CHILD MARRIAGE AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT
A CASE STUDY OF PAYA SUB COUNTY IN
TORORO DISTRICT, UGANDA.

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A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
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DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL
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INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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Declaration

I hereby declare that this research study was entirely done by me and therefore this is my original piece of work which has never been submitted for any award in any university/academic institution of learning.

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DATE: 01/11/2016
Approval

I hereby certify that this research report entitled "child marriage and its impact on development. A case study of Paya Sub-County in Tororo District, Uganda." has been submitted for review with my approval.

Mr. Okiror Geoffrey
(SUPERVISOR)

DATE: 11.11.2016
Dedication

I hereby dedicate this work to my dear parents the late Onyango Cosmas Edward who inspired me to always work hard and my mother Mary Franciska Asinde who brightens my life and makes me strive for greater heights.
Acknowledgements

Producing a scholarly work of this magnitude is usually costly in terms of sacrifice, effort, challenges and funds. Although I bear full responsibility for the outcome of this study, it is imperative to record my sincere gratitude to my university supervisor, lecturers, sponsors and respondents. It is difficult to mention all those who assisted me by names. However, it is important to highlight those whose contributions were pretty crucial.

In this regard, I wish to register my special thanks to the almighty God, the provider of life who has successfully sailed me through this challenging but interesting course and enabled me to produce an academic work of this nature.

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Lastly, special thanks are extended to all the key informants and those young mothers who spared time to share their touching experiences.
Abstract

This report presents the findings of the study on “Child Marriage and its impact on Development” which was carried out in Paya Sub County, Tororo district, Eastern Uganda.

The research developed a conceptual model to illustrate the causes-effect relationship of Child Marriages. The study had four objectives; to verify whether child marriages take place in Paya Sub County, to examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage and also establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted on economic and social development in the study area. The study in addition sought to identify the mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

The research study used descriptive survey design using standardized questionnaires on a sample size of 134 people and 100 respondents was selected. Out of the 100 respondents (37 female and 63 male) and had understanding of the meaning of child marriage as “marriage of people below the age of 18 years”. The study informed that, the majority 49.5% of the child couples derive their livelihood from casual labour and 48.5% had acquired O’ level, while only 4.00% with degree qualifications. The violence of the right to quality education and poverty presented as major effects of child marriage couples on social and economic development in this study.

Key Findings

1. The magnitude of child marriage:

It was revealed that Out of the 100 respondents’ interviewed, 91% confirmed having witnessed child marriage in the study area while 9% had not. Also 42% of the respondents said the rate of child marriage in the study area is between 10 – 30%, 34% responded saying it is between 31-50%. 18 % said it is between 51 – 70%. Only 5 % said the practice is over 71%.

Additionally, out of the total number of respondents 42% responded saying that the rate of child marriages in their communities is between 10 – 30%. 72.7% of the respondent confirmed that the commonest age group of child marriage victims is 13-15 years. It was revealed that the magnitude of child marriage in the study area is high.

2. Condition and factors that lead to child marriage:

The major community practices that fuel child marriage revealed were; allowing children attend social events without any restriction 40%, attending night discos and films 30%, neglect by parents at 21%, peer pressure (24.85%), failure of parents to pay school fees due to poverty (20.45%), personal willingness (13.4%), parents forcing children to get married (10.5%), having no home to live in (4.55%), and armed conflict and fear of contracting HIV (0.65%).

The study provided that adults prefer marrying children below 18 years because of; said that it is due to need for riches by the girls family(30.3%), desire for sexual satisfaction (28.3%) and child neglect and dowry demand (11.1%), cultural practices accounted for 2% and living a single life only accounted for 1%.
3. Impact of child marriage on economic and social development:

92.9% respondents strongly agreed that child marriages affect the development of Paya community and only 4.1% disagreed while only 3.1% were not sure.

Child marriage has affected the development of Paya and 29.6% of the respondents said that it has resulted into low level of skilled labour force in the community, retardation of development stood at 23.5%, Unemployment stood at 15.3%, birth complications which at times results into death of young mothers was at 11.2%, Over population stood at 7.1%, Theft of people’s property 5.1%, limited knowledge about parenting which leads to malnutrition in children stood at 4.1%, 3.1% gambling and domestic violence stood as 1%. This means that child marriages is responsible for children to drop out of school early without attaining relevant/employable skills thus they tend to remain redundant leading to the prevailing low level of skilled labour force in Paya Sub County.

4. Mitigation measures of averting child marriage:

Respondents gave views on how to mitigate and avert child marriage: Parental guidance and counselling stood at 41.8%, Support children to access formal education stood 29.6%, provision of sufficient basic needs stood at 14.3%, restrict children from attending social events stood at 7.1%, Offering children parental love and security stood at 4.1%, Encourage children to avoid peer pressure stood at 2% and strengthening of parental responsibility garnered only 1%.

On government’s role to reduce child marriage, respondents interviewed (43.4%) advised government to enact stringent laws deterring bad cultural practices, 23.2% proposed the arrest of the perpetuators of child marriage, 18.2% proposed that government should facilitate community sensitizations, 8.1% said the government should consider providing scholarship for needy children, 4% proposed that government should develop good programmes in schools mean while strengthening government structures and systems stood at 2% and encouraging young people to engage in agriculture and other productive activities stood at 1%.

Respondents emphasised enforcement of children’s rights laws, particularly as outlined by the African Children’s Charter, from the national to the local level.

Civil Society Role: Respondents said civil society can reduce child marriage and 58.6% of the respondents proposed that the NGOs should facilitate community sensitization, 23.2% recommended the provision of scholarship and scholastic materials to needy children, mean while provision of the student loan schemes and grants and follow up of children’s cases jointly stood at 6.1%, also working with parents to ensure that children are retained at school and training of the Paya social workers tied at 2%, supervision of the child protection structures and systems and improvement in structure both stood at 1%.

The study recommended that the community parents/guardians should provide basic needs for their children especially girl children to avoid the temptation of transactional sex from opportunistic predators, be vigilant and report cases of child marriage to the authorities, ensure that children attend and complete school. The study also demands that religious leaders should engage their congregations on addressing child marriage and reclaiming children’s innocence.
# Table of Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>VII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of contents</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APART ONE: INTRODUCTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background of the study</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Historical perspective</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Theoretical perspective</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Conceptual perspective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Contextual perspective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of the problem</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General objective</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Specific objectives</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research questions /hypotheses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope of the study</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance of the study</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual framework</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitation of the study</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APART TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The magnitude of child marriage in Uganda /Paya sub-county:</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of child marriage on economic and social development:</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitigation measures of averting child marriages:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A: Questionnaire: .......................................................... 44
Appendix B: Map of Uganda showing girls aged 15-19 years who have started child
ring.......................................................... 49
Acronyms

KIU: Kampala International University

CEDAW: Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women

UNFPA: United Nations Fund for Population Activities currently called The United Nations Population Fund

HIV: Human Immuno-deficiency Virus

NGO: Non Governmental Organization

UBOS: Uganda Bureau Of Standards

UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

TFR: Total Fertility Rate

UPE: Universal Primary Education

UN: United Nations

UDHS: Uganda Demographic and Health Survey

WVI: World Vision International

UK: United Kingdom

AJWS: American Jewish World Service

PhD: Doctor of Philosophy

OECD: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

ICRW: International Center for Research on Women

AIDS: Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome

DISHA: Development Initiative Supporting Healthy Adolescents

NSCN & TP: National Strategy to end Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancies

USAID: United States Agency for International Development

IQ: Intelligent Quotience
MDGs: Millennium Development Goals
UG: Uganda
Shs: Shillings
UAIS: Uganda AIDS Indicator Survey
NAADS: National Agricultural Advisory Services
CSOs: Civil Society Organization
UDHR: Universal Declaration on Human Rights
DPP: Directorate of Public Prosecution
BSWASA: Bachelors of Social Work and Social Administration
FGM/C: Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
NW: North West
EFA: Education For All
List of tables

Table 1: Profiles of respondents ................................................................. 24
Table 2: Magnitude of child marriage ....................................................... 25
Table 3: What makes adults marry children and reason why parents allow children to marry before 18.. 29
Table 4: Community practices fueling child marriage .............................. 30
Table 5: Child marriage Effect to community development ..................... 30
Table 6: How can different stakeholders avert child marriage? .................. 32
List of figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure 1</td>
<td>Major source of livelihood for the child couples</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 2</td>
<td>Graph showing whether parents support child marriage</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.1 Background to the study

1.1.1 Historical perspective

Child marriage affects millions of children throughout the world. It is widely practiced in developing countries where every year, millions of girls (preteens and teens) become the wives of older men or fellow age mates. Young girls are married when they are still children and as a result are denied fundamental human rights. Child marriage means the individual becomes sexually active early and begins to raise children while still a child. The marriage of a young girl affects not only her life but that of the children she will bear. Child marriage compromises the girls' development and often results in early pregnancy and social isolation. With little education and poor vocational training, it reinforces the gendered nature of poverty beginning early in the girls' growth. Required to perform heavy domestic work and under pressure to prove fertility, married underage girls and child mothers face constrained decision-making and reduced life choices. Both boys and girls are affected by child marriage but the issue impacts girls in far larger numbers, with more intensity and wide ranging ramifications (UNICEF, 2005).

