Scope

Mukono district with a total area of 2,986.47 square kilometers. It lies within the central region of Uganda. It shares its borders with Buikwe district in the East, Kayunga district in the north, Luwero in the North-West, Kampala and Wakiso in the south west and Tanzania and Lake Victoria in the south having the Buvuma Islands in the south. It has its coordinates reading 00_28'14"N, 32_46'14" (Wikipedia)

The study will take place in Bugujju village one of the nine villages that make up Nsube-Kauga ward in Mukono Central Division. It is bordered by villages such as Nabuti, lower Kauga and Kilwoza. With information from the local council chairperson one, the area is said to be a habitat for 12,000 people living out the students of the university (Uganda Christian University).

1.6.2 Time Scope

The study took place in a period of within 2020-2021. During these months the researcher is to collect data on domestic violence, the causes, effects and possible solutions to domestic violence against women. The research will be carried out focusing on the topic at hand and collecting data from the respondents.

1.6.3 Content Scope

The study is to be guided by the three objectives; to examine the major causes of domestic violence against women during the COVID-19 pandemic, to establish the effects of domestic violence against women, and to find out what can be done to address domestic violence against women.

1.7 Significance of study

This study that is to be carried out is to make importance to the different authorities in Uganda, different professions that seek to rid the state of such social illnesses. The study benefits professions like social work, counseling, educators of all levels. It also may count profitable to ministries such as the ministry of gender, labor and social development, Ministry of Health and even the Ministry of Education, the Local Government.

To Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development (MoGLSD).

The information that will be gathered will be vital to public and the policy makers especially the Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development to find possible ways of how to reduce on the rates of domestic violence.

To social work and counselling profession.

The information to be gathered can be of importance to the social work profession and any profession that seeks to improve the welfare of the society at large. Through the different roles they play and the knowledge and information of their profession and the knowledge on this social issue, social workers have the chance to improve and develop the society. This they may work with individuals, groups, families and the society to combat this issue. This information that will be gathered will highlight the risk factors of domestic. Violence against women begins in childhood. Sexual and physical violence that plagues many women as adults is also prevent among children particularly adolescents. (James, 2013)

To NGOs

The study will be useful to the policy makers, management in that it will provide useful policy guideline for appropriate policy formulation and programs for abolishing domestic violence.

To the Government

Information on domestic violence will be useful to policy makers like Ministry of Gender and Community Development, Women Organization concerning with the rights of women and welfare like HDA Uganda, on how they can empower women and create gender equality. The research findings will be of great value to the Uganda Government and other institutions whose goal is to improve violence situations.

Academicians

The study is expected to help the researcher in the fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's degree of Social Work and Social Administration of Uganda Christian University. The finding will provide up-to-date literature and open the field for further research to academician and researchers who may be interested in area of domestic violence.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter review of the various literature on the topic "Covid 19 and domestic violence against Women". This literature review includes information from different sources such eBooks, journals. The information will be according to the three objectives stated in the previous chapter; the causes of domestic violence against women during the covid 19 pandemic, the effects of domestic violence amidst the Covid 19 pandemic and what can be done to reduce the rising cases of domestic violence in the face of covid 19 pandemic.

2.2 Forms of Domestic Violence

Gender Based Violence (GBV) takes the form of physical, economic, sexual and psychological or emotional violence. Women, men, boys and girls can be victims and perpetrators. In Uganda, women and girls are primary victims of GBV due to the patriarchal nature of our society. GBV is considered a violation of human rights due to its effects on the survivor. (MoGLSD, 2019).

Physical abuse was tremendously reported by almost all media platforms during the covid 19 lockdown. It involves use of force against the victim causing injury. Emotional Abuse can be difficult to notice since its common in unhealthy relationships. Sexual abuse which is also known as reproductive coercion, it not only involves sexual assault but also harassment. Financial abuse is the form that denies access to finance. It is another form of control even though it is less obvious than physical or sexual abuse and widely manifested itself during the lock down period. (Luttamaguzi; Nannozi, 2020)

Domestic violence against women is an escalating problem. It is a major health problem and violation of women's rights (WHO). Who further estimates globally, 1 in 3 women (30%) worldwide have been subjected to physical and sexual violence, 11/3 (27%) of women aged 15-49 worldwide who have been in relationship report they have been subjected to some form of physical or sexual violence by their intimate partner.

2.3 Causes of Domestic Violence during the covid 19 pandemic

According to Anguzu (2018), domestic violence is as a result of lack of mutual trust, dispute over property, poor communication, lack of sexual satisfaction, food insecurity, culture, norms and beliefs, character or personality, marital infidelity, relatives and friends. The pandemic covid 19 has brought about various challenges within households. There are various theories that have come up with the existence of this pandemic. The following are some of the causes as explained.

