

**FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG MARRIED
COUPLES : A CASE STUDY OF SIRONKO TOWN COUNCIL SUB COUNTY
SIRONKO DISTRICT**

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J22/MUC/BSW/084

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

October, 2024



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DECLARATION

As per the university values of integrity and diligence, I have not received any unauthorized assistance while working on this dissertation. I declare that the work is authentically mine and to the best of my knowledge, it contains no traces of plagiarism or any other unethical practices. The only work used that has already been published by other persons has been purely for reference purposes.

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APPROVAL

I certify that this research report by Nalwoli Ashimu under the topic “factors that influence Domestic violence among married couples in Eastern Uganda a case study of Sironko town council sub-county” has been under my supervision and is ready for the submission to the board of examiners with my approval.

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Signature *[Handwritten Signature]*

Date: *12/9/2024*

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my family who has tirelessly and generously supported me financially and morally from childhood all through life most especially my parents. You have been a great source of inspiration to me. God bless you all!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

To the Lord Jesus I give all the glory. A Special thanks to my parents who have been there for me since day one. I love them so Much!

My supervisor Mr. Nabende W. Danny deserves special thanks for his guidance, insights, ideas, and the encouragement throughout this research.

I also express my sincere gratitude to the members of Sironko Sub County who were very supportive and cooperative to me by availing the necessary information needed for the study.

I also acknowledge and appreciate my friends with whom we toiled up to this final level, for their never ceasing encouragement through this course and the research process.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FIDA.....	Federation of Woman Lawyers.
GBV.....	Gender Based Violence.
NGO.....	Non Governmental Organization.
SPSS.....	Statistical Package for Social Sciences.
WHO.....	World Health Organization.
UN.....	United Nations.
VAW.....	Violence against Woman.
FODOWE.....	Forum for Democratic Woman' Advancement.
DV.....	Domestic violence

ABSTRACT

The study on “Factors that influence domestic violence among married couples in Eastern Uganda was carried out in Sironko town council sub county Sironko district in Uganda. Basing on the major three objectives that is to say factors that influence domestic violence, Effects and solutions to cub down the Vice. To comprehend the problem of the study, a documentary Literature Review was carried out through use of a descriptive, exploratory design based on qualitative and quantitative measures by help of questionnaires and face to face interviews to obtain data from the clients on the subject matter. The whole respondents constituted of 73 respondents of whom only sampled 63 and they managed to answer and return the questionnaires. From the findings it was revealed that the issue mostly happened to polygamous families with 48%, monogamously with 32% and finally 20% of cohabiting families. Domestic violence is a reality and many families had been found out to be victims of domestic violence. It was also revealed that women over 80% suffered most the problem related to domestic violence as compared to men with 20%. Drug abuse was the most factors that greatly caused domestic violence with 32%, illiteracy with 24%, poverty 19%, drunkenness 16% and finally culture with 9%. The study recommended that the Domestic Relations Bill be implemented to help married people overcome the crisis they be fall the days they say “yes”. It was also recommended for offer lows against offenders of married rights especially on relation to the health of spouses.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Back ground of study

Domestic violence is viewed as an unjustifiable act that women, children, orphans and non-orphans are victims of. Domestic violence has been defined as the physical and mental abuse of women within the household, in most cases by husbands, (Common Wealth Secretariat, 1992)

In Uganda, it is becoming increasingly evident that domestic violence is not taken seriously because most communities view women as subordinates to men and properties of men and the clans as long as she is married. As a consequent, the physical abuse of women and children is not seriously looked at and is regarded as a private matter especially on the women's side. Consequently, the magnitude of domestic violence is still unknown and it is yet to be determined. Domestic violence is carried out through physical abuse, emotional, verbal, psychological and economic abuse, intimidation, harassment, provocation, and damage to property commonly by partners and ex-partners, immediate family members, step-parent, among others.

1.1 Justification

The problem of domestic violence among married couples, the law that is provided by the government is not helping as it has been proposed by the parliament. The law is of no use if it doesn't protect those it is meant to protect. Law enforcement agencies are meant to make sure that the laws concerning domestic violence put in place are being followed. There is a need to enable married couples understand that anybody can be a victim of domestic violence whether a wife, husband or children and their job is to take record of the offenses and their perpetrators because if the problem is not dealt with then we can't say that justice is being served in Uganda as a country. Domestic violence Act, 2010 article 21 in the constitution of Uganda provides for equality and freedom from discrimination. Therefore these constitutional provisions support the legal framework that protects individuals from domestic violence.

1.2 Statement of problem

The problem of domestic violence is increasingly causing concern as reported by the media, hospitals, judges, governments, NGOs and the donor organizations. Domestic violence has serious effects which may be physical, such as murdering, loss of lives, wounds and emotional effects such as fear and anxiety. Also one can feel depressed which is the loss of one's self esteem, passiveness and sexual effects are experienced in most cases. The total effect of these forms of domestic violence is dehumanizing and death at extreme cases. Such effect in deed pose a serious problem to the society in that they are irreversible.

Domestic violence victimizes women and children who are the bridging bars between the fathers and their families. It is against this background that the researcher is prompted to carry out a study on factors that influence domestic violence among married in Sironko town council Sub county Sironko District.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

To examine the factors that influence domestic violence among married couples.

1.4 Objectives of the study;

- i. To examine factors that influence domestic violence among married couples.
- ii. To determine the effects of domestic violence on women and children.
- iii. To suggest possible solutions to the problem of domestic violence.

