

**EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION ON POVERTY IN  
BUTALEJA DISTRICT IN EASTERN UGANDA**

**BY**

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**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
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## DECLARATION



I, **Wanagoli Stephen** hereby declare this thesis report, as findings of a study in respect of effects of alcohol consumption in Butaleja District, is my original work.

Sign ..... 

MA PPP/8604/51/DU

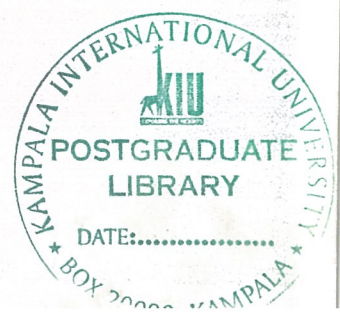


## APPROVAL

This study entitled effects of alcohol consumption in Butaleja district has been under my supervision and is ready for submission me.

Sign .....

Kibikyo David Lameck PhD  
Supervisor





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

In order for this research dissertation to get complete, I do acknowledge efforts of people who helped me accomplish this task successfully. Most notable, my supervisor Dr. Sunday Olwor of Kampala International University, Dr Kibikyo David and all the staff of post graduate School of Kampala International University in general.

Gratitude also goes to Mr. Kiseka Vincent of Makerere University Institute of Social Research - Kampala Uganda (MISR), who enabled me search for the relevant literature. I also appreciate the role played by the staff of Butaleja District especially at time of data.

Special thanks and praise goes to my wife Rose H. Wanagoli, who sacrificed all her meager resources to finance my studies. May God bless her. I cannot forget all those who encouraged me. However, all errors and omissions are entirely mine.

For God and my country Uganda.

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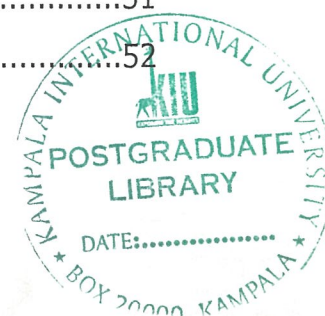
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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

CD	Co-efficiency of Determination
DC	Developed Countries
DRT	Development Research and Training
H <sub>I</sub>	Alternative Hypothesis
H <sub>0</sub>	Null hypothesis
LDC	Least Developed Countries
MFPEd	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
MISR	Makerere Institute of Social Development
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
PEAP	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
PPA	Participatory Poverty Assessment
UBOS	Uganda National Bureau of Standards
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization
WID	Wetland Inspection Division

## Operational definitions

Tonto	=	Plantane wine
Malwa	=	Beer prepared by fermentation of millet grain
Waragi	=	locally distilled crude liquor made out of molasses and other Organic foods



## ABSTRACT

Alcohol consumption and poverty, a case study conducted in Butaleja district, was conducted with an objective of determining the relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty among the people of the area.

This resulted from the increasing curiosity in observation of alcohol consumption practice and poverty trends for a long time in the area. The null hypothesis that alcohol in Butaleja District had no significant effects on poverty was untrue.

A survey conducted in a sample of seven sub counties with a sample size of two hundred and eighty people as representative of the whole population of the district.

Three hundred questionnaires were administered, with 280 being on study respondents while 20 were for pre-testing in order to get a sample size using Slovenes formula. Raw data was collected, summarized and analyzed using chi-square statistics .

By use of t statistics, the computed  $X^2$  as 8.48 exceeded the tabulated  $X^2$  of 3.48 at 95 percent degree of confidence level.

This led to rejection of null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) thus making the alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ) true.

Using coefficient of determination, the  $R^2$  was 2.9 which is approximately 3.0. This brought the findings to be such that alcohol consumption explains poverty by 3% with 97 percent being explained by other factors such as: type of enterprises / jobs that people are engaged in, Gender, place of stay, region, education et -cetera.

Although the PEAP in Uganda and the World Health organization (WHO) recognizes alcohol as being linked to poverty, no fundamental policy action is in place based on this recognition. This brings a policy gap in addressing poverty issues. Much as there are laws regarding alcohol consumption in Uganda, they are redundant, which also contributes to a poverty gap.