Child marriage is a socially established practice that has been carried on from generation to generation in different societies. This is despite the existence of international and regional instruments. Most governments have settled upon 18 years as the minimum legal age at marriage. However, they are often either unable to enforce existing laws, or rectify discrepancies between national laws, customary and religious laws. Most often, child marriage is considered as a family matter and governed by religion and culture, which ensure its continuity. It remains therefore, a widely ignored violation of the rights of girls and women which exposes them to multiple risks, including sexual abuse and exploitation.

In Uganda, marriage is still common among young people. The median age at marriage among women is just before 18 years and it has been stable for the past 30 years. Many girls in Uganda marry by age 15 (UBOS/ORC Macro 2001, 2006). According to UBOS/ORC Macro (1995, 2000/01 and 2006), Western Uganda’s age at first marriage has been 17.4, 18.2 and 17.3 and Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 6.98, 6.9 and 7.3 respectively. This low age at first marriage leads to high TFR as a reduction in age at first marriage by a
year in 2001 led to an increase in total fertility rate from 6.9 to 7.3 in 2006, UBOS/ORC Macro (2001, 2006). The high fertility has been an obstacle to the country’s development since there is a need to put up more social structures like schools and health centres to meet the needs of the children produced (UBOS/ ORC Macro, 2006).

In an effort to deter child marriage the government of Uganda put emphasis on educating the girl child through the introduction of Universal Primary Education (UPE) in 1997. This has helped to some extent to put and keep children in school especially girls who are normally married off early. Coupled with education, is the minimum legal age for marriage at 18 years. Uganda has a very young population, with half (50.3%) of its people under 15 years old. The choices these young people and their parents make will affect the country’s future. Delaying marriage and childbirth confer major benefits to girls and may lead to societal benefits, such as improved health of children and faster economic growth. Addressing child marriage in relation to improving women’s status will lead to a healthy environment and reduced poverty.

International consensus on the need to protect the rights of young people, particularly young girls, is now growing. The Millennium Development Goals adopted by governments in 2001 and recent international agreements, national laws and policies on young people and gender-equity issues present an opportunity to rectify the situation of young married girls. All these interventions highlight the need to create an enabling environment, where young married girls and girls at risk of child marriage can be empowered. Access to a range of social, economic and political resources, as well as access to information and livelihood skills, is necessary to reduce the gender-based inequalities that exist between married girls and their spouses.

1.1.2 Theoretical perspective

Girls Not Brides has developed a ‘Theory of Change on Child Marriage’ to articulate what an effective response to child marriage entails. The Theory of Change outlines the range of approaches needed, demonstrates how they intersect, and aims to provide a basis for identifying common indicators that could be used by diverse practitioners to monitor progress.

The Theory of Change has been developed to facilitate greater partnership and collaboration among and across organisations, sectors and levels. It serves as a foundation to build consensus about actions needed to address child marriage and support married girls, in both the long and short-term. In addition, it provides a basis to understand where
programming efforts are currently focused, in particular among Girls Not Brides members, and to highlight where further work is needed. In brief, the Theory of Change demonstrates that there is no single solution to ending child marriage and that everyone has a role to play. Ultimately efforts to address child marriage must respond to local contexts and accordingly programmes and investments may take different forms.

1.1.3 Conceptual perspective

Definition of a child?

According to the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) and The Children’s ACT CAP 59 (2003), a child is a person below the age of eighteen years.

Definition of marriage?

According to Sherif Girgis, Robert P. George, & Ryan T. Anderson (2013),

Conjugal View: Marriage is the union of a man and a woman who makes a permanent and exclusive commitment to each other of the type that is naturally (inherently) fulfilled by bearing and rearing children together. The spouses seal (consummate) and renew their union by conjugal acts—acts that constitute the behavioural part of the process of reproduction, thus uniting them as a reproductive unit. Marriage is valuable in itself, but its inherent orientation to the bearing and rearing of children contributes to its distinctive structure, including norms of monogamy and fidelity. This link to the welfare of children also helps explain why marriage is important to the common good and why the state should recognize and regulate it.

Revisionist View: Marriage is the union of two people (whether of the same sex or of opposite sexes) who commit to romantically loving and caring for each other and to sharing the burdens and benefits of domestic life. It is essentially a union of hearts and minds, enhanced by whatever forms of sexual intimacy both partners find agreeable. The state should recognize and regulate marriage because it has an interest in stable romantic partnerships and in the concrete needs of spouses and any children they may choose to rear.

Child Marriages; According to the International NGO Council Report 2012, Child marriage is the marriage of a girl or boy younger than 18 to a spouse of any age, regardless of consent given. While it affects both girls and boys, girls are significantly more likely to be married as children than boys. Poverty and economic burdens; orphan
hood, or other situations of vulnerability, conflict/emergencies, lack of education, culture, religious and societal beliefs and practices are some of the reasons fuelling the practice.

**Definition of development?**

Development in its simplest definition and perhaps in its common usage can be considered as the objective of moving to a state relatively better than what previously existed: “good change” as defined by Chambers (1997). As change is a process, this definition of development tends to denote a process towards a desirable state in society. Whether this state is achieved in the short or long term, change has several implications for society.

1.1.4 Contextual perspective

At the international level, the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes the right to “free and full” consent to marriage and determines that this standard is not met when a person is not mature enough to make an informed decision about marriage. Child marriage is a violation of human rights yet every day, girls and boys around the world are forced marry against their will. While boys are also affected by this practice, more than 90% of children married off under age are girls. Globally, one third of the world’s girls are married before the age of 18 and 1 in 9 are married before the age of 15. Countries with the highest prevalence of child marriage are concentrated in Western and Sub-Saharan Africa. While according to Ugandan law the age of consent for marriage is 18 years, marrying off of children below the age of 18 is highly prevalent but is well hidden from the public eye due to social cultural beliefs that condone it. The absence of a birth registration policy undermines any efforts for legal redress as there is no proof of age and as such; holding perpetrators and accomplices accountable is difficult.

According to the African Human and social development report of 2012, Uganda falls among the 15 worst African countries with high numbers of child brides and is in the eleventh position in African countries with high rates of child marriages. As if the practice of child marriage is not bad enough, Uganda has a high prevalence of child sexual abuse. The annual crime report of 2011 noted that defilement had registered a 2 percent increase and was the leading sex-related crime reported in the country with a total of 7,690 cases investigated. Bearing in mind that child marriage is when it happens is sanctioned by the child’s family; it is rarely ever reported as a crime it is very likely that the majority of child marriage cases were not captured by this report. Research has shown that girls living
in poor households are almost twice more likely to marry before 18 than girls in higher income households. Parents have a tendency to look at marriage as security to protect the girls and never think of what happens afterwards. Child sex abuse and child marriage are cancerous vices that are slowly eating away the future of our children and all stakeholders must come together to address this otherwise endemic situation.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Child marriage is one of the injustices affecting children in Uganda and is not only a human rights violation but also a major contributor to the social economic deprivation and marginalization among rural communities in Uganda. According to the African human social development report (2013), Uganda falls among the 15 worst African countries with high numbers of child brides and 46% of girls in Uganda are forced or lured into marriage before the age of 18. Child marriage has continued to be one of the major factors affecting the achievement of development indices and targets in Uganda. Whereas government has put in place efforts like the Universal Primary Education, Universal Secondary Education, affirmative action, and legal age of marriage (18 years), the rate of girls and boys getting married early continues to increase.

Available evidence from the rural communities in Uganda where World Vision works in the Eastern region (Paya inclusive) indicates that child marriages perpetuate inter-generational poverty and is linked to poor child and maternal health, denial of access to education, violence and other forms of child abuses. Child marriage greatly undermines government efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal targets and as such needs urgent attention, hence the need for more research on it in order to come up with credible information to guide proper programming.

Child marriage is an outright breach of the fundamental rights of children and points to a breakdown in the child protection systems in the country. It robs children of their childhood as they are forced into parenthood while they are still children themselves. Early marriages and the resultant pregnancies are the biggest cause of deaths among 15 to 19 year old girls, accounting for 20% of maternal deaths in Uganda. Those who survive the pregnancies suffer lasting complications like fistula and disability.