Financial constraints. The pandemic covid 19 come about with little to no working. Many people were faced with financial difficulties that causes people to face situations that are not appealing to them. Unable to do their normal routines all because they may have been laid of from work and so are unable to earn their usual lifestyle.

Poverty. A situation where a person lives on a financial amount that is less than a dollar. The poverty rates during this period have increased drastically with factors such as unemployment and layoff of workers. This situation has brought about poverty in the sense that many have spent whatever they have to keep their families healthy. Having little to nothing has made it so hard within households and so arguments and quarrels begin.

Effects of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs). The breakout of the coronavirus 2019 came about with regulations and rules to be following. Some of them are cover your mouth and nose with a mask, always sanitize, wash hands at all times and practice social distancing.

Cultural differences. This pandemic covid 19 has cases many people to move in with others thus family and friends. This brings about a challenge of living harmoniously especially if they are not accepting of another's culture. This has causes wrangles to stir up within the household may seem odd to think that culture or traditions lend to the risk of domestic violence, but many cultures have deep-rooted beliefs that men are superior to women. In some instances, those men may resort to domestic violence to gain control of their spouse or children. Cultural traditions do not trump laws designed to protect people (Faubin, 2020). We live in a patriarchal society where women are inferior and the man believes he has a right to control, punish and discipline the woman. And socially, in a man's family, violence against the spouse is acceptable. (WUCWO)

Unemployment. A situation where one is without a job. It can be temporary or permanent. Uganda's labor section did suffer during this period. To abide by the SOPs, many with collar jobs

laid off most of their workers, some others allow the workers to work partially. This pandemic affected majorly the blue collar jobs in Uganda such as those that make street food. The ILO guidelines define the unemployed as “all those of working age who were not in employment, carried out activities to seek employment during a specified recent period and were currently available to take up employment given a job opportunity”. Some not-employed people may be classified as “inactive/out of the labor force” because, due to the pandemic, they are either not able to actively look for a job even if they are available to work or are not available to work because of family responsibilities as schools and care services are closed.

Lockdown of schools and learning institutions. The covid 19 pandemic has caused many to stay it is within the confined home space, many children and women faced issues related to domestic abuse in form of physical violence, financial violence, emotional violence and others. Some other women and children faced challenges as they were sexually assaulted and harassed.

The behavior of the perpetrator. The perpetrator is the person that commits the act against someone. The perpetrator inflicts the pain or harm of any form thus physical, mental or emotional, verbal, sexual, financial and social. This type of person sees to possess characteristics such as extreme jealousy, possessiveness, bad temper and verbal abuse. Many times abusers deny the existence of violence and its effects on the victim. They also tend to shift the blame to stress and a bad day. Sometimes they do portray the image of a nice person.

2.4 Effects of Domestic Violence amidst the covid 19 pandemic

World health organization WHO, reports that violence negatively affects woman’s physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health and may increase the risk of acquiring HIV in some settings. The risk factors include low levels of education, a history of exposure to maltreatment, leads to injuries, witnessing family violence, harmful masculine behavior low access to paid employment, low levels of gender equality.

The victim is the person to whom the harm or abuse has been inflicted. For this case the women are the most affected when it comes to domestic violence. Many times these forms of abuse instill characteristics such as low self-esteem, family and social isolation, dependency (emotionally and economically), insecurity, inferiority, submissiveness and pacification.

Quarantine measures increased face to face exposure of victims to perpetrator. (Fund for global human rights, 2020)

Fatal outcomes. Such an incident may occur if any form of abuse is continuously done to a person. This makes one feel helpless, useless and so may decide to take their own lives. It may also result as one is battered continuously. Domestic violence results in homicide, as well. Victims who live in a household where weapons are present and drugs are used have a greater risk of being killed by their abuser.

Unintended pregnancy. Pregnancy is a dream many women would like fulfilled. However in cases of sexual domestic violence by your spouse, ex or even a close acquaintance, one may stand a great chance of becoming pregnant yet they are not ready. Worldwide we have seen women disowned by their families, child mothers and very many children abandoned or aborted because of such circumstances.

Increased likelihood of still birth, premature birth, miscarriage, and low weight babies. It's every ones joy to receive a new member of the family. In cases of domestic violence against women, abuse done to pregnant woman may result to unfortunate occurrences such as miscarriage, still birth, low birth weight to mention but a few. Partner abuse of pregnant women has been associated with preterm deliveries of low-birth-weight babies.

Increased use of substance, smoking and risky behavior. It is common to many that alcohol, and other substances effectively rid themselves from pain that they have. The pain may be emotional, physical, spiritual and psychological. Such pain may make one forget their problems. This form of family violence also puts children at higher risk of having emotional problems and engaging in drug abuse.