1.5 Research questions

- i. What are the factors for the increasing act of domestic violence among married couples in sironko district?
- ii. How does domestic violence affect women and children?
- iii. What are the possible solutions to the problem of domestic violence?

1.6 Scope of Study

This consists of content scope, Geographical, and time scope.

1.6.1 Content scope

The study focuses on analyzing the factors that contribute to the outbreak of domestic violence among married couples in Sironko town council Sub County and how the community has managed to overcome such effects.

The study also reveals various forms of domestic violence. The study will also show the work of various institutions including NGOs, government and police, that work to address domestic violence.

1.6.2 Geographical scope:

Sironko Town Council is a sub-county in Sironko District Eastern Uganda. Sironko Town Council is located in the Bugisu sub-region, approximately 25 kilometers north of Mbale, the regional capital. It's bordered by Teso sub region in north, Bulambuli in east, and Bududa district in west. It serves as a sub-county administrative center with a growing population and an expanding economy primarily based on agriculture and small-scale trading. Situated in a hilly region, Sironko Town Council boasts lush green landscapes and a moderate climate. The town council plays a pivotal role in providing essential services and facilitating development initiatives in the surrounding areas.

1.6.3 Time Scope:

Period to be considered for the study was 3 years from 2019 to 2022 this is because during this period Sironko is plagued with domestic issues.

1.7 Significance of Study

This study's significance lies in its potential to drive positive change by informing policy, empowering communities, enhancing service provision, contributing to research, and advancing efforts to promote gender equality and social justice among married in Sironko Town Council Sub county and beyond.

Domestic Violence has a wider occurrence that is becoming a practice in Uganda. It is on this note that the findings of this study will benefit all categories of people in Uganda and in Sironko district in particular.

The researchers who will be carrying out their research will always prefer this as a reference point on domestic violence.

This research will also bridge the gap that could have been left out by other researchers on the subject of domestic violence.

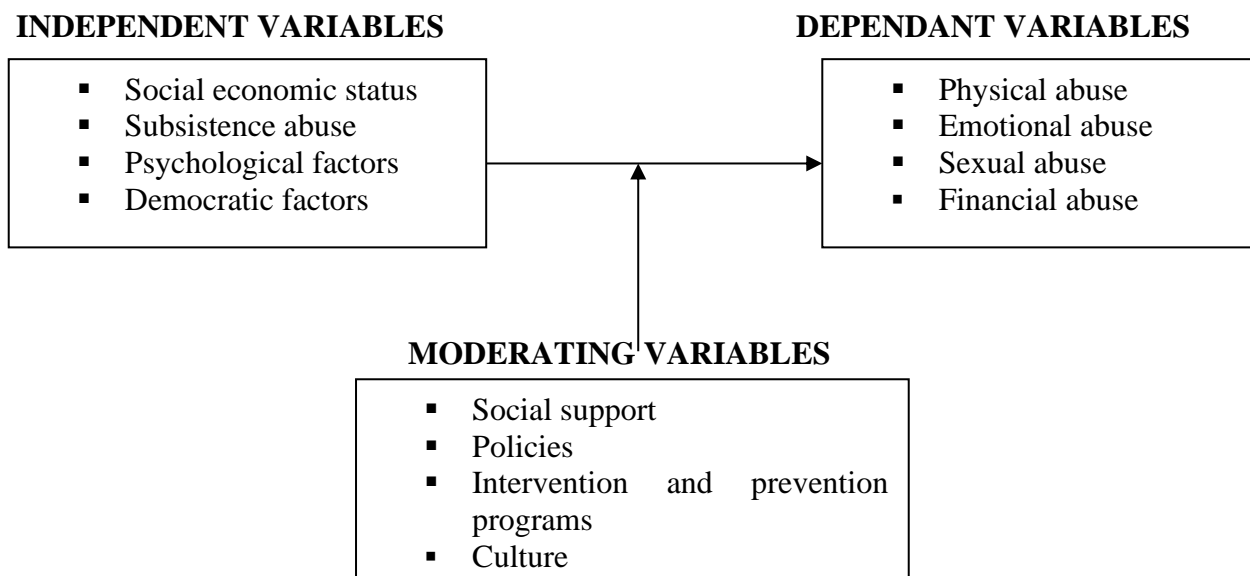
To the families, guidance, parents and spouses, the study will enable them to realize whatever mistake they have been doing then it will act as a corrective measure to them.

The results of the study are expected to benefit NGOS dealing with human rights, marriage, legal and non-legal acts.

This study will also benefit future scholars in that as references while conducting researches on other related topics.

Policy makers will benefit from this study during formulation of domestic relations policy by borrowing some ideas basing on the findings of this research work.

1.7 Figure 1; conceptual Framework



Source of data: Primary Data (2024)

Explanation

The conceptual framework for understanding domestic violence among married couples provides a structured way to examine the various factors contributing to this complex issue. This framework helps identify the relationships between different types of variables and how they interact to influence the occurrence and severity of domestic violence. The framework illustrates how independent variables directly influence the dependent variable. Moderating variables can either strengthen or weaken these relationships.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

Various books, pamphlets, and other publication were referred to the purpose of determining the current situations in other jurisdiction on domestic violence.

2.1 Factors that influence domestic violence among married couples.

The aspect of law was derived from laws of Uganda i.e. penal code, case law, news paper reports as well as international instruments on this subject matter. Uganda has been noted among the countries with increasing forms of domestic violence ranging from physical, social, economic, psychological and sexual abuse. A study in Botswana's chapter of women in law and development found that among others Uganda was among the leading countries in women abuse on the continent. The study also pointed out 73% of women in Uganda abused in their homes.