This study therefore is a contribution to economic development by providing research information regarding alcohol consumption.





## CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

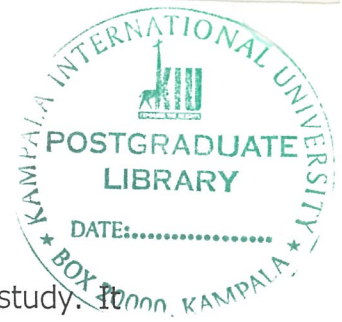
Butaleja District, situated in Eastern Uganda was the selected area of study. It was carved out of Tororo District in July 2002. The district covers a surface area of 640 sq km with about 20% of it covered by wetlands (District environment office – Butaleja, 2005).

It had a population of about 160,000 people (population census report 2002) and comprised of Seven Sub-Counties including 2 town councils.

The republic of Uganda through the poverty eradication action (PEAP) as also recognized by the world health organization (WHO) recognize a relationship which links alcohol consumption to poverty. RoU (2005). This is also recognized by development research and training (DRT) local research organization. DRT (2007).

The world health organization findings on drinking rates in Uganda as a number one country in consumption of alcohol, Among African nations DRT (2007)

This justification is in table below:-



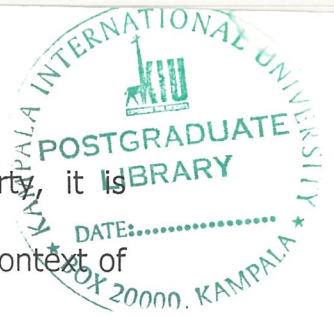
**Table 1: Table for country rating in alcohol consumption**

Country	Av ranking percapita	Position
Uganda	19.47	1
Nigeria	10.04	24
Burundi	9.33	30
South Africa	7.81	47
Rwanda	6.80	58
Tanzania	5.29	82
Zambia	3.02	105
Kenya	1.74	124
Ghana	1.54	132
Mauritania	0.01	179

***Source: WHO Global status report 2004 pp11-12***

The table clearly shows that Uganda is the leading African country in percapita alcohol consumption and ranked number one position, with Mauritania being the least in alcohol consumption rating. This could be out of the fact that Uganda is a predominantly Christian nation while Mauritania is predominantly a Moslem nation. However there are other factors for such a trend which makes Ugandans heavy drinkers. Such factors rendering Ugandans rated as heavy drinkers could be as a result of weakness in enforcement of laws on alcohol.





In understanding the relationship of alcohol consumption and poverty, it is  
ironical to understand what poverty is as well as what alcohol is in the context of  
an ordinary person.

### What is poverty?

Poverty is understood ordinarily by description of its characteristics rather than  
definition.

According to the worlds bank (WB), people who can not earn one United States  
dollar (1\$) per day are regarded poor and therefore living below the poverty line.  
Appleton (2001).

Poverty is also described as the expenditure side as well as consumption side. In  
this regard, poor people are those who can not afford to spend on basic  
requirements in house hold or those whose consumption power is very low Such  
that they don't express effective demand UBSOS (2002) Muhwezi (2006).

Poverty in Uganda is distributed also in regions; with the central being well off  
compared to other regions as described in poverty mapping below.

**Table 2: Mapping patterns of well being 2004**

Region	position
Western	2
Eastern	3
Central	1
Northern	4

*Source: UBOS 2004*

It therefore follows that northern and the Eastern are the poorest regions. It is also possible that the east would be the poorest but only saved because of the insurgence in the northern region.

Poverty is also distributed in rural areas than the urban centers. Appleton (2001). However this could be due to the high consumption power in towns compared to villages, as a result of many rich people living and concentrated in towns. This does not mean there are no poor people in villages.

**(x)** Breakage of law and lack of a clear policy on alcohol consumption in Uganda is precursor for promotion of alcohol consumption. Given the wide distribution of alcohol products and enormous open promotion programs, it causes the population to respond appropriately towards it.