The most occurring mental disorders being depression, suicidal attempts, post-traumatic stress, (PTSD), psychosomatic disorders. Others include; difficulty in distinguishing between serial and affectionate behavior, maintaining appropriate personal boundaries, refusing unwanted sexual advances. Although psychological abuse can be harder to define than overt physical abuse, it has been found to cause at least as much damage. Victims of intimate partner violence are vulnerable to developing depression, anxiety, and substance abuse disorders

Such situations arise with the sexual abuse inflicted on a person when she was very young or not one who was forced to have sex when not ready.

Stress, the disruption of protection networks and decreased access to services can be exacerbate the risk of violence against women. Distance measures are put in place and people are encouraged to stay at home: likely increasing risks thus the added stress and potential economic or jobless losses, many women have less contact with family and friends who provide support and women are burdened with work from their children's education, their families, their work place and the household itself. Access to vital sexual and reproductive health services.

Such violence affects many women causing them to suffer from isolation, inability to work, loss of wages, poor or lack of ability to take care of themselves and their children.

2.5 The Possible Solutions to Domestic Violence against Women in the face of other covid 19 pandemic

Engaging the female leaders in mothers about domestic violence against women. A number of activities have been carried out. Mainly, trainings have been conducted for the clergy, religious and laity on domestic violence prevention. However, emphasis has been put on women leaders to sensitize other women in their respective levels of leadership at provincial levels and down to grassroots. A lot of sensitization and raising awareness is ongoing, on issues of parenting, human trafficking, and employment and also provide psychosocial support to the victims and sharing experiences in support of one another. With the use of Easy to Read material makes it easier for the dissemination of information as a larger number of women are semi-literate. Interactive talks enable victims and the perpetrators listen and also contribute to the dissemination of information on domestic violence prevention. Women empowerment through skills building to enable them become self-reliant, providing adult literacy on daily operations like understanding and managing their money. So far as a result of these workshops and interactive talks, we have received positive responses where some men and women are sharing house chores, both are discussing issues and participating in decision making hence spreading happiness young. (WUCWO)

Sources created to help people facing domestic violence to report their cases. For UNFPA Uganda, one of the innovative ways we are doing this is through the Safepal app. The Safepal

app is a digital platform that enables survivors of Gender Based Violence to report cases confidentially. Safepal was created by a group of young people with support from UNFPA, to respond to the challenge of the low levels of reporting gender based violence. (UNFPA, 2020)

Use of programs such as spotlight initiative. Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in the world. To address this, the European Union and the United nations have embarked on a multi-year Programme to eliminate violence against women and girls. In Uganda, the Spotlight Initiative will be officially launched on International Women's Day, 8 March 2020. The Spotlight Initiative coordinated by Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development is supporting concrete measures to end violence with a special focus on prevention, protection and provision of services; promoting children and women's economic empowerment and participation in all aspects of society and will be a catalyst for strengthening the country's protection system (UNICEF, 2020).

Interventions from Non-Government Organizations. Many humanitarian organizations have worked with the Government of Uganda to fight this social illness. Organizations such as UNICEF, UNFPA, the Fund for global human rights and others. Makela needed an ally. A 60-year-old survivor of domestic violence, she now faced the prospect of losing her rightful home—in the middle of a global pandemic. After years of abuse, Makela's husband had abandoned her. When a judge granted those equal shares of their family land in the Mukono District of Uganda, he sold his portion, remarried, and left Makela with their children. Five years later, sick and strapped for cash, he returned to torment her. With their two older sons, he broke into her house and beat her, vowing not to stop until she surrendered her share of the land. When the local authorities refused to help, Makela reached out to the Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP), a women's rights organization based in Kampala. There, she met Tina Musuya, CEDOVIP's executive director and a fierce champion for survivors of abuse (Fund for global human rights, 2020).

Engagements of law enforcement units. For the case of Uganda the major law enforcers are the police. The training of the Uganda Police Force and their families on gender-based violence and sexual reproductive health and rights opened on Tuesday at the Crime Investigation Department (CID) headquarters in Kibuli, Kampala. The program that will cover 14 districts across Uganda was flagged off by the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Maj. Gen. Sabiiti Muzeeyi. The

COVID-19 Pandemic has not helped in getting the situation any better. The mid-year Uganda Police Crime Report (January – June, 2020) shows that on average, a total of 2,707 cases of sexual and gender-based violence were reported to police every month. (UNFPA, 2020). Our findings show that law enforcement officer's per-pretreated more than one-third of the reported violence and discrimination (Katana, et al, 2021). The Uganda police registered over 3,000 cases of domestic violence in just one month (Fund for global human rights, 2020).

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the methodology that will be employed to gather and analyze data used to answer the research questions introduced in chapter one. This chapter includes the research design, area of study, sources of information, population and sampling techniques, data collection instruments, research procedure, management of data, quality control, ethical considerations and limitations of the study.