Child marriage is not simply a human rights violation but it is also a threat to the social economic development of the countries in which it is prevalent. Child marriage
perpetuates poverty over generations and is linked to poor health, curtailed education, violence and disregard for the rule of law since it is prohibited by Ugandan law. Child marriage is harmful not only to girls, but also to families, communities and the economy. Child marriage has negative implications on Child wellbeing and as such; there is need for all stakeholders to act and address the situation to ensure that the wellbeing of the children is enhanced.

1.3 General Objective

- To establish the impact of child marriage on development in Paya sub county, Tororo district.

1.3.1 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives are:

1. To verify whether child marriages take place in Paya sub county

2. To examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage in Paya Sub County.

3. To establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted on economic and social development in Paya sub county

4. To identify the mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

1.4 Research Questions/Hypotheses

The key research questions included;

i) Does child marriage happen in this community?

ii) What factors lead to child marriages in Paya Sub County?

iii) How does child marriage affect development in Paya Sub County?

iv) What should be done to eradicate child marriage?
1.5 Scope of the study

**Geographical Scope:** The study was conducted in all the four parishes of Paya Sub County that is Sere, Nawire, Paya and Barinyanga Parishes. Paya borders Butaleja Sub County to the north, SopSop Sub County to the east, Nagongera Sub County to the south, Kirewa and Busolwe Sub Counties to the west. The Sub County headquarters is situated in Nawire Parish. It is composed of four parishes namely, Paya, Nawire, Sere and Barinyanga. It has 53 villages with total land area coverage of 56.6 square kms.

**Content Scope:** The study purposed to verify the occurrence of child marriage, examine the conditions and factors that fuel/sustain child marriage, to establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted on economic and social development, and to come up with mitigation measures to avert this situation.

**Time Scope:** The research study shall cover a period of 10 years stretching from 2005 to 2015. This period is long enough for the impact to be seen on the ground in relation to the topic.

1.6 Significance of the study

This study has a lot to contribute to the social and economic development of Uganda especially with regard to the needs of women and girls.

It is expected to contribute in the following ways:

**To the government/Line ministry**

- The data will inform the design of appropriate social policies, interventions and a number of community services by district leaders, local leaders and organizations to address the identified needs and challenges.
- It shall stimulate more appropriate response and dialogue by other stakeholders for informed action.

**To the community (Paya Sub County/Tororo district)**

- The study will set the pace of discussing the issue of child marriage publicly. Marriage is regarded as a private and sensitive subject. In some
traditions discussing sexual relations openly is considered a taboo but with the research on child marriage made public, advocacy initiatives will be initiated to address the problem.

- The study will articulate and make linkage between child marriage and violation of rights of children.
- The data will contribute to building a knowledge data bank on the subject of child marriage in Paya Sub County and Uganda as a whole.

To other intending researchers

- The data will contribute to building a knowledge data bank on the subject of child marriage in Uganda and therefore it will serve as a point of reference for future researchers.

To the researcher

- The study will give the researcher an opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge obtained from classroom learning and put it to real practice thereby acquiring more skills in conducting research, data analysis, presentation and interpretation.
- Through this study, the researcher will be able to fulfil the requirements for the award of a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and Social Administration of Kampala International University.

1.7 Conceptual Framework

Conceptual Framework is a written or visual presentation that: “explains either graphically, or in narrative form, the main things to be studied – the key factors, concepts or variables and the presumed relationship among them”. (Miles & Huberman, 1994, P18)
1.8 Limitations of the study

The respondents may not have time for the researcher: To avoid this, the researcher delivered the questionnaires to the respondents and gave them two days to fill it which was quite reasonable.

Respondents who are culprits of child marriage might respond with bias. To mitigate this, the researcher probed in order to get more accurate answers/ responses

Educational level of some respondents might affect the responses to the questionnaire: To avoid this, the researcher administered the questionnaires to those respondents who can read and write. In some cases, the researcher self administered the questionnaire.

Respondents demanding for money before availing the required information: To avoid this, the researcher clearly explained to the respondents the purpose of the study.
CHAPTER TWO

Literature Review

2.0 Introduction

This chapter entails information available regarding the magnitude of child marriage, conditions and factors that lead to child marriage, Impact of child marriage on economic and social development, and the mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

2.1 The magnitude of child marriage in Uganda/ Paya sub county.

Uganda adopted the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1985, providing a legal framework for actions against forced marriages. The Convention states that the marriage of a child shall have no 'legal effect, and that all necessary action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify a minimum age for marriage' (Walakira and Nyanzi, 2012: 16). According to the UDHS (2011) report, 49% of women aged 20–49 years were married before the age of 18 and 15% by the age of 15 years (UBOS and ICF International, 2012) while 9% of males were married by the age of 18 and 25% by the age of 20. The UDHS also found that 58% of 19-year-old teenage girls, 37% of 18-year-olds, 21% of 17-year-olds, 9% of 16-year-olds and 2% of 15-year-olds had already begun child bearing. Factors affecting the likelihood of early child bearing include education (45% of teenagers aged 15–19 years who have no education give birth in their teens), poverty (34% in the lowest wealth quintile) and region, with girls in the eastern part of the country more likely to begin child bearing before the age of 20 (see Appendix 2). Regional studies (Walakira and Nyanzi, 2012) have confirmed the high incidence of female child brides and mothers, detailing one of the underlying causes to be children being pressured to marry by family members. Reports also refer to economic motives for children getting married, either as an escape from poverty-stricken families or as an opportunity for the discharge of care or to provide for the protection of minors.

In 2013, World Vision Tororo Cluster and other civil society partners mapped out child protection issues in Nabuyoga Sub County and it was found that in at least every school visited there was a case or cases of child marriage and school dropout.

Available evidence from the rural communities in Uganda where World Vision works in the Eastern region (Paya inclusive) indicates that child marriages perpetuate inter-
generational poverty and is linked to poor child and maternal health, denial of access to education, violence and other forms of child abuses.

2.2 The conditions and factors that lead to child marriage.

At its heart, child marriage is rooted in gender inequality and the belief that girls and women are somehow inferior to boys and men. This makes child marriage to be a complex issue. Poverty, lack of education, cultural practices, and insecurity fuels and sustain the practice.

But drivers vary from one community to the next and the practice may look different across regions and countries, even within the same country including the selected area of study of this research.

According to Save the Children UK, Rights of Passage, in 2003 established that Gender inequality is contributor to child marriage, In many communities where child marriage is practiced, girls are not valued as much as boys – they are seen as a burden on their family. Marrying off a daughter at a young age can be viewed as a way to ease economic hardship by transferring this ‘burden’ to her husband’s family.

Child marriage is also driven by patriarchal values and the desire to control female sexuality, for instance, how a girl should behave, how she should dress, who she should be allowed to see, to marry, etc. In families closely guard their daughters’ sexuality and virginity in order to protect the family honor. Girls who have relationships or become pregnant outside of marriage are shamed for bringing dishonor on their family. (American Jewish World Service (AJWS) and al 2005)

Young lives in a policy brief in July 2014 found that, Culture and tradition leads to child marriage a study was conducted in Ethiopia, this is a traditional practice that in many places happens simply because it has happened for generations. In some communities, when girls start to menstruate, they become women in the eyes of the community. Marriage is therefore the next step towards giving a girl her status as a wife and mother.

Harmful traditional practices can be linked to each other. In southern Ethiopia for instance, child marriage usually follows the practice of female genital mutilation/cutting, which is considered a rite of passage to womanhood. Traditional practices often go unquestioned because they have been part of a community’s life and identity for a very
long time. But as Graça Machel, widow of Nelson Mandela, says, traditions are made by people – and people can unmake them.

An ICRW review and Inncoenti Digest (2001) shows that, more than half of girls from the poorest families in the developing world are married as children. Where poverty is acute, families and sometimes girls themselves believe that marriage will be a solution to secure their future. Giving a daughter in marriage allows parents to reduce family expenses by ensuring they have one less person to feed, clothe and educate. Families may also see investing in their son’s education as more worthwhile investment. In some cases marriage of a daughter is a way to repay debts, manage disputes, or settle social, economic and political alliances. This as a family survival strategy is common in some Middle Eastern and South Asian societies.

In communities where a dowry or ‘bride price’ is paid, it is often welcome income for poor families; in those where the bride’s family pays the groom a dowry, they often have to pay less money if the bride is young and uneducated.

Trafficking: Poor families are tempted to sell their girls not just into marriage, but into prostitution, as the transaction enables large sums of money to change hands.

Child marriage can increase humanitarian crises, such as in conflict or after a natural disaster. When families face even greater hardship, they may see child marriage as a coping mechanism in the face of poverty and violence. Eight out of the ten countries with the highest child marriage rates are considered fragile states OECD (2015),

Limited education and economic options; little or no schooling strongly correlates with being married at a young age. Conversely, attending school and having higher levels of education protect girls from the possibility of early marriage. (Anju Malhotra, PhD July 15, 2010 and Hossein Matlabi et al 2013 who went on to mention lack of access to high school greatly contributes to child marriages.