FIDA Uganda (2020) the term domestic violence will refer to that act of violence in the home between parties in intimate relationships that results or is likely to result into physical, sexual, psychological harm or suffering to the victim, including threats of such acts, coercion and arbitrary deprivation of liberty to the victim. Uganda has been noted among countries with increasing cases of domestic violence. A recent study by Botswana's chapter of women in law and development found that among others, Uganda was one of the leading countries in women abuse on the continent.

Michael P. Johnson gives the causes of domestic violence and violence against women in relation to theories. Michael P. Johnson (2019) is a sociologist and researcher who have made significant contributions to the field of domestic violence. His work emphasizes how power dynamics between genders within society contribute towards perpetuating inequality & abusive behavior. He examined this issue through various theoretical lenses to understand its causes more comprehensively. (Johnson, 2019)

According to Daphne Tsapalas et al. (2021) to address the phenomenon of gender-based violence in Latin America and the Caribbean is an issue of epic proportion that reflects the unequal power dynamics created within the binary gender system and is often perpetrated by those with more physical, cultural, or social power and inflicted upon those without

Abdel Aziem A Ali, Khalid Yasin and Rawia Omar argues that Sociological theories indicate that low level of education, economic vulnerability, stress and a closed social network increase the risk of partner violence,. In 2019 a state plan to combat violence against women was adopted and a new Violence against Women (VAW) Unit was created at the Ministry of Justice. To our knowledge no available data on domestic violence against women in Sudan exists, thus the current study designed and directed to investigate the prevalence rate and socio-demographic factors associated with domestic violence against women in Eastern Sudan aiming to provide the policy makers with fundamental data to reduce the prevalence rate of this practice.

According to the United Nations, domestic violence or abuse is defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship designed to support or maintain power and control over an intimate partner (United Nations, 2018). Approximately, 614 million women worldwide are affected by domestic violence (World Health Organizations, 2021). The United Nations Gender Equality and Empowerment Organization said domestic violence increased during the COVID-19 pandemic blockade, with 243 million women and girls experiencing physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months (United Nations, 2020).

The study carried out by Botswana Women and legal rights office, (2004), found out that amongst other countries in Africa, Uganda has the highest rate of abusing women. The study pointed out that in Uganda, 73% of women are abused in their homes by their husbands.

Kalal Subhashchandra (2022) The common risk factors which contributes towards domestic violence includes lack of education, low income, alcohol and substance abuse, and family structure and it tends to be a combination of individual, relational, community, and societal factors. As domestic violence differs with the local social norms and literacy level of women, it is important to measure the burden of domestic violence in a given geographical region for initiating the necessary measures, which in turn will potentially help to mitigate the problem in the society.

Sexual, psychological, and physical acts used against adult and adolescent women by either current or former male intimate partners or other family members with more than one-third of women in the world facing physical and sexual violence, the lifetime prevalence of it ranges from 20% to 33% in different population surveys and settings across the world.

The New Vision, (March. 24th.2006) and the monitor, (15th.July 2009), observed that the causes of domestic violence is mainly caused by lack of respect between mothers and fathers in the various households in Uganda. Each one has to respect the partner and if this fails then domestic violence will be brewing in that particular household.

2.2 The effects of domestic violence on women and children

Statistics have shown that domestic violence is the most common form of GBV among partners and this has resulted in divorce or even death. By September 2022, the members of GBV had managed 4,513 incidents related to domestic violence that were reported in 13 refugee hosting districts in Uganda. Uganda has been noted among the countries with increasing form of domestic violence. According to Police annual reports on Gender Based related cases, a total of 1,521 women were victims of rape in 2021, and by the end of 2020, a total of 10,844 cases of threatening violence were registered. According to the 2021 police crime report, about 16,242 cases of Gender Based Violence (GBV) were recorded in 2021. Out of these, 8,064 were domestic violence, 6,838 defilement, and 223 were aggravated domestic violence that resulted in death.

World Health Organization 2021 report is based on an analysis of available prevalence data from surveys and studies conducted between 2018 and 2019, obtained through a systematic and comprehensive review of all available data on the prevalence of these two forms of violence against women. In 2020, the World Health Organization's (WHO's) Member States endorsed the Global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system within a national multi-sectional response to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children, which includes improving the collection and use of robust data as one of its four strategic directions. Accurate and reliable statistics on violence against women are crucial to improve our understanding of the prevalence, nature and impact of this violence and how these may differ across settings and age cohorts, and to monitor changes over time

Christ, (2019), reported that in Kumi district, wife beating is so important and rampant. Several women have been beaten to death over quarrel. In Uganda and yet many cases remain unreported. Those that are reported are subjected to cumbersome procedures in the court process, which in most cases lets the perpetrators go free because of inadequate evidence from the victims.

2.3 Possible solutions to the problem of domestic violence.

In Uganda the law governing the domestic violence is contained in number of statutes. There are two laws with provision that could be interpreted to address domestic violence among married; the penal code act and the domestic violence Act 2010 of penal code deals with what generally is referred to as common assaults. These include beating, slapping which are punishable with five years imprisonment. Upon convict .5.228 of penal code deals with major assaults resulting in actual bodily harm and permanent injury. These are punishable with five to seven years imprisonment respectively. Under the divorce act, a wife is only allowed to divorce her husband giving cruelty as a reason only if she proves that the husband committed adultery in addition to being cruel to her. Wives who cannot or fail to prove adultery cannot get redress from court.