3.2 Research Design

This study will employ descriptive research design. Descriptive research involves gathering data that describe events and then organizes, tabulates, depicts, and describes the data collection. Descriptive research goal is to describe the data and characteristics of the study. It is an accurate research design and is one of the best methods for collecting information that demonstrates relationships. The qualitative and quantitative methods will be employed that is; interviews, textual materials and descriptive method respectively which will allow sustainable immersion of the researcher to study the effects of domestic violence against women, forms of domestic violence experienced, and the causes of domestic violence.

3.3 Area of Study

The study will be conducted in Bugujju village; Mukono Central Division and it will be used as a study population. Bugujju village is one of the villages in Nsube-Kauga-Mukono Central Division which is affected by high prevalence rates of domestic violence. This situation has a great impact on the families in the area. The target population of the study will be 35 households in Bugujju village.

3.4 Sources of Information

The researcher will use primary and secondary sources. Primary source will mainly be used in the field where respondents will be filling the questions which will be asked in the questionnaires as well as using the interviews with the Key Informants. Secondary sources like journals, articles, books will also be read to provide the researcher with information needed to write the report.

3.5 Population and Sampling Techniques

A total of 32 respondents of men and women will be enrolled in the study. The study will employ purposive sampling also known as selective or judgmental which involves non-probability sampling in which a researcher relies on his/her own judgment when choosing members of the population to participate in the study and simple random will also be used which is a subset of individuals chosen from a larger set and each individual is chosen randomly. Purposive sampling will be used because of the Key Informants who are knowledgeable about domestic violence. Similarly, simple random sampling will be used because the researcher will have to select customers randomly who seek for services of agent banking.

Table 3.2 showing the participants in the research

SERIAL NUMBER	PARTICIPANTS	NUMBER
1	Women	20
2	Men	12
	Key informants	
3	Chairperson	1
4	Vice chairperson (secretary for children)	1
5	Secretary for women	1
6	Secretary for youth	1
7	Counselor for children and youth	1
8	Counselor for women	1
9	Probation officer	1
10	Family and child police unit	1
TOTAL		40

3.6 Data Collection Instruments

The researcher will employ interviews and questionnaires as data collection tools

3.6.1 Interviews

The researcher will employ interviewing method of data collection. Interview is the verbal conversation between two people with the objective of collecting relevant information for the purpose of research. One on one method of interviewing will be used since the key informants (probation officers) will be involved and these can ably answer using interview method to collect the required information.

3.6.2 Questionnaire

A Questionnaire is a technique for collecting data in which a respondent provides answers to a series of questions. Questionnaires will be administered to respondents in the sampled households in Bugujju village. It will be used since the study is concerned also with variables that cannot be directly observed such as views, opinions, perceptions and feelings of the respondents. Such information is best collected through use of questionnaires. The sample size being large (50) and given the constraints, questionnaires is an ideal tool for collecting data.

3.7 Research Procedure

The researcher will first obtain an introductory letter from the Faculty of Social Sciences after successfully writing the proposal and this letter will be introducing the researcher to the authorities where research will be carried out. The main purpose will be to request for permission to do the research and requesting to link the researcher with the people. The researcher in addition will write a letter accompanying the interview question guide and questionnaires guide introducing the researcher to the respondents. Qualitative and quantitative data will be collected from respondents using questionnaires and interviews. The data will be collected by the researcher to understand and explore the effects of domestic violence against women in Bugujju village.

3.8 Data Analysis and Management

The qualitative and quantitative data will be employed and aspects will be measured. After the conduction of each interview, the researcher will repeatedly read notes that will be taken during

interviews for editing. After collecting the data through interviews and questionnaires in the field, it will then be entered in Microsoft word and excel basing on themes and codes. Thematic analysis will be applied to a set of text such as interview transcripts. The researcher will have to closely examine common themes, topics, ideas and patterns of meaning that might come up repeatedly.

3.9 Quality control

Instruments will measure what they are supposed to collect; the researcher will ensure validity of the tools to be used in data collection first by carrying out pre-test on the interview procedure using about 12 (twelve) households selected randomly and these will not be repeated in the final data collection. The interview guide and questionnaire will also be used; the researcher will be involved in data collection and analysis in Bugujju village to avoid a number of errors in the research. An instrument is reliable if it measures consistently what it is supposed to be measured even if other researchers administers it, the instrument should be able to produce the same results to ensure reliability. A pilot study will be carried out on the same few respondents on this research topic before the interviews will be conducted with respondents.

