

**EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LAWS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**A CASE STUDY OF UGANDA**

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**DECLARATION**

I, MUNVANEZA JULIUS declare that this Research Proposal is my original work and has not been submitted for any Diploma, Bachelors , Masters and PHD in any University.

Signed by:

.....  
MUNVANEZA JULIUS

Date: 8/9/2014

**Approval**

I hereby certify that this work contained in this Research Proposal entitled "Domestic Violence and its Effects on Children and women in Uganda: Human Rights Perspectives" has been under my Supervision and I have approved it for Submission to the School of Law, Kampala International University.

Signature.....

Date:.....



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**LIST OF ABBRIATIONS OF ACRONYMS**

SPSS - Statistical Package for Social Sciences

UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights

ADRM - Americans Declarations of Rights and Duties of man

ACHR - African Changer on Human and People’s Rights

# EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LAWS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## A CASE STUDY OF UGANDA

### CHAPTER ONE

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The government of Uganda has good laws to sensitize, promote and address the need for human rights, uses 77 billion shillings on average to fight domestic violence<sup>1</sup>, the laws and policies which are effective in reducing assaults, beatings, isolation to mention but a few. Domestic violence has increased from 2010 to date despite the existence of good laws<sup>2</sup>. This has affected many families in the region Uganda and caused disappointments to families (children, Mothers on a high and fathers in a rare case); this has made many depressed intimate partners to believe violence as part of nature to them, this research seeks to identify the effects of domestic violence on human rights and the effectiveness of applied laws towards reducing domestic violence in Uganda.

#### 1.1. DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner<sup>3</sup>. Violence against women and girls continues to be a central regions epidemic that kills, tortures, and maims physically, psychologically, sexually and economically. It is one of the most pervasive of human rights

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<sup>1</sup> Musuya, T. (2012). Domestic violence costs Uganda Shillings 77b annually. Kampala: Lydia Rodori.

<sup>2</sup> Amoko, J. S. (2013, June 18) News / Domestic Violence cases soar. Retrieved August 23, 2014, from new vision: [www.newvision.co.ug](http://www.newvision.co.ug)

<sup>3</sup> Florence. (2012) National Domestic Violence. Kampala: innocent research center. Initiative Foundation for Human Rights (2012). Women rights in Uganda. IFHR. J Emodek, P .K (2013, June 18). 644085-domestic-cases. Retrieved August 23, 2014 from [newvision/news: www.newvision.co.ug](http://newvision/news: www.newvision.co.ug)

violations, denying women and girl's equality, security, dignity, self-worth, and their right to enjoy fundamental freedoms<sup>4</sup>.

## 1.2 BACK GROUND

There has been increasing cases of domestic violence in Kampala Central Division since 1995 up to date. Men, women, and children are the victims of domestic violence, gaps in the Act are already deceptive for example difficulties preventing access to justice, women who have been subjected to violence are not addressed, the costs associated with the complaint process like medical examination fees for medical certificate which is used as evidence only through the Police forms and not readily accessible to by all victims with in central region Kampala

However, there has been invited research on the effects of domestic violence on children and women. This called for the research on the effectiveness of applied laws to reducing domestic violence in Uganda.

## 1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Domestic violence is an issue of great concern in Uganda. The enactment of the Domestic Violence Act which received Presidential essence on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010, proved the public for equal rights among partners, raising the all along dead hope for human rights in Uganda<sup>5</sup>, Although Government has put policies in place in response to prevention of the alarming violation of human rights in families, the central regional courts have registered many cases due

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<sup>4</sup> Florence. (2000, 6). *Violence Against Women and girls*. Retrieved 8 23, 2014, from unicef-icdc.org: [ww.unicef.org](http://ww.unicef.org)

<sup>5</sup> who. (2008). *Violence Prevention*. Nairobi: who.

to violation of human rights<sup>6</sup> there is a need to identify the effectiveness of applied laws towards reducing human rights violation in families.

#### **1.4 . THE PURPOSE**

The study seeks to identify the effectiveness of applied laws on reducing domestic violence as a way of promoting human rights in the central region Kampala.