Joseph Lasong, Yuan Zhang and Kai Zhao suggest that women have rights just like any other human being, they have right to live, right not to be subjected to torture or inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment, right to equal protection, right to liberty and personal security, right to equal protection under the law, right to equality in the family, right to the highest standard attainable of physical, mental health and right to justice. Violence against women violates these rights and fundamental freedoms of women and promotes gender inequality in society. Globally, Sub-Saharan African countries have documented violence against women. Domestic violence is predominant in most of sub-Saharan Africa, with a total prevalence of 36% above the global average of 30%. Majority of women in Africa are prone to lifetime partner violence (45.6%) and sexual abuse (11.9%) than elsewhere. Zimbabwe enacted the domestic

Brender and Hogget, (2001), argued that while such problem take up considerable policy case, however, the role of the policy is always negative to them, no attention could be made to handle those who inflict domestic violence on their partners comparing this situation to probation and welfare services, and the role of the police is sometimes negative as far as combating domestic violence in Uganda is concerned.

Indeed each of the African Latin American and Asian regional meeting held in the preparation for the world conference on human rights in June 1993, draw up a strong resolution on human rights of women and the International conference of the council of Europe also reflected the concerns. She added that indeed the standards already set out in

1948 Universal declaration of Human Rights and the International convention on Civil and Political Economics, Social and Cultural Rights along with the convention on the elimination of all forms of discriminations against women (CEDAW) and the most recent convention on the right of children which should be honored.

According to Rogers in her book a decade of women and the law in common wealth, London secretarial publication, (1985), legislation is not always sufficient answer until women are prepared to come forward and prosecute their partners. So unless women depend on their partners for their support and the children, this is when they can make reasonable criminal accusations against their partners.

Tamale, (2009), discussed how gender perpetuates and reinforces male superiority, cultural socialization which is very significant in perpetuating gender hierarchy in Ugandan societies. She further pointed out that women also lend legitimacy to their subordination when gender incentive women, politicians, articulate anti-women arguments. Such responds culminates into the reluctance of different forces available to curb the abuse of women's right.

Penal Code act (Cap 120), (2005), states that there is increasing concern by Ugandan Government on the issue of domestic violence. To reduce this government has strengthened the law concerning domestic violence at household levels. The current debate on domestic relations bill in the Ugandan parliament is an indicator that there is concern over this matter.

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CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the methods that will be used during the study. These included target population, sample size, methods of data collection, data editing and analysis. It will address the areas of study, the population to be covered and any problem that were encountered during the research process.

3.1 Research Design

The study will employ both a descriptive and a cross sectional research design in the collection and analysis of the data, the two research designs were preferred because they enabled the researcher systematically collect and present data to give a clear picture regarding the research.

Both qualitative and quantitative were used because they involved carrying out in depth interviews and to conduct group discussions. Under qualitative method, questionnaires will be used to establish the places rampant with domestic violence.

3.2 Sample size

According to Hensen, M.C. (2020), Sample size is the total number of participants from which data can be collected. For the research involve a target population of 75 respondents as follows:

Victims, Local government officials, Non-government officials, Local community leaders, law enforcement officers, Health providers and Social workers.

Table 1: showing population and sampling techniques

Respondents	Population	Sample size	Sampling procedures
Victims	20	19	purposive sampling
Non-government organizations	4	2	purposive sampling
local community leaders	19	18	Simple random sampling
healthcare providers	9	8	purposive sampling
Local government officials	6	3	purposive sampling
social workers	13	10	Simple random sampling
law enforcement officers	4	3	purposive sampling
Total	75	63	

Source: Primary data (2024)

The researcher used the formula of Slovenes (1960) which include;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e^2)}$$

Where;

n is the sample size

N is the whole population

1 is the constant

e² error in sampling (0.05)

$$= 75 / 1 + 75 (0.05)^2$$

$$= 75 / 1 + 75 (0.0025)$$

$$= 75 / 1 + 0.1875$$

$$= 75 / 1.1875$$

$$= 63.2$$

$$n = 63 \text{ respondents}$$

Therefore, the sample size of the study will be 63 respondents

3.3 Sample selection

Sironko town council was purposely chosen from a list of other districts in Eastern Uganda because it has an increase of domestic violence, abuse of children's rights in the families. The study will use a sample of 63 respondents.

3.4 Research Methods

In order to achieve objective of the study, the researcher will use Qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection to get information on domestic violence, causes, effects and solutions. The methods will generate enough information so as to make conclusions.

3.5 Research instruments

The researcher gathered data by use of questionnaires, interviews and observations to produce relevant data for research

i. Questionnaires

The questionnaires were administered to some men, children, and women in Sironko Town Council so that the researcher can compare and contrast data given on causes and effects of domestic violence between the two sexes

ii. Interviews method

The researcher conducted face to face interviews with some men, children, and women, government officials, NGOs and local community leaders both illiterates and literates on issues pertaining to the respondent's background and family life.

iii. Observation

This was conducted during interviews to observe the situation in the interviewee's response. This helped the researcher record notes based on accurate observations. In addition, the researcher will move in the community which will enable the researcher develop an automate relationship with the community during the study.

3.6 Data presentation and Analysis

Data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. Different data sets were used in analyzing data collected, i.e. where necessary SPSS package was used. Tables and graphs were done in Microsoft word and Excel.