In many countries, educating girls often is less of a priority than educating boys. When a woman’s most important role is considered to be that of a wife, mother and homemaker, schooling girls and preparing them for the jobs may be given short shrift. And even when poor families want to send their daughters to school, they often lack access to nearby, quality schools and the ability to pay school fees. It is usually safer and economically more rewarding to spend limited resources on educating sons than daughters. This boxes families into early marriage as the only viable option for girls. (Anju Malhotra, PhD July 15, 2010)
According to Anju Malhotra, (2010) and OECD (2015), Insecurity in the face of conflict, When families live in unsafe regions, parents may genuinely believe that marrying their daughters is the best way to protect them from danger. In war-affected areas in Afghanistan, Burundi, Northern Uganda or Somalia, for example, a girl may be married to a warlord or another authority figure. Insecurity many parents marry off their daughters young because they feel it is in her best interest, often to ensure her safety in areas where girls are at high risk of harassment and physical or sexual assault.

In the same literature of OECD 2015, Tradition and Religion, In many societies, parents are under pressure to marry off their daughters as early as possible in an effort to prevent her from becoming sexually active before marriage; a woman who does so brings dishonor to her family and community. Because marriage often determines a woman's status in many societies, parents also worry that if they don't marry their daughters according to social expectations, they will not be able to marry them at all. Forced child marriage also is a route to cementing family, clan, and tribal connections or settling obligations. For example, in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province, Afghanistan and in some parts of the Middle East, marrying young girls is a common practice to help the grooms' families offset debts or to settle inter-family disputes.

Gender discrimination: Child marriage is a product of cultures that devalue women and girls and discriminate against them. "The discrimination," according to a UNICEF report on "Child Marriage and the Law," "often manifests itself in the form of domestic violence, marital rape, and deprivation of food, lack of access to information, education, healthcare, and general impediments to mobility."

Hossein Matlabi et al 2013, found that Lack of awareness about side effects of child marriage; the residents of village have got an opinion that girls should marry before age of 15 years. Chances of a successful marriage will dramatically reduce after this golden age. The people also suppose that unmarried girls may have physical or sexual problems. These social difficulties and mentality make up the family of a 7-8 year old girl think their girl should marry soon.

Freedom from undesirable and rigid rules of parents applying to girls; Those families have good financial situations would like to choice their bride from wealthy family. Poor
families also have girls would desire to hunt a rich boy. Wealthy groom may guarantee their future from unstable economic situations and fix the problems and hardships parents have suffered in life.

Inadequate laws: Many countries such as Pakistan have laws against child marriage. The laws are not enforced. In Afghanistan, a new law was written into the country's code enabling Shiite, or Hazara, communities to impose their own form of family law including permitting child marriage.

2.3 Impact of child marriage on economic and social development

The consequences of child marriage are devastating and often determine a life's trajectory and distorts destiny. Girls who marry young are not only at a higher risk of dying during childbirth but also having their child die before its first birthday.

Greater exposure to HIV/AIDS

Anju Malhotra, (2010), Innocenti Digest (2001) and Hossein Matlabi et al. 2013 Child brides also are at far greater risk of contracting HIV than their counterparts who marry later. Often they are married to older, more sexually experienced men with whom it is difficult to negotiate safe sexual behaviors, especially when under pressure to bear children. A study conducted in Kenya and Zambia in 2004 finds that married girls aged 15-19 were 75 percent more likely to contract HIV than sexually active, unmarried girls of the same age. Similar figures have been found in 29 countries across Africa and Latin America.

High risk to premature death: In 2007, UNICEF reported that a girl under the age of 15 is five times more likely to die during pregnancy and childbirth than a woman in her 20s.11 Risks extend to infants, too: if a mother is under age 18, her baby’s chance of dying in the first year of life is 60 percent greater than that of a baby born to a mother older than. In addition to death, young girls face tremendous health risks in childbirth, including a serious condition known as obstetric fistula. Obstetric fistula results when a young mother’s vagina, bladder and/or rectum tear during childbirth. It causes urine and faeces to leak from her, and without surgery, the condition lasts the rest of the girl’s life. Fistula patients are commonly poor women, ages 15 to 20, many of whom were child brides.
Greater exposure to domestic and sexual violence

Innocenti Digest (2001) and Anju Malhotra, (2010) stated that, girls who are married early are more likely to be abused sexually, psychosocially disadvantaged, physically and emotionally. An ICRW study in India shows that girls who married before the age of 18 reported experiencing physical violence twice as often, and sexual violence three times as often as girls who married at a later age.

The loss of adolescence, the forced sexual relations, and the denial of freedom and personal development attendant on early marriage have profound psychosocial and emotional consequences. The impact can be subtle and insidious and the damage hard to assess.

Distortion of childhood and a future

More than anything else, early marriage deprives girls of their childhood. They are thrust into the full burden of domestic responsibility, motherhood and sexual relations rather than playing with friends, dreaming about a career or fretting about a school examination.

Isolation and powerlessness:

Research shows that young married girls often are isolated and powerless. They are unable to negotiate or obtain support for issues in their own interest. And they’re frequently exposed to violence and threats of abandonment and divorce. Anju Malhotra, (2010).

2.4 Mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

We know that before launching any new program, it’s critical to first talk to the most affected group. They are the starting point for any solution to ending forced child marriage. Girls understand acutely the obstacles that bar them from opportunities, and they have clear ideas about what needs to change in their lives in order to succeed. It’s also important to support parents who support their daughters’ decision to continue their studies and enjoy their childhood – delaying the choice to become a wife and mother. These parents who are bold enough to go against what tradition dictates can be stigmatized by and ostracized from their community.
Over the past 10 years, efforts by ICRW and others in several countries India, Nepal, and Ethiopia reduced the prevalence of child marriage within a two- to three-year period. In the Indian states of Bihar and Jharkhand, ICRW’s Development Initiative Supporting Healthy Adolescents (DISHA) program reduced the rate of child marriage from 60 percent to 40 percent. In Nepal, ICRW and Engender health, an international health organization, cut the rate of child marriage in half, from 44 percent to 21 percent, in urban areas surrounding Kathmandu.

These programs focused on three key issues:

Anju (2013) emphasized programs:
Providing girls with life skills such as numeracy, literacy, using a telephone or articulating their needs and interests to elders; Raising awareness and commitment among parents, teachers, religious leaders and other influential adults to eradicate forced child marriage; and working with young people—including boys—to understand and build peer support on the idea of preventing forced child marriage. (Pierre Tristam 2016)

The government of Uganda in 2015 designed a national strategy to end child marriage;

Improve legal and policy environment (with focus on child rights) to protect children, generation of relevant data and evidence for programming and monitoring progress towards ending child marriage and teenage pregnancies, changing communities’ mindsets, knowledge, aspirations, behaviors and social norms that drive child marriage and teenage pregnancies, increase access to quality protection, education, reproductive health services and other opportunities, empowerment of girls and boys with comprehensive and appropriate information on life skills, establish and strengthen structures and systems for implementing the NSCM&TP strategy and putting a coordination, monitoring and evaluation mechanism in place for effective management of the NSCM&TP strategy

USAID (2012) Cultivate partnerships broadly:
Ending and responding to child marriage requires the commitment, involvement and collaboration of a diverse network of partners, who bring unique perspectives, skills, and resources to face a daunting challenge. USAID’s intervention must be leveraged by the efforts of host governments and the private sector. Governments need to uphold the
Declaration

I hereby declare that this research study was entirely done by me and therefore this is my original piece of work which has never been submitted for any award in any university/academic institution of learning.

Okolla Michael
(STUDENT)
DATE: .................................
Declaration

I hereby declare that this research study was entirely done by me and therefore this is my original piece of work which has never been submitted for any award in any university/academic institution of learning.

........................................

Okolla Michael

(STUDENT)

DATE: __________________________
international treaties they signed and ensure the rights of children by enforcing laws within their countries. Private organizations and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can elevate the need to end child marriage by:

Working with lawmakers and parliamentarians is also critical, as they can promote enactment, implementation, and enforcement of laws and policies that discourage child marriage. Community leaders, traditional leaders, and members of law enforcement and the judicial community have critical contributions to make in implementing and enforcing laws passed.

USAID (2011) Mobilize communities to shift norms that perpetuate child marriage. Often, child marriage is considered a private family matter, governed by religion and culture. In some cases, child marriages are pursued by families as a social and/or economic imperative. In other cases, child marriages are used to consolidate relations between families, secure deals over land or other property, or even to settle disputes. Other times, families present child marriage as a viable and necessary way to protect girls from sexual violence or the consequences of unprotected pre-marital sex, including becoming unwed mothers who are vulnerable to abandonment and ostracism in their communities.