##### **1.4.1 OBJECTIVES**

###### **General objectives**

This research will address the effectiveness of laws in reducing domestic violence which is becoming very rampant in Uganda. And encourage fair treatment for all in relation to reducing isolation, low self-esteem in females, children and increase awareness to the layers, councils thus calling for the united fight against domestic violence in Uganda.

##### **1.4.2 Specific objectives**

The specific objectives of study will be;

- i. To identify laws applied in reducing domestic violence in the central region Kampala and Uganda at large.
- ii. To identify the relationship between the effects of applied laws and domestic violence on human rights and applied laws in Uganda.
- iii. To assess the effectiveness of applied laws on the effects of domestic violence in Uganda.
- iv. The way forward on how effectively can laws be applied in reducing domestic violence in Uganda.

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<sup>6</sup> Lanwaka, A. (2010, September 27). Rights of women and children. *Violence In Homes*, pp. 2-3.

## **1.1. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The research comprise of the regions of Uganda district which are Northern region, eastern region, southern region, western region and the central region all these regions form the country Uganda.

These regions have people of different cultures. The research purposed on the effectiveness of Uganda's laws on domestic violence on human rights in Uganda.

## **1.2. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The research will help to improve on the current knowledge domestic violence and appeal for government immediate intervention in improving the ground local councils on better ways of reducing domestic violence.

The study will contributes in making an argument for further government's intervention to address the effects of domestic violence on human rights.

- The research will provide basic data to the effects of domestic violence on human rights in Uganda.
- The study identifies appropriate means of enhancing the impact of domestic violence on human rights in Uganda.

## **1.3. HYPOTHESIS**

Despite the existence of good laws sensitizing, and addressing the need for human rights in Uganda, the central region Kampala has registered high cases of domestic violence thus a research to identify the effectiveness of the applied laws in advocating for human rights.

## 1.4. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter examines the existing literature on the impacts of domestic violence on human rights and how the applied laws have tried to reduce family violence (abuse, isolation and dominance to mention but a few) in Uganda.

### 1.4.1. KEY TEXTS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is a leading factor in violating human rights in women and children<sup>7</sup>. However The constitution of Uganda provides equal rights in all aspects of life, section 21 of chapter four of the constitution of Uganda states All persons are equal before and under the law in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life and in every other respect and shall enjoy equal protection of the law<sup>8</sup>. Person shall not be discriminated against on the ground of sex, race, color, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability<sup>9</sup> the further those children, women and men seen on street due to violence should not be looked at as criminals who need to be punished but instead to see them as fellow humans beings who need there care and protection in all aspect of life.

## 1.5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes the methods and the means through which research was conducted. It illustrates how the researcher carried out the research exercise. The research design, the study population and the data collection methods are discussed.

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<sup>7</sup> Nainer, V. (2004). *Justice for Children and women in Uganda*. Kampala

<sup>8</sup> Constitution Of The Republic Of Uganda 2006 Chapter 4 section 21

<sup>9</sup> Constitution Of The Republic Of Uganda 2006 Chapter 4 section 21

### **1.5.1. RESEARCH DESIGN**

This study will use a descriptive and analytical research design. The design was the most appropriate since this study focused on both the facts on domestic violence as well as perceptions feelings, experiences and emotions of the participants.

The research questions sought to obtain descriptive information as well as the participants' interpretation of relevant events.

### **1.5.2. SURVEY POPULATION**

The target population was mainly people working in courts, non-governmental organizations and the Family and Protection Unit in the Uganda Peoples' Police Force. The research also targeted all individuals' women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

### **1.5.3. SOURCES OF DATA**

Data for this study will be both primary and secondary.

#### **Primary Data**

The most important sources of primary data to be used in this research will be observation, questionnaires and interviews which will help the researcher to obtain valid information in light of the domestic violence.

Field Proposal involved interviewing domestic violence victims and people who interact with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. Four (4) officials in relevant institutions were interviewed i.e. Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA-Uganda), Raising Voice for Children, Centre for Domestic Violence and the Uganda Police. The officers interviewed specifically handle domestic violence cases.