3.7 Research procedure

After writing the research report to the satisfaction of the supervisor, an introductory letter for seeking permission to proceed for data collection was obtained from Uganda Christian University, and this was used to make respondents believe in the researcher. This letter was taken to Sironko Town Council to seek for permission before engaging the population for the study. The researcher defined the population, listed the elements of the population, determined an appropriate sampling methodology, decided an adequate sample size and selected a representative sample of 63 respondents

3.8 Ethical Considerations

Bearing in mind the ethical code of conduct, the researcher got a letter form of introduction from the university that introduced researcher to the respondents during data collection process.

The researcher will provide the respondents with the necessary information as regards the main purpose of the research, expected duration and the procedures to be followed.

Total privacy will rest assured to the respondents and their data will be treated with a lot of confidentiality

3.9 Validity of the study

The validity of the instruments will be ensured through a pilot study and by seeking expert review. The questionnaire will be carefully developed to align with the study objectives, ensuring that it measures what it intends to.

3.9.1 Reliability of the study

The reliability of the instruments will be tested using the Cronbach's Alpha method for internal consistency. A score above 0.7 will be considered reliable. Data collection procedures will also be standardized, and multiple researchers will be trained to reduce observer bias.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATIONS, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.0 Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher studies the findings using tables, bar graphs and figures to describe the response to the questionnaires, which were read and interpreted.

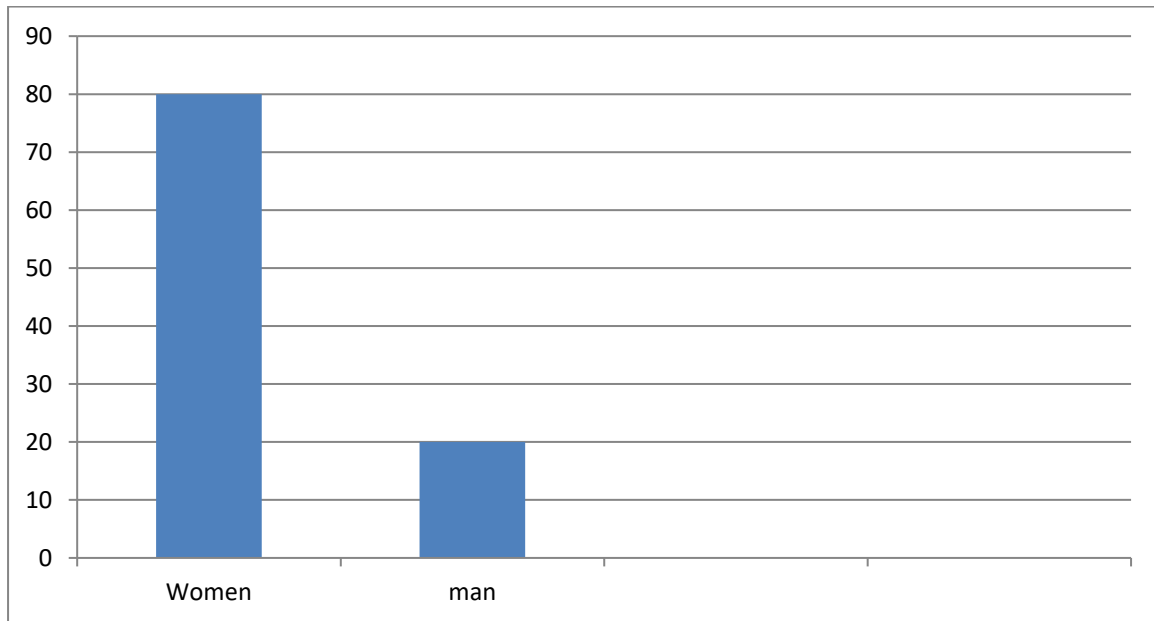
4.1 Socio-demographic characteristics

The research cut across various sexes and age groups. Different respondents gave their views concerning the study and each age group suffered most, and sex and profession. In the social demographic character, the research looked at the age, sex, level of education, marital status of the respondent and their occupations.

4.1.1 Sex

The research involved both female and male gender and it was revealed that the female gender suffered most of the effects of domestic violence. This was mainly due to their weak nature and dependence levels. Most of the female gender was revealed to be on the recipient side and either stayed at home or worked on their family farms whose output was managed and monitored by their husbands. Research showed that women suffered because they were paid for dowry and did only as a man wished and adhered to any form of treatment while in a man's house

Graph 1: sex of the respondents



Source: Primary Data (2024)

4.1.2 Age

The youngest respondent was 23 years and the oldest of the respondent was 70 years old. Respondents were either victims of the vice or observers. Some young respondents between 23 and 25 years had not been victims but had witnessed their parents fight and see their mothers affected with wounds.

4.1.3 Level of education

Most of the respondents were of a low education level whose education ranged from primary to senior four (S.4) and a least number senior six (S. 6) and tertiary levels. Only seven respondents from the local community had attained degrees from universities, According to the research, domestic violence was common in illiterate and semi-illiterate families. Illiterate married and cohabiting women suffered husband battering roost because they thought that it is usual thing for a woman to be beaten by her husband.

4.1.4 Marital status

Most of the respondents at least belong to either family which is married monogamously, or polygamous, or cohabiting.

Table 2: Marital status of the respondents

Marital status	No of respondents	percentages
married monogamously	20	32
married polygamous	30	48
cohabiting	13	20
Total	63	100

Source: Primary data (2024)

The research revealed that domestic violence mostly occurred in polygamous families and monogamous homes. It revealed that almost 48% of polygamous families witness trend of domestic violence, which are very brutal It should he noted that in these families it was not only the husbands that battered the wives, but also the wives fight amongst themselves .In most of these families however, witchcraft is named as the worst weapon especially by mothers against themselves and mothers against their step children.