Programming efforts, therefore, must be sensitive to cultural context in tackling complex economic issues and deep-rooted social norms, attitudes, and practices. As such, it becomes absolutely essential to engage with communities in finding locally appropriate strategies for ending child marriage.

Local civil society and NGOs are important to the cause as they can mobilize their communities and encourage children, youth, and adults to participate in developing programs at the national, regional, and community levels.

Engaging men, particularly fathers and brothers a necessary strategy. Interventions that involve fathers, religious and traditional leaders broaden understanding of the dangers of child marriage, and the long-term benefits of education and economic opportunities. Equally important is reaching out to boys at a young age to encourage equitable gender attitudes and norms so that they can be allies in preventing child marriage and change agents within their communities.
Girl-Child Education programmes

Finally, any effort aimed at ending forced child marriage, must address how to strengthen girls’ education programs to ensure that girls stay in school and learn enough for parents to consider it worthwhile postponing their marriage. Education is the single most important factor associated with girls marrying before the age of 18, according to a 2007 ICRW study. Even one more year of school than the national average can increase a woman’s earning potential by 10 percent to 20 percent.
CHAPTER THREE

Methodology

3.1 Research Design

In this research study, the researcher used descriptive survey research design. This was preferred because; standardized questionnaires were used to collect the required data from the selected respondents.

3.2 Research Population

Here a number of people with similar characteristics of interest to the study were considered. A population of 134 people were selected for study by the researcher and the sample size was drawn as shown below.

3.3 Sample size and sampling procedure

Sample size

Having realized that the target population was quite big to effectively be managed by the researcher, the researcher had to introduce the sample size. This was arrived at using Sloven’s statistical formula which is described below:

If you take a population sample, you must use a formula to figure out what sample size you need to take. Sometimes you know something about a population, which can help you **determine a sample size**. For example, it’s well known that IQ scores follow a normal distribution pattern. But what about if you know nothing about your population at all? That’s when you can use Sloven’s formula to figure out what sample size you need to take, which is written as

\[
n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}
\]

Where:

- \( n \) = Number of samples,
- \( N \) = Total population and \( e \) = Error tolerance (level of significance)
- \( e^2 = 0.05 \) level of significance
Therefore from,

\[ n = \frac{N}{(1 + Ne^2)} \]

\[ n = 134 / (1 + 134 \times (0.05)^2) \]

\[ n = 134 / 1.335 \]

\[ n = 100.37453 \]

Therefore the sample size was obtained to be 100 respondents.

**Sampling Procedure**

Realizing that people thought of the same characteristics understand and articulate issues differently the researcher used judgemental sampling procedure in order to pick the people who made up the above stated population only parents with children for example were picked to form the population required in the study.

**3.4 Research Instruments**

A number of research instruments were at the disposal of the researcher however the questionnaire and observation methods of data collection was considered more appropriate for the study.

**Questionnaire:** This method of data collection is quite popular, particularly in case of big enquiries. It consists of a number of questions printed or typed in a definite order on a form or set of forms. The questionnaire is mailed to respondents who are expected to read and understand the questions and write down the reply in the space meant for that purpose in the questionnaire itself. The respondents have to answer the questions on their own.

The merits claimed on behalf of this method are; there is no cost even when the universe is large and is widely spread geographically, It is free from the bias of the interviewer that is answers are in respondent’s own words, also with this method respondents have adequate time to give well thought out answers, respondents who are not easily approachable can also be reached conveniently, large samples can be made use of and thus the results can be made more dependable and reliable.

**Key Informant Interviews:** Key informant interviews are qualitative in-depth interviews with people who know more about what is going on in the community/study area. The
purpose of key informant interviews is to collect information from a wide range of people including community leaders, professionals, or residents who have firsthand knowledge about the community. These community experts, with their particular knowledge and understanding, can provide insight on the nature of problems and give recommendations for solutions. The two commonly used techniques to conduct key informant interviews are Telephone Interviews and Face-to-Face Interviews. In this case the researcher opted to use the Face-to-Face Interviews because it was considered more appropriate for the study.

**Observation**: The observation method is the most commonly used method especially in studies relating to behavioural sciences. Observation becomes a scientific tool and the method of data collection for the researcher, when it serves a formulated research purpose, is systematically planned and recorded and subjected to checks and controls on validity and reliability.

The main advantages of this method/reasons why it was selected is that with it subjective bias is eliminated, if observation is done accurately. Secondly the information obtained under this method relates to what is currently happening; it is not complicated by either the past behaviour or future intentions or attitudes. Thirdly this method is independent of respondents’ willingness to respond and as such is relatively less demanding of active cooperation on the part of respondents and it is particularly suitable in studies which deal with subjects (respondents) who are not capable of giving verbal reports of their feelings for one reason or the other.

### 3.5 Validity and reliability of the instruments

**Validity**

Validity of findings is related to the appropriateness or adequacy of a research design. It tests the research design. It is used for identifying faulty designs that produce findings that are not valid or cannot be generalized.

In research validity is considered to be the effectiveness of the research tool to measure what is supposed to be measured. An instrument is only valid if it accurately measures the variables purported to be measured.

To succeed in doing this, the researcher used a standardized questionnaire while avoiding ambiguous words by so doing the same quantity and quality of data which was later analysed was obtained.
Reliability

Asika (1991) defines reliability as the consistence between independent measurements of the same phenomenon. He further asserts that reliability is the stability, dependability and predictability of a measuring instrument.

Reliability therefore is the measure of consistence. In other words it’s the ability of research tools to give consistent data whenever it is used to all respondents. To manage the anticipated inconsistencies, the data collection tools were first pre-tested at different selected places before real use. The errors found were corrected hence the consistence of the tool. By doing so, the researcher got the required data, thus good quality from all the sampled respondents.

3.6 Procedure for data collection

The researcher first obtained an introductory letter from Kampala international University which was used to apply to Tororo District Local Government for permission to carry out research in Paya Sub County.

Having obtained permission from the district to carry out the research study, the researcher reported in Paya Sub County then identified and trained one research assistant on the research process by emphasizing the need to have good working relationship with the stakeholders and ensure quality work.

During the data collection process, the respondents were taken through the purpose of the research study by stressing that it was purely for academic purpose. Here each respondent’s consent was sought. They were therefore requested to respond to all questions. The respondents who needed more time were granted and their questionnaires were picked later.

The filled questionnaires were coded, a screen sheet was developed to enter the data using Epic software programme after which the data was transferred to excel and numerous graphs were developed in order to draw meanings out of the collected data.
3.7 Data Analysis

After the administration of the research instruments, the questionnaires were gathered in one place, coded, edited, tallied and entered into the EPI software programme for easy analysis and tabulation/graphic representation.

The summarized information as per the objectives were subjected to the frequency and percentage or degrees. This made data presentation in the subsequent chapter to be done with ease.

3.8 Ethical consideration

Confidentiality and privacy of personal rights of the respondents was highly protected for instance the name of the respondents was not included in the questionnaire or any tool of data collection.

Also when presenting the findings in chapter four a generalization of the information obtained from the field was done.
CHAPTER FOUR

Data Presentation, Interpretation and Analysis

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents analysis of social-demographic situation of the respondents interviewed during this study from data that was collected using literature review basis and interviews. In this same chapter, data is interpreted, discussed and analyzed along the four study objectives;

Table 1: Profiles of respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex of Respondents</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>62.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = PRIMARY</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = O LEVEL</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>48.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = A LEVEL</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = DIPLOMA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = DEGREE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey Data 2016

During this research, majority of respondents were male constituting 63% and females constituting 37%. As for the education level, majority of the respondents equivalent to 48% completed O level of education, 13% primary level, 22% diploma, 12% completed A level of education. The study findings indicated that there is high level of school dropout at all levels in the sub county resulting into a figure of only 4% of respondents who have the academic qualification of a degree.

4.1.1 The magnitude of child marriage:

This section verified respondents’ awareness of the concept of child marriage and whether child marriages indeed takes place in Paya Sub County.
Table 2: Magnitude of child marriage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meaning of child marriage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = MARRIAGE OF PEOPLE BELOW 18 YRS</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>98.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = PRODUCING BABIES BEFORE 18 YRS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident of child marriage witnessed</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N = NO</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y = YES</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate / magnitude of child marriage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = 10 - 30%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>42.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = 31 - 50%</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = 51 - 70%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = 71% and above</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Which sex is the most affected?</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = girls</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>98.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = boys</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is commonest age group of child marriage victims?</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 - 12 yrs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 15 yrs</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>72.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 18 yr</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is education level of child marriage couple?</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = P.4 - P. 5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = P.6 - P. 7</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>79.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = S.1 - S.2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = S.3 - S.4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey Data 2016

From table 2 above; in regard to respondent’s knowledge of the meaning of child marriage, 98 % indicated that they have true understanding of the concept while 2% had a
different view. This implies that there is high level of understanding of this concept within the study area.