#### **1.5.4. Methods and Instruments Of Data Collection**

In order to collect valid and reliable data, the student used the following for his research proposal

##### **Questionnaires**

A Questionnaire is a Research Instrument consisting of a series of questions and other prompts designed for gathering information from Respondents. Questionnaires with structured and unstructured questions that will address the objectives of the research proposal will be developed and distributed to the respective respondents. These questionnaires used in obtaining information from the target groups, that is, the Police, Public Relations Office, Family Protection Units, Courts and Non- Governmental Organizations such as FIDA, ACFODE, Raising Voice for Children and women, Center for Domestic Violence and Human Rights Commission. The questionnaires will identify the causes of Domestic Violence, the experience of those involved, the challenges in curbing Domestic Violence and recommendations on how to combat this voice.

##### **Interviews**

Interview is a conversation between two or more people where questions are asked by the interviewer to highlight the facts or statements from the interviewee. In depth, interviews will be conducted to supplement the data that was obtained through questionnaires and text books.

##### **Observation**

Observation is the process of filtering sensory information through inputs received via hearing, sight, smell, taste or touch and then analyze through either rational or irrational thoughts.

The student will take a number of trips to organization such as FIDA, Human Rights Commission, Courts of Law, Police Stations and have physical observation.

## 1.5.5. DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS

### Data Processing

Data processing refers to the refining of raw data that has been collected from the experiment. Data to be collected will be first processed before analysis. The data will be classified into different groups

### Data Analysis

Data is the distinct information that is formulated in a special way that exists in the variety of forms like texts, on paper or bytes stored in electronic memory. After processing, data will be analyzed to establish the relationship between the effectiveness of the laws on domestic violence in Uganda

## CHAPTER TWO

### 2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence constitutes any or omission of perpetrator which harm, injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or wellbeing whether mental or physical of the victim or and to do so and includes causing physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, psychological and economical abuses<sup>10</sup> which injures or endangers the victim with a view to coercing him or her or any other person related to him or her to meet any unlawful demand for any property or valuable security has the effect of threatening the victim or any person related to the victim by conducts mentioned above. Uganda needs to redress the Domestic Violence Act and enforce effective implementation of these laws to ensure violence families homes in Uganda.

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<sup>10</sup> Initiative Foundation for Human Rights. (2012). *Women's rights in Uganda*. Kampala: IFHR.

## 2.1. FORMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Actions discussing different forms of domestic violence can be seen. This action affects all kinds of individuals both adult and young.

### 2.1.1. Physical abuse

These forms are practiced in various ways such as burning, hitting, slapping, chopping abuses to children and forced sex to women and young girls. These are slapping, beating, arm twisting, stabbing, strangling, burning, choking, kicking, threats with an object or weapon, and murder<sup>11</sup>. It also includes traditional practices harmful to women such as female genital mutilation and wife inheritance for example a man defiled his biological of 15 years old<sup>12</sup>. This case the was treated by law as a criminal act done on against human rights

### 2.1.2. Emotional and psychological abuse

These includes behaviors that are intended to intimidate and persecute for example threats of abandonment or abuse, confinement to the home, surveillance, destruction of objects, isolation, verbal aggression and constant humiliation<sup>13</sup>, emotional torture and living under terror is often more unbearable, with mental stress leading to a high incidence of suicide and suicide attempts<sup>14</sup>

For example, a two year old Suzan Babirye was looking like a nine year old girl due to beatings from her step mother reported the story of two year old girl who was beaten and starved to nearly death by her stepmother for six months<sup>15</sup>, This case was reported at Katz police station who arrested the victims but later released them, Stella Arach Amoko said a research study

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<sup>11</sup> Unicef. (2000). *Human Rights*. Kampala: Uncef.

<sup>12</sup> Father defiles-infects –daughter with HIV, 643829 (Mwanga II court June 11, 2013).

<sup>13</sup> Lanwaka, A. (2010, September 27). Rights of women and children. *Violence In Homes*, pp. 2-3.