4.1.5 Occupation of the respondents

The respondents are mostly farmers or peasants, domestic workers especially women and executives and women who traded in agricultural produces.

Table 3: Occupation of the respondents

Occupation	Number of respondents	Percentages
Farmers	40	63
Domestic workers	8	13
Business persons	10	16
Un employed	5	8
Total	63	100

Source: Primary Data (2024)

Most of the respondents are farmers who cultivated either on farms or reared animals. A percentage of 63 respondents actively participated in agriculture but still suffered under the scourge of poverty. In most cases, most of the people grow maize, which provide little for their basic needs and school fees for their children. Other groups also do some productive work like business in agricultural produces.

4.2 Causes of domestic violence

Various causes of domestic violence were given but intoxication was given as a major cause. Other causes like illiteracy, culture were also given

Table 4: Causes of domestic violence

Causes	Number of absolute	percentages
poverty	12	19
Illiteracy	15	24
Drug abuse	20	32
drunkenness	10	16
culture	6	9
TOTAL	63	100

Source: Primary Data (2024)

Poverty

Residents said that the poor state that people live in has made them turn hostile. Women complained that a mere asking for money for food and other necessities make their husbands quarrel a lot and even worse beat them.

Illiteracy

Some respondents accompanied most these causes with illiteracy that is referred to as a disease of the rural people. In fact some women said that their men need to go back to school

and learn that women and children are humans and feel pain when hurt. It was revealed that illiterate men bartered their wives than their counterparts, the literates and semi-literates.

Drug abuse

Most of the respondents (about 35%) revealed that their husbands use toxicants like cigarettes, cocaine which disrupts their mental health and make them to act like animals. And when their wives talk to them they result to anger and at time beat them.

Drunkenness:

Most of the respondents (about 35%) revealed that their husbands take too much of the local brew that make them act like animals. It was emphasized that men who take the local brew behave very weirdly. Among the local brews that were named local spirits normally referred to as “waragi” were said to be the worst and indeed made people behave very indecently. A reveler said that alcohol made man annoyed over nothing and developed a fight over nothing.

Culture

Among the Gishu and Sabins, culture is a much respected aspect and counts first before anything else. Culture places men on top of all members in the family and proves that the man who is the breadwinner is always right. It should be noted that the cultural practices of bride price and female genital mutilations (FGM) have made women very vulnerable to the vice. After payment of bride price, men make their wives properties and working machines.

4.2.1 Forms of domestic Violence

These were identified by the respondents to include physical injuries, burns, and deformities of the victim, separations or divorce. Abandonment of families, torment, anxiety, lack of parental care of the children, desertion of children, loss of self-esteem, depression, suicide and sickness including Aids in complicated cases.

4.3 Effects of domestic violence

Most of the effects of domestic violence are negative and reduce humans to “punch bags”. However, a few gentlemen analyzed and said that battered women gain respect for their husbands.

Table 5: Effects of domestic violence

Effects	Number of absolute	Percentage
Divorce	6	10
Temporary injuries	9	14
Permanent injuries	3	5
Wounds	30	48
Miscarriages	10	15
Broken limbs	5	8
Total	63	100

Source: Primary Data (2024)

From the study it was found out that most of the respondents gave wounds as the commonest effect of domestic violence with 48% followed by miscarriages 15% and temporary injuries with 14% respectively. When couples fight one is left with many wounds in the face and all over their bodies and children who are always corporal punishments victims.

4.4 solutions combat domestic violence

The population of respondents suggested various actions that different stakeholders should undertake as one-way to combat the vice of domestic violence. The actions were suggested to government, NGOs, and the local community.

4.4.1 Actions by government

Government should put strict laws against men who batter their wives. The laws should mostly threaten village men who have no respect for their wives at home and take all chances to threaten them without considering their rights. It should be noted that Uganda has no Domestic Relations law that protects women against the dubious acts of their husbands. Therefore it is against this note that hostile men should be threatened with strict laws that will discourage people to harass weak one in society.

Counseling of married children and school going children as a way of improve their character in future especially when they get married. It should be noted the right training starts when the child is young therefore young people should be told how to treat each other right from school to home. This will help them to respect each other even when they get married in future

Government should alleviate the poverty levels that have women dependants on mainly men for anything. Various projects should be implemented in the rural areas to help women earn something other than being mere dependants. This will reduce fights that result from dependence on one sole breadwinner.

Police should arrest those who beat their wives without an outstanding reason. Domestic violence culprits should be punished by the law and imprisoned if found guilty this will discourage those who intend to do the same.

Government should abolish alcohol and drug abuse in the villages that will prohibit men from over staying in bars. It should be noted that most of the fight between women in marriage often happen at night when men return from bars drunk. Therefore the time should be set when people should take alcohol and it should be stated that no one is to take alcohol during working hours and state a curfew time when they have to go back to their homes.

4.4.2 Actions by NGOS

They should create jobs for women and help them get loans for their small-scale business in order to reduce their dependence on their husbands that has made them vulnerable. Once women can earn a living they can fore go the dubious ways that their husbands make them pass through when asking for the money.

They should create jobs for women and help them get loans for their small-scale business in order to reduce their dependence on their husbands that has made them vulnerable. Once women can earn a living they can fore go the dubious ways that their husbands make them pass through when asking for the money.