Concerning the level of incidences of child marriage, 91% confirmed having witnessed child marriage in the area of research while 9% had not. This finding holds true that globally; Uganda is among the countries with the highest incidence of child marriage and holds the eleventh position in African countries with high rates of child marriages.

Findings on the magnitude of child marriage 42% responded saying that this is practiced between 10 – 30%, 34% responded saying this is very common at least between 3 to 5 in every 10 marriages in Paya sub county. 18% said it affects between 5 – 7 in every 10 marriages taking place in the area of research. Only 5% said this practice affects 7 and above in every 10 marriages conducted in the study. With figures presented above it can be interpreted that there is a clear indication that majority of girls under the age of 18 are living in fear and waiting of being married off in the sub county which is a violation of their right to education, protection from all forms of physical or mental abuse and from all forms of sexual abuse, enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and the right to educational and vocations information and guidance.

This study also ascertained the most affected group of the population. Results shows that 96% of the most affected or married before the age of 18 years are girls and only 4% associated it to boys in this community. Results show that while boys are also affected by this practice, more than 90% of children married off under age are girls.

Most informants still from the above table (72%) agreed that the commonest age group of the child marriage couples is between 13-15 years followed by 16-18 years which stood at 25% and 10-12 years being the least at 2.0%. The majority being in the age group of 13-15 is an indication of much vulnerability to the negative effects of child marriage such as death and sexually transmitted diseases as this age has little to do with making informed decisions.

From the information in the table above, it can be inferred that only 1% of child marriage couples are between S.3 – S.4 while 79% said these couples are of P.6- P.7 and 12% are of S.1 – S.2, only 7% of them reach or ended in P4-P5 in the area of research. This revelation confirms the State of the World report for 2012, which indicates that 46% of the girls are married by the age of 18. In some districts like Mbale, 10% of deliveries are by children below 15 years. While according to Ugandan law the age of consent for marriage is 18
years, marrying off of children below the age of 18 is highly widespread at 49% (UNFPA).

**Figure 1:** Major source of livelihood for the child couples?

![Source of Livelihood Diagram]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Livelihood</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farming</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bodaboda</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual labour</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambling</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Survey Data 2016*

Data obtained on source of livelihood of child marriage couples indicates that 50% derive their livelihood from casual labour followed by farming at 21.2%, riding boda boda at 18.2% while gambling stood at 11.1%. The figures from the survey informs that none of the child married couples found to have formal employment, a situation which can be attributed to school dropout without qualifications and skills to compete favourably in the job market. This affects decision making and knowledge of the right to own property putting the girl child married into a more vulnerable situation.
Figure 2: Graph showing whether parents support child marriage.

Source: Survey Data 2016

Figure 4 above indicates that 49.5% of respondents agreed that parents in the study area support child marriage, 15.20% strongly agreed and only 17.20% didn’t agree that parents actually are not in support or aid child marriage. This means 64% of the informants confirmed that parents are supporting child marriage in the study area. This finding contributes to the fact that this vice is well hidden from the public eye due to social cultural beliefs that condone it.

4.1.2 Conditions and factors that lead to child marriage in Paya Sub County.

The objective two was drawn examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage in the research area. The parameters explored below provided the required information.
Table 3: What makes adults marry children and reason why parents allow children to marry before 18?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why adults marry children below 18</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Bad dressing</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Living single life</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Cultural practice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = Dowry demand</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Child neglect</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 = Need for riches</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 = Sexual satisfaction</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>99</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why parents allow children to marry before 18?</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Need for dowry</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Famine</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Poverty</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = Girls are source of income</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Ignorance of parents</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 = Demand for wealth</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 = Need for grand children early</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 = Adds friendship</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>99</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Survey Data 2016*

Respondents were asked to give opinions on what influences adults to marry children below 18. Responses report that 30.3% is due to need for riches by the girls family, 28.3% said it is due to desire for sexual satisfaction. This was followed by bad dressing by young girls mean while child neglect and dowry demand tied at 11.1%, cultural practices accounted for 2% and living a single life only accounted for 1%. The following are contributing factors to the trend above. From the trend above poverty and a need for survival and dowry demand stands out to be the major contributor to the trend above. Failure of some parents to provide the basics for their children forces the girl child to engage in transactional sex and the resultant pregnancies and forced marriage. This was highlighted in Paya by this research.

Findings on why parents allow children to marry before 18, 41.4% of the parents said it is due to poverty, 26.3% said girls are seen by parents as an alternative source of wealth, 13.1%
said due to need for dowry, 9.1% said due to ignorance of the parents, this was followed by demand for wealth which stood at 5.1%, need for grand children early stood at 2% and the argument that it adds friendship only stood at 1%

This means therefore that the major reason why parents allow their children below 18 years to get married is due to the prevailing poverty in most households. From a Civil Society Statement on the Launch of the End Child Marriage Campaign Presented by World Vision in April 2014 it was indicated that poverty ranks number two as a major cause of early marriage: the statement states; “Poor families sell their children into marriage as a way of escape from poverty especially in Iyolwa, Magola, Kirewa, Mifumi and Paya”.

Table 4: Community practices fueling child marriage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community practices fueling child marriage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Peer pressure</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Attending night discos and films</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Allowing Children Attend social events</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = School drop out</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Neglect by parents</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 = Practicing prostitution</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>99</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey Data 2016

Respondents were further asked about the community practices that fuel child marriage and a significant 40.4% said that the habit of allowing children to attend social events such as weddings, introductions and last funeral rites without any restriction indeed tend to fuel this practice. This was followed by the practice of attending night discos by children which stood at 30.3%, where girls escape from home to attend these local dances and in the process become pregnant and end up marrying. Neglect by parents stands at 21.2%, peer pressure at 5.1%, school dropout at 2% and practicing prostitution at 1%. So at most, the habit of allowing children to attend social events such as weddings, introductions and last funeral rites without any restriction is indeed the major factor fuelling child marriages in Paya Sub County. This implies that parental guidance is far much lacking in upbringing of the children and later lead to child neglect exposing the children to vulnerability to peer pressure and eventually school dropout.
4.1.3 Child marriage impact on economic and social development in Paya Sub County

Objective three was to establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted on economic and social development in the research area. Data was therefore collected on its effect on development.

Table 5: Child marriage Effect to community development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child marriage affects the development</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-agree</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>92.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-disagree</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N-not sure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effect of child marriage on development</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Low labour force</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Death</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Malnutrition in children</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = Theft</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Unemployment</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 = Gambling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 = Over population</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 = Retards development</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 = Domestic violence</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey Data 2016

The table above indicates opinions sought on whether child marriages affect the development of Paya community, the responses were that; 92.9% agreed that child marriage affects development surely that child marriage indeed has a big bearing on the level of development in Paya Sub County. The 4.1% of those who disagree indicate either ignorance of the consequences of child marriage or are under the group who support child marriage for cultural and other personal reasons. This assumption together with the 3.1% of those who are not sure calls for a need for sensitisation of the masses on the vice.
From the same table 29.6% of the respondents said that it has resulted into low level of skilled labour force in the community, retardation of development stood at 23.5%, unemployment stood at 15.3%, birth complications which at times results into death of young mothers was at 11.2%, Over population stood at 7.1%, Theft of people’s property 5.1%, limited knowledge about parenting which leads to malnutrition in children stood at 4.1%, 3.1% gambling and domestic violence stood at 1%.

Child marriage make children to drop out of school early without attaining relevant/employable skills thus they tend to remain redundant leading to the prevailing low level of skilled labour force in Paya Sub County. This confirms the trend presented above on the source of livelihood of child married couples.

According to a Posting by Daily Monitor news paper on Monday, July 13 2015 at 01:00 14-year-old-girl bled to death after giving birth in Oruga village, Purongo Sub-county, Nwoya District. It was said that the new born baby was taken to Anaka Hospital for medical checks but passed on. This fact presents one example of confirmation of the effect of death as a result of child marriages and that besides the above effects child marriage puts the victim to high level of vulnerability and worse of all to death.

4.1.4 Mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

Objective number four was to identify the mitigation measures key stakeholders in the study area can employ to mitigate and avert child marriages. The key stakeholders on which information was collected were parents/guardians, government and NGOs.

Table 6: How can different stakeholders avert child marriage?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies parent/guardians can adopt to reduce child marriage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Educate children</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Restrict children from attending social events</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Avoid peer group</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = Parental guidance and counseling</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Parental love and security</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 = Strengthening parental responsibility</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 = Provide sufficient basic needs</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Government can do reduce child marriage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Develop good school program</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can NGOs reduce child marriage</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 = Community sensitization</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Provide scholarship and scholastic materials</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 = Work with parents to ensure children are at school</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 = Provide education loans and grants</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 = Improve on infrastructure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 = Supervision</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 = Follow up of cases of children cases</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 = Train para - social worker</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey Data 2016

On the side of parents respondents highlighted that parents can help reduce child marriages by effective playing of parental guidance and counselling roles represented by 41.8%, Support their children to access formal education with 29.6%, provision of sufficient basic needs stood at 14.3%, restrict children from attending social events at 7.1%, Offering children parental love and security stood at 4.1%, Encourage children to avoid peer pressure stood at 2% and strengthening of parental responsibility garnered only 1%. Much as responses given above are detrimental it is quite clear that the strategy to mitigate child marriage needs to focus on equipping parents/guardians with parenting skills and this intervention by no doubt will produce sustainable transformation of the minds of the community a key ingredient to sustainable development.