<sup>14</sup> who. (2008). *Violence Prevention*. Nairobi: who.

<sup>15</sup> The New Vision. (2010, November 23).

revealed that although judges and magistrates knew about the existence of the law against domestic violence that was passed in 2010 they did not possess copies of the legislation<sup>16</sup> hence ineffectiveness of the applied laws.

### 2.1.3. Economic violence

This is denial of access to economic resources, here women in most cases are not allowed to participate in financial decisions making like in areas of assets at home, land properties and others which hinders their rights given to them in the constitution of Uganda as a mother of the family. Some husbands sell off the family properties without consulting their wives and children. At times women start businesses and later involve men; the men change their colors, send away the women and sometimes take everything. The women usually cannot win this case because they have no document to show it was their business.

## 2.2. CAUSES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There are many factors that seek to explain the causes of domestic violence, Threat of violence at home creates fear and can destroy normal family functioning by affecting children (young people) and they are likely to display aggressive behaviors, experience anxiety, have reduced social skills, suffer symptoms of depression and show emotional distress<sup>17</sup>.

The implicit acceptability of violence in families has led some scholars to question the validity of explanations that are tied to personal and individual as illustrated below:

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<sup>16</sup> J Emodok, P. K. (2013, Jun 18). *644085-domestic-violence-cases*. Retrieved August 23, 2014, from newvision/news: [www.newvision.co.ug](http://www.newvision.co.ug)

<sup>17</sup> NSW. (2009, May 20). *families/domestic\_and\_family\_violence*. Retrieved September 15, 2014, from nsw community web site: <http://www.community.nsw.gov.au>

### 2.2.1. Socialization on Gender Roles

Socialization on fixed gender roles plays a role in promoting physical violence; Children grow up seeing their fathers battering their mothers. This is accepted in some traditional cultures such as the Baganda. Such communities believe that a woman who is not beaten by her husband is not loved hence, traditionally such women invited violence to themselves in the guise that their husbands would ignore them. However, this is not the case in most marriages today due to sensitization made by the government of Uganda in favor for human rights Act 2006<sup>18</sup>.

### 2.2.2. Women submissiveness to their Husbands

Women are expected to be submissive to all demands made by their husbands even when they are unreasonable. They are held as sex objects and not expected to express disinterest. They are expected to be tolerating because they believed that it is part of marriage life. The notion that women are the ones who wrong men thus asking for pardon, on this note however, the government of Uganda through the constitution calls every individual to be responsible in fighting violence beginning with leaders all Ugandans are obliged to abide by law irrespective of political differences. Refusal to obey is an indication that individuals want to overthrow constitutional order and they must be treated according to the law of the land<sup>19</sup>.

### 2.2.3. Alcoholism

Women whose partners often drink before sex experience risks of violence almost five times higher than women with non-drinking partners. That 52% and 27% of women who reported recent domestic violence reported that their partner had frequently consumed alcohol this respectively supports the conclusion that alcohol plays a direct precipitating role<sup>20</sup>. The Law restricts alcohol users causes the companies making alcohol bare the word Excessive

<sup>18</sup> Uganda law Reform Commission. (2006). *The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda*. Kampala: Uganda law Reform Commission.

<sup>19</sup> Uganda law Reform Commission. (2006). *The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda*. Kampala: Uganda law Reform Commission.

<sup>20</sup> Michael A. Koenig, T. L. (2003). *Domestic violence in rural Uganda*. Rakai: World Health Organization.

consumption of alcohol is harmful to your health drink responsibly on the packaging, it has gone ahead provide traffic officers with machines that measures the level of alcohol intake by drivers. For every driver got having taken too much is tried by the laws of Uganda.

## CPAPTER THREE

### 3. APPLICABLE LAWS

Chapter three of the Research Proposal brings out the laws applicable as per the constitutional act on Domestic Violence and its Effects on human rights in Uganda are concerned.