3.10 Ethical Consideration

During the study, I will make sure that moral position is maintained for instance participation will be voluntary without coercing any one to participate in the research. Respecting respondents and their responses, Confidentiality, anonymity impartiality and participant's privacy will be observed by not invading them in other words personality questions will be avoided. Respecting respondents' time, rights and dignity of respondents will help in avoiding inconveniences that would lead to inaccurate information.

3.11 Assumptions and Limitations

The major limitation of this study will be the cost of carrying out the study which is high considering that the researcher will have limited resources for things like transport and stationary which will be used in typesetting, printing and photocopying the proposal and final report. This challenge will however be solved by appealing to relatives, friends and well-wishers for support of the study with hope of being beneficial to them. Time to conduct the research study in depth will also not be enough. However, this will be solved by formulating appointments with key

informants as well as ensuring commitment from the researcher. The researcher is likely to encounter limited data and information from the respondents for the study as some respondents will be reluctant and fearing to give out information about the study case. This will however be solved by assuring such respondents that the information collected will be for academic purposes only and that it will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter is a section where data collected and analyzed was presented. The study topic was: Covid 19 and domestic violence against women: A case study of Bugujju village. The statistical findings below come from data collected using questionnaires and interview guides. The data was collected from a total of 40 respondents whereby 27 filled questionnaires and 5 were interviewed face to face. The findings were presented in line with the objectives of the study whereby the raw data in form of questionnaires was edited and interpreted which ensured uniformity, legibility and consistency. The data-filled questionnaires were copied and analyzed by tallying and tabling in frequency polygons while identifying how often certain responses occurred and later evaluation was done. The information was then recorded in terms of percentages. Also, interview results were coded on frequency tables which were calculated in terms of percentages and presented in this studies as illustrated below.

4.1 Response rate

Unlike expected, the study did not have a response rate of 100 percent, and thus the turn up is indicated in table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1 showing the Response Rate

Category	Target sample	Achieved sample	Percent
women	20	18	90
men	12	9	75
Key informants	8	5	62.5

Source: primary data

According to the table above, the response rate was great; as for the women 90% was achieved, 75 % for the men and from the key informants 62.5% was achieved.

4.2 Demographics of respondents

This section categorizes the respondents in the study according to their age, marital status, and more.

4.2.1 Age of respondents

The respondents under study thus men and women; were picked of different age groups as it is shown in the table below.

Table 4.2 showing the age groups of the respondents

Age group	Women		men	
	frequency	percentage	frequency	Percentage
Below 20	3	17	0	0
21-30	7	38.89	3	33
31-40	5	28	5	56
41-50	2	11	1	11
Above 50	1	5.56	0	0
total	18	100	9	100

Source: primary data

According to the statistics that are put up in the table above, most of the respondents emerged from the age group 21-30 for the women; and 31-40 for the men. With a response rate among the women, below the age of 20; we got a 17% response, 21-30; the response was 38.89% within the age 41-50, the response rate was 11% and finally above 50, the response was 5.56%. On the side of the men, the response rate was good; 33% of the men are within 21-30, 56% within the age group of 31-40, 11% within the age of 41-50. It's unfortunate that among the men, there was no respondent below 20 years of age and above fifty years of age. However this statistics still counts

since the yielding result is that many of them are learned and do make use of learning facilities within the area.

4.2.2 Marital status of respondents

This section does break down the marital status of the respondents thus women and men. The **table 4.2** below shows the respondents categorized as single, married, divorced and separated; as it is illustrated

Table 4.3 showing the marital status of the respondents

Marital status	Women		men	
	frequency	percentage	frequency	percentage
Single	7	39	3	33.33
Married	7	39	4	44.44
Divorced	2	11	0	0
Separated	2	11	2	22.22
Total	<i>18</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>100</i>

Source: primary data

The table shown above clearly states that most of the respondents are married with a percentage of 39% for the women and 44% for the men. Aside from that 39% of the women are single and 33.33% of the men fall under the same mentioned category. Among the female respondents 11% were divorced and 11% were separated from their spouses. On the side of the male respondents there were no divorced respondents; however there were those that separated from their spouses with 22.22%.

4.2.3 Education of respondents

The respondents of this study were of different education levels as indicated in the **table 4.3**

Table 4.4 showing the education level of respondents

Level	women		men	
	Frequency	percentage	Frequency	percentage
Primary	0	0	0	0
Secondary	9	50	3	33
Institution/university	9	50	6	67
Total	<i>18</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>100</i>

Source: primary data

Evidenced with the statistics shown in the table above, the largest group of respondents were of institutional level with the women representation at 50% and the men at 67%. This is followed by those from the secondary level where there was 50% of the women and 33% of the men have attended. This also signifies that people in this area do cherish their education and also do make use of the universal primary and secondary education.