Concerning how government can help reduce child marriage, responses amounting to 43.4% advised government to enact stringent laws deterring bad cultural practices, 23.2% proposed the arrest of the perpetuators of child marriage, 18.2% proposed that government should facilitate community sensitizations, 8.1% said the government should consider providing scholarship for needy children, 4% proposed that government should develop good programmes in schools mean while strengthening government structures and
systems stood at 2% and encouraging young people to engage in agriculture and other productive activities stood at 1%.

From the community point of view it is clear that what is of primary importance is the enforcement of children’s rights laws, particularly as outlined by the African Children’s Charter, from the national to the local level. The community desires to see the government of the day enacting stringent laws deterring bad cultural practices that fuel child marriages and perpetuators of child marriage being arrested and punished without impunity.

Exploring the community’s perspective of what the NGO and the civil society fraternity can do 58.6% proposed that the NGOs should facilitate community sensitization, 23.2% recommended the provision of scholarship and scholastic materials to needy children, mean while provision of the student loan schemes and grants and follow up of children’s cases jointly stood at 6.1%, also working with parents to ensure that children are retained at school and training of the Paya social workers tied at 2%, supervision of the child protection structures and systems and improvement in structure both stood at 1%.

This therefore means that majority of the people in Paya Sub County want the NGOs working in the area to intensify community sensitization so that a critical mass of people get informed on the dangers of child marriages to their communities. For when people get the right knowledge generations are secured. It is said people perish because of lack of knowledge.
CHAPTER FIVE

Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

5.0 Introduction

This chapter is structured to summarise the study findings, make constructive conclusions and provide recommendations from the findings.

5.1 Findings

The objectives assessed child marriage and its impact on development a case of Paya sub county Tororo district - Uganda. It was guided by four specific objectives; (i) verify whether child marriages take place, (ii) examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage, (iii) establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted on economic and social development and (iv) identify the mitigation measures of averting child marriages in Paya Sub County.

5.1.1 The magnitude of child marriage:

It was confirmed that 91% of the respondents have witnessed child marriage in the study area while 9% had not. Also 42% of the respondents said the rate of child marriage in the study area is between 10 – 30%, 34% responded saying it is between 31-50%. 18 % said it is between 51 – 70%. Only 5 % said the practice is over 71%.

5.1.2 Condition and factors that lead to child marriage:

The major community practices that fuel child marriage revealed were; allowing children attend social events without any restriction 40%, attending night discos and films 30%, neglect by parents at 21%, peer pressure (24.85%), failure of parents to pay school fees due to poverty (20.45%), personal willingness (13.4%), parents forcing children to get married (10.5%), having no home to live in (4.55%), and armed conflict and fear of contracting HIV (0.65%).

The study provided that adults prefer marrying children below 18 years because of ; said that it is due to need for riches by the girls family(30.3%), desire for sexual satisfaction (28.3%) and child neglect and dowry demand (11.1%), cultural practices accounted for 2% and living a single life only accounted for 1%.
5.1.3 Impact of child marriage on economic and social development:

A high 92.9% respondent strongly agreed that child marriages affect the development of Paya community and only 4.1% disagreed while only 3.1% were not sure.

A significant 29.6% of the respondents said that it has resulted into low level of skilled labour force in the community, retardation of development stood at 23.5% and unemployment (15.3%). Birth complications which at times results into death of young mothers was reported by 11.2%, while over population recorded 7.1%. Theft of people’s property was 5.1%, limited knowledge about parenting which leads to malnutrition in children at 4.1%, 3.1% gambling and domestic violence as 1%. Effect of child marriages was found responsible school children drop out without attaining relevant/employable skills leading to the prevailing low level of skilled labour force in Paya Sub County.

5.1.4 Mitigation measures of averting child marriage:

In efforts to mitigate and avert child marriage: respondents said that there is need for parental guidance and counselling that stood at 41.8%, Support children to access formal education stood 29.6%, provision of sufficient basic needs stood at 14.3%, restrict children from attending social events stood at 7.1%, Offering children parental love and security stood at 4.1%, Encourage children to avoid peer pressure stood at 2% and strengthening of parental responsibility garnered only 1%.

Further findings on role of different stakeholders indicated that:

Government: to reduce child marriage (43.4%) advised to enact stringent laws that deter bad cultural practices, 23.2% proposed the arrest of the perpetuators of child marriage, 18.2% proposed that government should facilitate community sensitizations, 8.1% said the government should consider providing scholarship for needy children, 4% proposed that government should develop good programmes in schools mean while strengthening government structures and systems stood at 2% and encouraging young people to engage in agriculture and other productive activities stood at 1%. Government must also put emphasis on enforcement of children’s rights laws, particularly as outlined by the African Children’s Charter, from the national to the local level.

Civil Society: Respondents said civil society can reduce child marriage and 58.6% of the respondents proposed that the NGOs should facilitate community sensitization, 23.2% recommended the provision of scholarship and scholastic materials to needy children, mean while provision of the student loan schemes and grants and follow up of children’s
cases jointly stood at 6.1%, also working with parents to ensure that children are retained at school and training of the Paya social workers tied at 2%, supervision of the child protection structures and systems and improvement in structure both stood at 1%.

Community parents/guardians: It was said parents and guardians should provide basic needs for their children especially girl children to avoid the temptation of transactional sex from opportunistic predator, be vigilant and report cases of child marriage to the authorities, ensure that children attend and complete school. The study also demands that religious leaders should engage their congregations on addressing child marriage and reclaiming children’s innocence.

5.2 Conclusion

Here, the conclusion to the study findings was strictly guided by the study objectives:

5.2.1 The magnitude of child marriage:

The study explored the meaning of child marriage. 98% of the respondents understand that child marriage is marriage of people below 18 yrs. From this knowledge 91% of respondents confirmed having witnessed child marriage in the study area while 9% had not. 42% of the respondents said the rate of child marriage in the study area is between 10 - 30%, 34% said it is between 31-50%. 18 % said it is between 51 - 70%. Only 5 % said the practice is 71% and above.

5.2.2 Conditions and factors that lead to child marriage:

Among the factors that fuel child marriage revealed were; allowing children attend social events without any restriction (40%), attending night discos and films (30%), peer pressure (24.85%), neglect by parents at 21%, failure of parents to pay school fees due to poverty (20.45%), personal willingness (13.4%), parents forcing children to get married (10.5%), having no home to live in (4.55%), and armed conflict and fear of contracting HIV (0.65%).

From the study adults prefer marrying children below 18 years due to need for riches by the girl’s family (30.3%), desire for sexual satisfaction (28.3%) and child neglect and dowry demand (11.1%), cultural practices (2%) and living a single life (1%)
5.2.3 Impact of child marriage on economic and social development:

It can be concluded that a high population 92.9% understand that child marriage strongly affect the development and only 4.1% lack this knowledge yet 3.1% are not sure.

Child marriage has resulted into low level of skilled labour force in the community (29.6%), retardation of development (23.5%), Unemployment (15.3%), birth complications which at times results into death of young mothers (11.2%) Over population (7.1%), theft of people’s property (5.1%), limited knowledge about parenting which leads to malnutrition in children (4.1%), 3.1% gambling and domestic violence (1%). It is realistic that child marriages are responsible for children to drop out of school early without attaining relevant/employable skills thus rendering them redundant.

5.2.4 Mitigation measures of averting child marriage:

To mitigate and avert child marriage: Parental guidance and counselling is an important requirement (41.8%), Support of children to access formal education, provision of sufficient basic needs, and strengthening of parental responsibility.

Government’s role to reduce child marriage must be to enact stringent laws deterring bad cultural practices, arrest of the perpetuators of child marriage, facilitate community sensitizations, consider providing scholarship for needy children, strengthen structures and systems and encouraging young people to engage in agriculture and other productive activities.

There can also be enforcement of children’s rights laws, particularly as outlined by the African Children’s Charter, from the national to the local level.

Civil Society can reduce child marriage supplementing government efforts by facilitating community sensitization and training, provision of scholarship and scholastic materials to needy children, provision sponsorship schemes and follow up of children’s cases jointly and also working with parents to ensure that children are retained at school, supervision of the child protection structures and systems and improvement in structure.