They should empower women. NGOs should give women the voice to speak loudly especially when dealing with the aspects that touch their lives. For instance women should be told of their rights and should also be told in which ways they can protect them. They should

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CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction.

In this chapter the researcher gives a summary of findings, conclusions and recommendation in line with the research questions and objectives.

5.1 Summary of findings.

The researcher provided a summary of findings in line with the objectives as follows;

5.1.1 Research Question one: Findings on the factors that influence domestic violence among married.

The study investigated into the factors that influence domestic violence among married couples. Results according to descriptive statistics showed that most respondents were positive to drug abuse for over 32%, illiteracy of respondents constituting 24%, poverty consisted 19%, drunkenness' to 16% and finally culture which consisted to 9%. Most responses were positive indicating that drug abuse a significant cause of domestic violence in Sironko Town Council.

5.1.2 Research Question two: Findings on the effect of domestic violence on women and children

The study investigated into the effect of domestic violence among women and children in Sironko Town Council. Results according to descriptive statistics indicated that majority of the respondents are women that were strongly affected by the issue. Agreed From the study it was found out that most of the respondents mostly women had wounds as the commonest effect of domestic violence with 48% followed by miscarriages 15% and temporary injuries with 14% respectively. When couples fight one is left with many wounds in the face and all over their bodies and children who are always corporal punishments victims.

5.1.3 Question three: Findings on possible solutions to the problem of domestic violence.

From findings factors and effects of domestic violence among married couples the information show there is an increase in domestic violence that the government and NGOs should effectively apply in order to encounter the issue of domestic violence in Sironko Town Council and Uganda at large.

5.2 Conclusions

From the research findings, it's evident that there is an increase in domestic violence among married couples in families. There is a multiplicity of factors that lead to domestic violence. However, the factors differ in proportions. Among the factors discovered was Drug abuse taking the highest percentage over 32%, illiteracy with 24%, and poverty with 19%, Drunkenness with 16% and culture with 9%. As a result many get bruises and marriage break ups for children it leads to school dropout.

There is need for further research about the factors of domestic violence on family affairs and on a large scale. This information will likely help the government to formulate policies aiming at reducing the domestic issue in families.

There is need for improving educational infrastructure which will provide all necessities among children and women on preventive measures. The community must be sensitized such that victims are given freedom and social justice.

5.3 Recommendations

From the field study it was revealed and found out that respondents were not happy with the present law dealing with domestic violence. The law is insufficient in both civil and criminal law only caters for simple assaults and assaults occasioning grievous bodily harms from the research its evident that domestic violence covers a wider scope and its upon this basis that which take the following recommendations that are redirected towards government, civil society local community and the international country.

5.3.1 Recommendation to Government

Clearly state in the constitution that domestic violence is a criminal offence. This will scare away men that take the laws in their own hand and reduce women to punching bags. If government states the law that prohibits men to unjustifiably beat up their wives this will enable them have a say in their marriages and also reduce their vulnerability to the depressing acts of their husbands.

Fight corruption at police and judiciary level that set domestic violators free of crime. It was revealed that most of the men went free of their charges because they managed to pay a certain fee to the police man or any other authority that handled their case. In fact that's why some women left their husband's homes without anything even when they had a hand in the management of the wealth they had worked for their entire lives.

Government should set the age of marriage above 20 years. This will reduce the number of young marriages that are mostly associated with domestic violence. It was revealed by the elderly

respondents themselves that at least young people above 20 years reason better than those below 20years.

Government should alleviate the level of poverty that has made some groups especially women vulnerable to domestic violence. With alleviation of poverty, women dependency on men will reduce and perhaps simple fight related to money and ownership will be overcome reducing the tense fights in households.

Laws articulating rights and obligations of spouses in marriage should be enacted by government. The government should fully establish the right of individuals especially when it comes to ownership of property and the roles. If these laws are properly stated it will reduce the level at which women are battered due to lack of a stated law that shows rights.

5.3.2 Recommendation to the civil society

The church should sensitize the married couples about their roles and obligations to stop quarreling and fighting when they finally get a home. This will enable all the newly wedded to understand that marriage is a place of peace but not a battle field.

NGOs should train women LCs, counselors, clan leaders and police on how to handle domestic violence cases, victims and culprits. Culprits and victims should not be harassed by the people handling their cases but rather find ways of trying to resolve the cases in more amicable ways. In fact NGOs should train personnel with great potential to counsel the contenders of the vice.

NGOs should create employment opportunities and income generating opportunities to reduce the levels of women poverty and dependency. It is believed that independent women can have a say about most of the things in their homes therefore lobbying for some loans on their behalf will help them create some jobs that will reduce their dependency and vulnerability.

5.3.3 Recommendation to the local community

Community should punish culprits of Domestic violence. The community should find punishments that can be given to the violators of the home laws and also try to see that everyone in society lives happily in their marriage vow other than one party making the other than men oppressing their wives.

Organize local council meetings to educate married couples against domestic violence. The local community should organize meetings that place the culprits of the scourge before the people. This will make other not to disrespect their wives for fear of getting ashamed.

Condemn cultural practices that depress human rights especially for women. The community should be protective of their women and girls especially from the men who behave like animals in their marriages.

Condemn practices of bride price that reduce women and girls to mere commodities. This has been said on and on but cultural leaders should be in position to discourage parents who regard their daughters to be wealth for this places them in the horror of mistreatment.