4.3 The causes of domestic violence against women amidst the covid 19 pandemic

The study sought to investigate the respondents' rankings on the causes of domestic violence against women within the coronavirus pandemic. The table below indicates the findings on the objectives. The responses of the respondents were ticks in regards to their degree of acceptance

Table 4.5 showing the causes of domestic violence against women amidst the covid 19 pandemic

Statement	SA		A		SD		D		NS	
	<i>F</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>
Financial constraints	10	37.04	11	40.74	2	7.40	1	3.70	3	11.11
Poverty	11	40.74	7	25.93	4	14.81	2	7.40	3	11.11
Effects of standard operating procedures (SOPs)	4	14.81	13	48.15	0	0	7	25.93	0	0
Cultural differences	5	18.52	4	14.81	0	0	12	44.44	6	22.22
Unemployment	8	29.63	16	59.26	2	7.40	1	3.74	0	0
Lockdown of schools and learning institutions	18	66.67	3	11.11	2	7.40	4	14.81	0	0
Behavior of the perpetrator	5	18.52	10	37.04	1	3.74	2	7.40	9	33.33

Source: primary data

According to table 4.4 above, the study investigating the causes of domestic violence against women amidst the covid 19 pandemic, and the findings are as follows;

In first position, unemployment with a sum of 29.63% and 59.26% - many people have lost their jobs and it has made life hard, a case in point, “Now my husband stays at home all day which makes it also hard since I cannot go out and spend time with my friends. It comes to the worst when you ask for money for food. He can get annoyed and the quarrelling begins from there”, says one of the female respondents.

In the second position, Financial constraints totaling up with 37.04% and 40.74%. many of the respondents did accept that many of them were struggling financially. This corona period and the

lockdown have brought many issues. People are unable to work as before to get money that they will use to feed their families. Right now in my home there are some things that we can eat and some we can because they are expensive and we cannot afford.

In the third position, , lock down of schools and learning institutions- with a total of 66.67% and 11.11%; “the thought of having the children at home is hard let alone them studying online which is expensive”, said one of the respondents. Another respondent strongly agreed saying the children have become very unruly.

In the fourth position, poverty- with a stand of 40.74% and 25.93% in agreement. Many people did agree as some do claim that they are unable to afford some food stuffs and even keep the home moving. Some of them said even school has become too expensive as it requires a lot of electronics like laptops smart phones, which are expensive. Through this study it was also evident with some structures in which some of the people in the area lived.

In the fifth position, the effects of the standard operating procedure (SOPs). With a total of 14.81% strongly agreeing and 48.15% agreeing to the statement. This came about as some of the respondents said making money in the became difficult they were hindered from using public transport. However there were those who disagreed with it saying it has brought their families together and they are able to teach their children something.

In the sixth position, behavior of the perpetrator- summing up to 18.52% and 37.04% agreeing with the statement. Through a bit of explanation some of the respondents got to understand the meaning of the word perpetrator.-one of the respondents did say that many times due to stress from their work, the husband would come home and lash out on them. Another female respondent said that the sexual assault is a common thing as many times the men want to be served sexually by the women as if they were having their meal thus morning, mid-morning, afternoon and evening.

Lastly, the cultural differences with a sum of 18.25% and 14.81% agreement to the study. Many of the respondents however declined the statement. One person in particular said that the cultural difference did not come up since many people had to stay at home as the president had put a lockdown, there was no way to begin thinking about cultural values.

4.4 The effects of domestic violence against women during the covid 19 pandemic

The study sought to investigate the respondents' rankings on the effects domestic violence against women within the coronavirus pandemic. The table below indicates the findings on the objectives. The responses of the respondents were ticks in regards to their degree of acceptance

Table 4.6 shows the effects of domestic violence against women during the covid 19 pandemic

Statement	SA		A		SD		D		NS	
	<i>F</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>
Fatal out comes	0	0	4	14.81	5	18.52	6	22.22	12	44.44
Unintended pregnancies	15	55.56	7	25.93	3	11.11	2	7.40	0	0
Likelihood of still birth, premature births, miscarriage, low weight babies	6	22.22	10	37.04	2	7.40	5	18.52	4	14.81
Increased substance abuse, smoking and risky behavior	10	37.04	6	22.22	0	0	7	25.93	5	18.52
Occurrence of mental disorder	0	0	13	48.15	3	11.11	5	18.52	6	22.22

Source: Primary data

According to table above , the study investigating the effects of domestic violence against women during the covid 19 pandemic, and the findings are as follows;

In the first position, unintended pregnancies- with a reigning total of 55.56% and 25.93%, many of the respondents agreed to this statement saying the fact that the children have become unruly, people are jobless and idle. Another said that the high sexual libido on the side of men wanting to have sex all the time, sometimes even when the women are not ready.