#### 3.1.1. **The constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 as amended by Act No. 1 of 2000**

In accordance with article 2(2) of the Constitution of The Republic of Uganda, any other law that does not conform to the provisions of the constitution is null and void to the extent of inconsistency. The Constitution of Uganda has specific provisions relating to women and children. For example Article 34 lays down the rights of a child Article 33 lays down the right of women. The Constitution of Uganda is therefore central to this analysis on the effects of Domestic violence to Children and women and Protection of their rights. The Chapter Four of the constitution

Article 31 clause 1 of the constitution of Uganda 2005 provides equal rights at and in marriage<sup>21</sup>,

This section provides the rights of the family which comprises of two parties the husband and wife, giving the equal opportunities in everything they do. Furthermore the constitution in article 50 states that if any person or organization may bring an action against the violation of another

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<sup>21</sup> Constitution of the republic of Uganda (2006 ) article 31 clause 1b

person's or group's human rights, the court has intervene in favor of the human rights<sup>22</sup>. The rights of persons are well stipulated, and the procedures to filing a case are also put down in this very article. However widespread rape and brutal attacks on women by their husbands in Uganda have not been criminalized<sup>23</sup>. And for more than a decade, Ugandan women's rights advocates have urged Uganda to enact legislation addressing domestic relations and the rape and battery of women by their intimate partners. Yet for years, the bills have languished in parliament<sup>24</sup>. The failure by government to address domestic violence is costing women their lives which are true instances to violation of human rights, signifying ineffectiveness of the Laws.

The constitution of the republic of Uganda article 33 stipulates the Rights of women, states that Women shall be accorded full and equal dignity of the person with men. The State shall provide the facilities and opportunities necessary to enhance the welfare of women to enable them to realize their full potential and advancement<sup>25</sup>. In the centrally many women have been deprived off their rights thought the existence of the laws addressing domestic violence as an offence punishable by law for example The domestic violence act 2010 which was initially part of the controversial Marriage and Divorce Bill was passed to address rising cases of gender based violence amid pressure from civil society but has not yet served its purpose three years down the road<sup>26</sup> Ugandans are still experiencing of domestic violence despite the inaction bill in 2010 the for example human rights watch and the survey conducted by Uganda law reforms reported that more than half percent of the women in Uganda experience domestic violence on a daily or

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<sup>22</sup> Constitution of the republic of Uganda (2006) Article 50 section 2

<sup>23</sup> Jefferson, L. R. (2003, August 13). *Uganda Domestic Violence Worsens AIDS*. Uganda: Human Rights Watch.htm.

<sup>24</sup> Jefferson, L. R. (2003, August 13). *Uganda Domestic Violence Worsens AIDS*. Uganda: Human Rights Watch.htm.

<sup>25</sup> Constitution of the republic of Uganda (February 15, 2006) Article 33 clause 1,4

<sup>26</sup> Amoko, J. S. (2013, Jun 18). *News/Domestic violence cases soar*. Retrieved August 23, 2014, from newvision: [www.newvision.co.ug](http://www.newvision.co.ug)

weekly basis<sup>27</sup>. A 45-year old, Bagonza, resident of Tugngoma village, in Kyaka, Kabarole, was arrested and held by police for the alleged murder of his wife because of the demand for equal ownership for their property rights given by the constitution of the government of Uganda.

### 3.1.2. The constitution provides children rights in article 34

It shall be the duty of the parent, guardian or any person having Custody of a child to maintain that child and in particular that duty gives a child the right to education, adequate diet, clothing, shelter and medical attention. It also empowers local authority support for children within the legal framework and for other connected purposes according to the definition of a child<sup>28</sup>. Every parent shall have parental responsibilities for his or her child where natural responsibility may be passed on relatives of either parent or by way of care order, to the warden of approved homes or to the foster parent. For example, Case number 643829 (Mwanga II court) father defiles and affects his daughter with HIV/AIDS this shows continued violence due Uganda government's failure to address domestic violence which is costing Ugandans their lives<sup>29</sup>.