5.4 Area for Further Research

The study investigated the factors that influence of domestic violence among married couples in family affair. Though this study examined the causes, effects and so many areas that deem relevant to this study that was not dealt with to establish the magnitude of the study. The researcher therefore recommends other researcher to also take further studies about this topic to make the subject more colorful.

APPENDIX I

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE

BEEN AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THOSE WHO HAVE WITNESSED IT.

Dear sir / Madam

I am Nalwoli Ashimu carrying out research on the topic “factors that influence domestic violence among married couples.” as a partial fulfillment for the award of bachelors degree of social work and social administration of Uganda Christian University .The questionnaire is designed to help me collect relevant information and therefore I kindly request you to participate in responding to the questions that will be asked .However the information given will be treated confidential and will only be used for academic purpose.

The objectives of the study include:

To assess the factors for the increase of domestic violence among married couples.

To determine the effects of domestic violence among married couples

To suggest possible solutions to the problem of domestic violence

This questionnaire is intended to get the information on factors that influence domestic violence in Sironko Town Council.

.

A) Social demographic characteristics

1 sex (a) Male (b) female

2 Age (a) 19 (b) 19-25 (c) 25-75 (d) 75-80

(3) Levels of education

(a) Primary (b) Secondary (c) Tertiary institution

Others specify.....

(4) Marital status

(a) Single (b) Cohabiting

(c) Married-monogamous (d) married polygamous

Others specify.....

(5) Occupation

(a) Domestic work (b) None / unemployed

(c) Farmer / cultivator (d) Business person leader

(e) Student

Others specify.....

B) Causes of domestic violence

(6) What are the causes of domestic violence?

(a) None (b) Cultural /tradition

(c) Drunkenness (d) Stubbornness

(e) Sign of affection

Others specify.....

(7) Have you been the victim of the act described above?

(a) Yes (b) no

(8) When do people carry out the act of domestic violence?

(a) Weekends (b) Week days

(c) Whenever relatives (d) after denial of personal earnings

Others specify.....

C) Effects of domestic violence

(9) What are the physical, mental and psychological effects of domestic violence?

(a) Wounds (d) Permanent injuries

(b) Broken limbs (e) Miscarriage

(c) Blindness (f) Temporary insanity

Others specify.....

(10) What are the common effects?

(a) Wounds and cuts (b) Broken limbs

(c) All of them (d) Permanent injuries

Others specify.....

D) Forms of domestic violence

(11) What are the different forms?

(a) Boxing

(b) Kicking

(c) Beating with instrument

(d) Slapping

Others specify.....

(12) Which of the above is common in your village?

(a) All of them (d) e-h of domestic violence you know of?

(e) Denial of marital things

(f) Denial of children school fees

(g) Denial of conjugal rights

(h) Denial of love and care

(b) Some of them (e) none of the above

(c) a-b

E) Gender imbalances

(13) What forms of gender imbalances exist in your homes?

(a) Income inequality (b) Property imbalance

(c) Status imbalances (d) Religious imbalance

Others specify.....

F) Concern and attention.

(14) What does the person mistreated do to get justice?

(a) Report to elders (d) Report to friends

(b) Report to police (e) Report to diviners

(c) Report to LCS (f) Go to hospital

Others specify.....

(15) What does the person(s) you report to do in order to help you?

(a) Punish the contender (c) Arrest the contender

(a) Advise you

Others specify.....

Thank you for your co-operation

APPENDIX II

INTERVIEW GUIDE TO THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

1. How do you define domestic violence?

.....
.....

2. Are there many cases of domestic violence?

.....
.....

3. If yes in which region are they?

.....
.....

4. Who are those who are affected?

.....
.....

5. What are the causes of domestic violence?

.....
.....

6. What are the effects of domestic violence among married couples in families?

.....
.....

7. What could be done to stop domestic violence?

.....
.....

8. What have been done to fight domestic violence?

.....
.....

9. What recommendations or opinion do you have for the government?

.....
.....

APPENDIX III

INTERVIEW GUIDE TO THE NGO REPRESENTATIVE

1. How do you define domestic violence?

.....
.....

2. How do you define domestic violence internationally?

.....
.....

3. How do NGOs react against domestic violence?

.....
.....

4. What are the causes of domestic violence?

.....
.....

5. What are the effects of domestic violence?

.....
.....

6. What have been done to fight domestic violence?

.....
.....

7. What do you recommend the government in order to curb domestic violence?

.....
.....

8. What recommendations do you have for the government?

.....
.....

APPENDIX IV
DATA COLLECTION LETTER



**UGANDA CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY**

A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa
MBALE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Office of the Academic Registrar

To C.D.O
SIRONKO T/C



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Academic Research

Christian greetings!

We are honored to introduce to you Mr. Mrs./Miss. NALWOLI ASHIMU
Of Registration Number J221MUC/BSW 1084 pursuing a Masters'
Degree/Postgraduate Diploma / Bachelor's Degree

SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION
He/ she is required to carry out academic research on the topic
FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AMONG MARRIED COUPLES.

and thereafter produce a well bound hard cover research report (MAROON) in color for undergraduate and three (BLACK)copies for Postgraduate students as a university requirement for the award of a degree/diploma in the academic discipline that he / she is pursuing.

We shall be grateful for the help you may offer to him or her accordingly.
Thank you.

Yours faithfully,


Mr. Akampurira Timothy
Academic Registrar



A Complete Education for a Complete Person

P.O Box, Mbale, Uganda, email: academicregistrar@mbale.ucu.ac.ug

APPENDIX V

A MAP SHOWING THE AREA OF STUDY