In the second position, increased substance abuse, smoking and risky behavior. One respondent says that especially the men; they have become alcoholics some due to the stress at home. Every evening you find them sited around any shop that sells an alcoholic drink. Another said that you can even find women also drinking around those areas some of them even end up fighting with the people.

In the third position, likelihood of still births, premature births, miscarriage and low weight babies. With the stress that they have at home one of respondents said one of her neighbors was pregnant when she had a quarrel with her husband who beat her to make her keep quiet. The one narrating the story then said was the woman's fault since she kept complaining since morning and nagging her husband.

Fourth position, occurrence of mental disorder. Some of the respondents actually agreed to this saying, they get stressed a lot at home due to issues with their finance, taking care of the children and even taking care of the homes another said that sometimes she does not know what to do as she becomes overwhelmed.

Finally, fatal outcomes. Many of them disagreed to this statement saying they have not heard of any deaths related to domestic violence but have heard of those related to the health issues that occurred majorly the corona virus.

4.5 The possible solutions to domestic violence against women within the coronavirus pandemic

The study sought to investigate the respondents' rankings on the possible measures addressing domestic violence against women within the coronavirus pandemic. The table below indicates the findings on the objectives. The responses of the respondents were ticks in regards to their degree of acceptance

Table 4.7 showing the possible measures of addressing the domestic violence against women within the coronavirus pandemic

statement	SA		A		SD		D		NS	
	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>F</i>	%	<i>F</i>	%	<i>F</i>	%
Programs such as spotlight initiative	0	0	0	0	6	22.22	10	37.04	11	40.74
NGO's intervention	0	0	0	0	4	14.81	8	29.63	15	55.56
Engagements of law enforcers	4	14.81	12	44.44	0	0	9	33.33	2	7.40
Engaging the female leaders	5	18.52	14	51.85	0	0	8	29.63	0	0
Sources created to help people facing domestic violence to report cases.	0	0	0	0	15	55.56	3	11.11	9	33.33

Source: Primary data

According to the table above, the study investigating the possible measures addressing domestic violence against women within the covid 19 pandemic; and the findings are as follows:

In the first position, the engaging of the female leaders with a total of 18.52% strongly agreeing, 51.85% agreeing to the statement, and 29.63% disagreeing with the statement. Many did accept that there female leaders are engaged in the situations that happen within this area. Some of them however did say that in regards to domestic violence, they are not aware of their (female leaders) presence. One person claimed that the only time the female leaders do appear is for cases of reproductive health.

In second position, the engagement of the law enforcers, with a total of 14.81% strongly agreeing, 44.44% agreeing, 33.33% disagreeing and 7.40% not sure. for those that I did engage with they acknowledged the law enforcers in the area do help in such situations. From interviews the study

learnt that the area has many cases that have been handled by the law enforcers thus the police and the secretary of defense in the local council committee.

In the third position, programs such as spotlight- this had a total of 22.22% who strongly disagree, 37.04% who disagree with the statement and 40.74% who were not sure. From the interviews, the study learnt that: the different programs that are put up to curb this situation are non-existent in this area. Some of the respondents claim that if it is there they have never heard of them or they may only exist within the university, Uganda Christian University.

In the fourth position, NGO interventions- this had a total of 14.81% strongly disagreeing with the statement, 29.63% disagreeing with the statement and 55.56% who were not sure. Many of the respondents did disagree with the existence of the NGO intervention within this area. Some did say that they may have come but only dealt with the university, Uganda Christian University.

The fifth position, sources created to help people facing domestic violence- this had a total of 55.56% strongly disagree with the statement, 11.11% disagreeing with the statement and 33.33% that were not sure. many of the respondents mainly female respondents did claim that they had no contacts of their local council authority or even that of the law enforcers.

CHAPTER 5

DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provided the conclusions and recommendations of the study. Specifically, it contains the discussions on the findings, conclusions and recommendations and the area suggested for future research.

5.2 Discussions on the findings

5.2.1 The causes of domestic violence against women amidst the covid 19 pandemic

According to my findings, the major cause of domestic violence against women within this covid 19 pandemic is unemployment. Quantitatively, during this study it was noticed that many of the people within this area face unemployment of different sort. Thus some of people in this area are seasonally employed. According to the leaders this cannot be a totality to cause domestic violence since there is plenty to do.

The findings also round up to financial constraints within the households. With the lockdown that was put up to reduce the covid 19 medical cases, there has been an ongoing struggle to keep households running. Finances in many households have been tight especially for those who were let go by their employers. Many of the respondents also said that medical bills have become a problem as they are unable to afford them.

The other major cause is the lock down of schools and learning institutions. Many have expressed their dismay towards the idea of learning institutions being closed. “It has made the living expenses go high” said one of the respondents. It was dismay as the children have adapted to loitering around the area. Some of them have adopted risky behavior.