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27 Human Rights Watch. ( 2012). *Women's rights in Uganda:*

28 *Constitution of the Republic of Uganda.* (2006). Article 34

29 Jefferson, L. R. (2003, August 13). *Uganda Domestic Violence Worsens AIDS.* Uganda: Human Rights Watch.htm.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4. INTERNATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT

This chapter discusses domestic violence at the international level; it will focus on how human rights of equality to all have been considered by other countries of the world as seen below:

Section 17, which lays out the right of a woman to reside in a shared household, is one of the most important and prominent concepts in this law, Section 17 of the act allows every woman in a domestic relationship to “have the right to reside in the shared household whether or not she has any right, title or beneficial interest in it”<sup>30</sup>, Therefore, it is important to note that the woman cannot be evicted or excluded from the shared household. Notwithstanding, anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, the magistrate will issue an order of protection to the victim to enable the safety of the engraved person as provide in the act.

Victims facing violence needs access to support services it has been adopted by Asian countries in this sense of equality to support services, provision of duties for enforcement officials and others to mention but a few, In addition to recognizing a human right to support services, it includes detailed duties for prosecutors, court personnel and law enforcers<sup>31</sup>. This norm also mandates the provision of funds to implement the law, which allows for effective implementation of the law.

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<sup>30</sup> The Protection Of Women From Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (No. 43 of 2005) section 17, The gazette of India extraordinary (part 2)

<sup>31</sup> Domestic violence legislation and implementation (*An analysis for Asian countries Based on international standards and good practices*)

## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5 CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

#### 5.1 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Research reveals the problem of domestic violence in Uganda is of critical concern. The underlying effects will be discussed. As observed, Domestic violence has devastating effects not only on the spouses involved but also on the Children and the Community at large. It is also an obstacle to enjoyment and implementation of human rights. Moreover it is prejudicial to the physical, intellectual and emotional development of the young people and adults at large. There is need for all stakeholders including relevant government institutions and Human Rights Activities to co-operate in combating domestic violence. As noted in this domestic violence can only be curbed if the asymmetrical relationships between men and women can be challenged. This however, requires the input of all members of society.

#### 5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Domestic violence law of the republic of Uganda should provide for counseling mechanisms to cope with the psychological and emotional impact of violence

Provision of trainings aimed at increasing public awareness on the issue of domestic violence. Ugandan laws require training for enforcement and other public officials to ensure its effectiveness, Complaints mechanisms should be easily accessible to provide immediate protection to the complainant and ensure access to support services; Pre-litigation measures should aim to immediately stop violence and Emergency orders should be available prior to the issuance of a court order to immediately prevent future acts of violence.

Access to information on rights and assistance to initiate legal processes are essential in facilitating access to justice, Pre-litigation mediation should not impede access to the courts or court ordered remedies and, to avoid bias in the event of a settlement should not be conducted

by courts. Post litigation mediation should be conducted by authorized professional bodies or individuals.

In court proceedings, it is advisable to elaborate on reliefs available under the law to aid judges in deciding the nature of orders to be granted, providing timelines for disposing complaints and applications filed under the laws will ensure speedy processes hence making the violation of court orders a punishable offence will aid their enforcement.

Public awareness campaigns on violence against women are an important measure to eliminate violence and change social attitudes. Laws like that of article 31 that states the rights of the family provided by the constitution of the republic of Uganda, must be urgently adopted to increase protection of the partners rights in the family, must be enforced urgently, with a view to eventually eradicate domestic violence.

Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act. Implementing regulations, the necessary budget, and an implementation scheme must be adopted without delay. Such implementation scheme must include the following as priorities: Adoption by government of a training scheme for actors in the justice and law sector; Review of the Local Council Act to include the duties under the law as part of their mandate; Provision of training to local authorities on their new duties under the Law Launch of a media awareness raising campaign on the Law, including air-time for crime management, awareness raising/training module on the Law in police standard curriculum, and specialized training for community services officers; Improve Ministry of Health cooperation with a view to enhancing the capacity of health professionals under the law.

Enforce the prohibition on violence through prosecution and intergovernmental Cooperation for equal access to justice, by adopting measures to overcome obstacles, including the costs of criminal investigations and failures in the collection of forensic evidence, police investigations and trials,

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