Community parents/guardians can provide basic needs for their children especially girl children, be vigilant and report cases of child marriage to the authorities, ensure that children attend and complete school. Religious leaders can engage their congregations on addressing child marriage and reclaiming children’s innocence.
5.3 Recommendations

In view of the above information & findings in this research, the devastating effects of child marriages is premature death and retardation of development resulting from child marriage as one of the worst forms of human rights violations of the girl child and a major detriment to the empowerment of women. The aforementioned facts are a slap in the face of the developing country that has a robust legal and policy regime for child protection. The country has ratified the major international legal instruments such as the UDHR, CEDAW and Convention on the Rights of the Child and has also made significant progress in their domestication through the constitution, the penal code and the domestic violence act. Based on the research findings and respondents views, the following recommendations are proposed for action by different development actors:

A. The Central Government to:-

- Enforce the registration of all births and marriages to support effective implementation of laws on minimum marriage age.
- Government should create a clear coordination mechanism among key line ministries on issues of child protection.
- Enhance recruitment and training of social welfare staff at all levels.
- Empower survivors of child marriage, by offering them opportunities to gain skills and education, providing support networks and creating ‘safe spaces’ where girls can gather and meet outside the home.
- Raise the awareness of all stakeholders, including parents, on the negative impacts of child marriage and bridge the gap between the communities and government institutions like police, DPP at district levels and courts.
- Create safety nets for girls and young women who escape a forced, and often violent, marriage.
- Launch public awareness Campaigns on Ending Child Marriage - The government and civil society should invest in nationwide public and media campaigns on the dangers of child sexual abuse and child marriage and the laws governing the practice.
B. Local Government (Tororo district)
- Pass the draft Ordinances laid in council on Child Marriage and Education Standards Improvement urgently to alleviate child marriages and school drop outs in Tororo district
- Form child protection committees at all levels [Village to District] in areas where they do not exist and ensure they are functional.
- Provide adequate budgetary resources- This will improve child protection work in terms of creating community awareness, coordinating and strengthening child protection structures adequately facilitate law enforcement agencies like probation office, police, and courts to improve their effectiveness.

C. The community/parents:-
- Parents/guardians should provide basic needs for their children especially girl children to avoid the temptation of transactional sex from opportunistic predators
- Community members should be vigilant and report cases of child marriage to the authorities.
- Parents/guardians should ensure that children attend and complete school
- Religious leaders should engage their congregations on addressing child marriage and reclaiming children’s innocence.

D. Civil Society Organizations
- Mobilize and educate communities and families on the dangers of child marriage
- Conduct research on the effect of child marriage on communities and children and disseminate to key stakeholders
- Provide psycho-social support to the survivors of child marriage
- Support the implementation and strengthening of Child Protection Referral Mechanisms/Structures from Community to National level through increased funding.

E. Law enforcement agencies for example the Police, Courts of Law and Directorate of Public Prosecution
- Sensitization at all levels to ensure cases are reported and prosecuted
• Timely investigation and prosecution of child sexual abuse cases that are reported - Justice delayed is Justice denied.
• Sensitize communities about the court procedures and facilitate witnesses to avoid loss of interests in cases and resultant case withdrawals and build trust in the justice system
• Visit Schools and sensitized children about the dangers of child marriage.

All Ugandan citizens must embrace an understanding that “A Girl Child is Not a Wife. Education Can’t Wait But Marriage Can. Ending Child Marriage is achievable but if it is to be, it is up to you and me and Together, Lets Act Now! End Child Marriage for sustainable transformational development.

5.4 Recommendations for further research

This study suggests that further research should be done on the following; data on all aspects of child marriage including its psychosocial impact and the ways in which this interacts with wider social, political and economic consequences, examine the practice from a human rights perspective, in terms of trends or its impact on wives, husbands, families, or the wider society.

Other aspects of child marriage requiring further research include: Prevalence, especially among subgroups whose marriage characteristics are submerged in national data, disaggregated by age and sex, social and economic determinants influencing the age of marriage, particularly those that cause it to rise. Comparative case studies of situations where child marriage is declining instead of increasing will help to identify these determinants and child marriage in high stress situations brought about by war, HIV/AIDS, acute urban and rural poverty, and among refugee and displaced population.

Child marriage greatly undermines government efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal targets and as such needs urgent attention, hence the need for more research on it in order to come up with credible information to guide proper programming.
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Okolla Michael
REG. NO. BSN/H6633/151/AU-TR

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Research/Project:

The above named is our student in the College of Open Education and Distance Learning (COEDL), pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration.

He wishes to carry out research in your Organisation on:

"CHILD MARRIAGE AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT. A CASE STUDY OF PATA SUB COUNTY, TORORO DISTRICT, UGANDA."

The research is a requirement for the Award of a Bachelors degree in Social Work and Social Administration.

Any assistance accorded to him regarding research will be highly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully,

Womuzumbu Moses
BRANCH DIRECTOR - 078257505
KIU TORORO STUDY CENTRE

CEODEL-"Exploring the Heights"
Dear respondent,

My name is Michael Okolla. I am in the final year of my studies in Kampala International University pursuing Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work and Social Administration (BSWASA) and as part of my course am conducting a study on the topic: Child marriage and its impact on development. A case study of Paya sub county in Tororo district, Eastern Uganda.

The study seeks to establish the impact of child marriage on development in Paya sub county and its specific objectives are; to verify whether child marriages indeed take place in Paya sub county, to examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage in Paya Sub County, to establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted the economic and social development in Paya sub county and to identify the mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

As one of the target respondents your opinions are very important to this study. So have an open mind and please feel free to express your opinions because the information provided will be strictly used for academic purposes only, and will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Kindly spare some time and answer the questions by writing in the space provided or ticking against the answer of your choice appropriately.

Thank you for your cooperation

Okolla Michael

(Student)
Respondent's demographic characteristics:

1. Sex of the respondent
   - Male ☐
   - Female ☐

2. What is your level of education?
   - Primary level ☐
   - O. level ☐
   - A. level ☐
   - Diploma ☐
   - Degree ☐
   - Post-graduate ☐
   - Others ☐

Objective 1: To verify whether child marriages indeed take place in Paya Sub County.

What do you understand by child marriage?

Have you ever witnessed an incident of child marriage in this community?
   - Yes ☐
   - No ☐

Out of the many new marriages that happened in this community for the last one year, what percentage involved children?
   - 10%-30% ☐
   - 31%-50% ☐
   - 51%-70% ☐
   - 71% and above ☐

In this community between boys and girls, who are the most affected by the practice of child marriage? Boys ☐
   - Girls ☐

Do the parents support child marriages?
What is the commonest age group of child marriage victims in Paya Sub County?

10-12 13-15 16-18

What is the educational level of child marriage couples?

P.4-P.5 P.6-P.7 S.1-S2 S.3-S4

What is the major source of livelihood for the child marriage couples?

Retail trade Farming Boda boda Casual labour
Gambling Others (specify)

Do you think parents support/aid child marriages in Paya Sub County?

Strongly Agree Agree Strongly Disagree Disagree Not sure

Objective 2: To examine the conditions and factors that lead to child marriage in Paya Sub County.

In your own opinion, what makes young people to get married before 18 years of age?

What are the factors that make adults/old people to marry children below 18 years?

Why do you think parents here allow their children to enter into marriage before 18 years?
What are the community practices that lead to child marriage in Paya sub county?

Objective 3: To establish the extent to which child marriage has impacted the economic and social development in Paya Sub County.

Child marriage affects the development in Paya Sub County.

Strongly Agree [ ] Agree [ ] Strongly Disagree [ ] Disagree [ ] Not [ ] sure

How has child marriage affected the development of this community?

Objective 4: To identify the mitigation measures of averting child marriages.

(Mitigation measures of averting child marriages)

In your own opinion, what should be done by the following stakeholders’ in order to reduce child marriages from this community?

a) Parents/guardians

b) Government
Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Individual members of the community

Thank you so much for accepting to provide such important information to the study. May God richly bless you in all your endeavours
440,000 girls aged 15-19 years have begun childbearing.

- 186,000 (42%) of girls aged 15-19 years who have begun childbearing are in East Central, Eastern and South-West regions, each of which has more than 50,000 15-19-year-olds.

GIRLS AGED 15-19 YEARS WHO HAVE STARTED CHILDBEARING

Legend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Girls aged 15-19 years who have started childbearing</th>
<th>Number of Girls aged 15-19 years who have started childbearing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>20,163 - 26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.7% - 22.8%</td>
<td>26,001 - 42,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.7% - 26.4%</td>
<td>42,001 - 54,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.5% - 30.6%</td>
<td>54,001 - 73,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Girls aged 15-19 who have started childbearing prevalence rates: UHOS and ICF International, 2012; Numbers of girls aged 15-19 who have started childbearing prevalence estimates: UNICEF calculations