The other causes may not be identified by the respondents however there is a distinctive number that do agree to the claims thus poverty, effects of the sops, behavior of the perpetrator and cultural differences.

5.2.2 The effects of domestic violence against women during the covid 19

Pandemic

The greatest effect that has been agreed upon is the unintended pregnancies. This has become a nationwide problem as many people are getting pregnant. Within all ages of womanhood many have found themselves with child. The women of this area had a strong opinion with this effect especially sexually. The ideas of being treated as a meal thus serve the men sexually even when they are not prepared. Many of the girls within the area have become mothers. An interview with one of the respondents does blame it on the lockdown of schools and learning institutions

The increased use of substances, smoking and engaging in risky behavior. This has also been a racing effect of domestic violence against women during this corona virus period. The ratings of 37.04% and 22.22% agreement that it is a result of the increasing domestic violence against women within the area. Many people do find an escape in alcoholic beverages to relive themselves of the stress they face in their homes. Though many did confirm that it is majorly the men, another respondent did say that women and children do also engage in the drinking and smoking. Now that schools are closed, the children are more prone to adapt to such behaviors.

Likelihood of premature births, still birth and low weight babies. This effect though it does stand out as many did say that medical bills have become a challenge. In accordance with the findings the locals of the area though some not sure, few did say that due to stress and physical violence some of their friends have had complications with their pregnancies.

The other two effects were approved within the findings however with low ratings. Many people within the area were not sure about the mental disorder occurrences relating it to losing sanity totally. They were unaware of stress being a mental challenge. The idea of fatal outcomes (death) was not a common case that came up , however one respondent did agree with the claim of people dying due to domestic violence though not within this period(covid 19 pandemic).

5.2.3 The possible measures of addressing domestic violence against women within the covid 19 pandemic

The one that was most agreed upon was the engaging of the female leaders. The findings on this did agree that the female leaders were taking time to listen to the issues related to domestic violence against women. Engaging the local government authority in making sure that the issues dealing with domestic violence against women.

The involvement of the law enforcers according to the findings did raise hope in reducing this social illness. Some of the women that I did interview did say that the police do respond to their calls though at times do not do anything about it. It is then sometimes left in the hands of the secretary of defense in the local council.

The other solutions that were put up were negatively responded to. Many of the respondents did claim that they have never heard of any NGOs coming up in the area to fight this social illness against women. According to the findings of the study, most of the respondents denied the existence of programs that have come up to solve this problem that the women of the community are facing; or even put up a source through which they can seek for help.

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

This chapter includes the conclusions of the study, recommendations based on the findings and other suggested areas of study.

6.2 Conclusion

The findings of this study have revealed that domestic violence is a growing and expanding social problem that may lead to a rise in the health issues. This situation is known to most of the people in the area. However there are those people who claim ignorant of it saying that they did not go fur in school. This may be the case but the simplest way they know it is fights that happen within the house.

6.3 Recommendations

- i. To law and policy makers

Strengthen the available laws that are in regard to social phenomenon such as this. Domestic violence on the rise sounds alarms that the laws that exist are doing little to help the affected majority.

Advocate for the consequences that can be applied to the problem of domestic violence and also the proper implementation of the laws and policies in regards to domestic violence in the area

- ii. To the local government authority

The local government is the closest that people of the area are to policy makers and law makers. It would be of great help if the local authorities continuously and attentively engage the community members.

Strengthen the community friendly services throughout the area. It may be skill gaining or enhancing services, health services or security services.

Provide the contacts of the local government authority members so that prevention of this situation is handled effectively

Set out to enlighten the community members on the causes and effects of domestic violence and even the meaning domestic violence itself

- iii. To NGOs and CBOs

As many of the community members disagreed with the existence of any assistance from CBOs and NGOs, it's only right if their engagement is prioritized by the authorities in the area.

Advocate in the local governments engagement in the social issues that occur in the area, majorly the issue of domestic violence.

Support the development of community based centers that deal with issues such as domestic violence and gender based violence

6.4 Suggested areas for further research

- ii First there is need to address mental illness and domestic violence
- iii Secondly , the rise in drug abuse and alcoholism in relation to domestic violence

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UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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September 22nd 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: **INTRODUCTORY LETTER FOR RESEARCH**

This is to introduce to you **ABER Majorine Registration** number **S18B15/047**, a student of Uganda Christian University, pursuing Bachelor's degree Social Work and Administration. She is expected to carry out research in the final year under the guidance of a university supervisor in partial fulfillment for the requirements of the above mentioned award.

Topic: **“Covid-19 and Domestic Violence against Women: A Case Study of Bugujju Village, Mukono Municipality.”**

The purpose of this communication is to request your office to allow her collect data from your organization. Any assistance rendered to her will be highly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully,

Kasule S Kibirige
PP
.....
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