Police officers in Uganda are known for heavy drinking Police report (2006) which sometimes is characterized by the nature of assignment given to some of them. Critical are those working in special investigation branch whose key centers of espionage are drinking bars and joints. Secondly wives of police men are beer sellers, a practice done for economic survival.

These factors make it difficult in enforcement of laws regulating the production, trade and consumption of alcohol.

This is responsible for high tendency of excessive alcohol consumption in the country.





(y) Malwa is an alcoholic product out of a local process which involves fermentation of millet grain flower which is roasted and mixed with germinated yeast flower and water for 3-4 days. This forms the brief process of making malwa.

Tonto is made by fermenting banana juice with small quantities of malwa and sorghum flower for 24 hours. Waragi is a distillation product of fermented molasses or other beers like Tonto, malwa using local distillation technologies. It is produced near water points/ sources which provide coolant water for distillation.

Bottled beer or packaged beers are those industrially made and packaged such as Nile beer, Uganda waragi, Tyson waragi to mention but a few brands.

All these products have alcoholic intoxicants which make people drunk.

### **What is alcohol?**

This is ordinarily referred to beers which are consumed by people and having the ability to intoxicate drinkers. Alcohol can be defined as a liquid extra or spirit obtained by either distillation or fermentation and mixture of grains with water thereby producing beers. It may be defined as a pure wine or intoxicating compound of fermented or distilled liquors. Alcohol referred to in this study includes mature, Kwete, Tonto, Waragi Malwa and bottled beers.



### **Why people drink?**

Ordinarily, alcohol is an intoxicant which causes addiction in drinkers. The primary objective of drinking could be socialization and passing time or social gathering in form of peer grouping.

Onapito (2004)

However, alcohol causes release of an element known as *tetrahydro iso quinoline* which causes addiction in drinkers, thereby causing people drink on daily basis.

### **When do people drink?**

Ideally people were known for drinking in evening up to late hours. This is mainly a concept for quenching away tiredness after long day work. Because of the intoxicating and addiction nature, drinkers start their business as early as 6:00 am in the morning up to late in the night. During festivities, people drink throughout the day and taking long period especially during Christmas and Easter periods.

### **Where do they drink from**

Beers in Uganda and Butaleja district in particular are consumed anywhere within the community unrestricted. During colonial periods, beers used to be consumed in special places known as drinking joints or bars created in villages and outskirts of towns. However with advancement of drinking, people's homes became bars with signs put in roads leading to those homes.





With breakage of enforcement of laws and regulations regarding beer consumption, drinking in Uganda ceased to be a private matter and became a social matter to be solved any where at any time. The era of bars ceased and homes and shops are in one way or other engaged in beer selling.

### **Who are those involved?**

Generally, men seem to be engaged in beer drinking than women. However the children, elderly are all involved in beer drinking, selling or in various ways for supporting the industry on economic gains. The law enforcement officials are none at all left behind for being involved in beer drinking. The rich and the poor are all involved in beer industry either directly or indirectly.

### **1.2 Scope**

Butaleja borders Tororo District in the South, Mbale District in the East and Pallisa, Budaka districts in the North while Namutumba and Bugili in the West. The people of Butaleja are mainly Bunyole by ethnicity, although some few Bagishu, Bagwere and Japadhola tribes have settlements there. The major religious denominations are Anglican Church of Uganda, Moslems, Catholics and Pentecostal Assemblies of God. They are predominantly subsistence crop farmers, with some livestock kept on sedentary system. Their major crops included Finger Millet (*Eleusine spp*), rice (*Oryza spp*), cassava (*Manihot spp*), cotton (*Gossypium histum*), ground nuts (*Arachis spp*) and sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*). (Butaleja district agricultural office 2006).



The population of Butaleja district is estimated from the projection of seven sub countries of the then Bunyole County in Tororo district in 2002. Census results for the sub-counties district is as shown below:-

**Table 3: The population of Bunyole County**

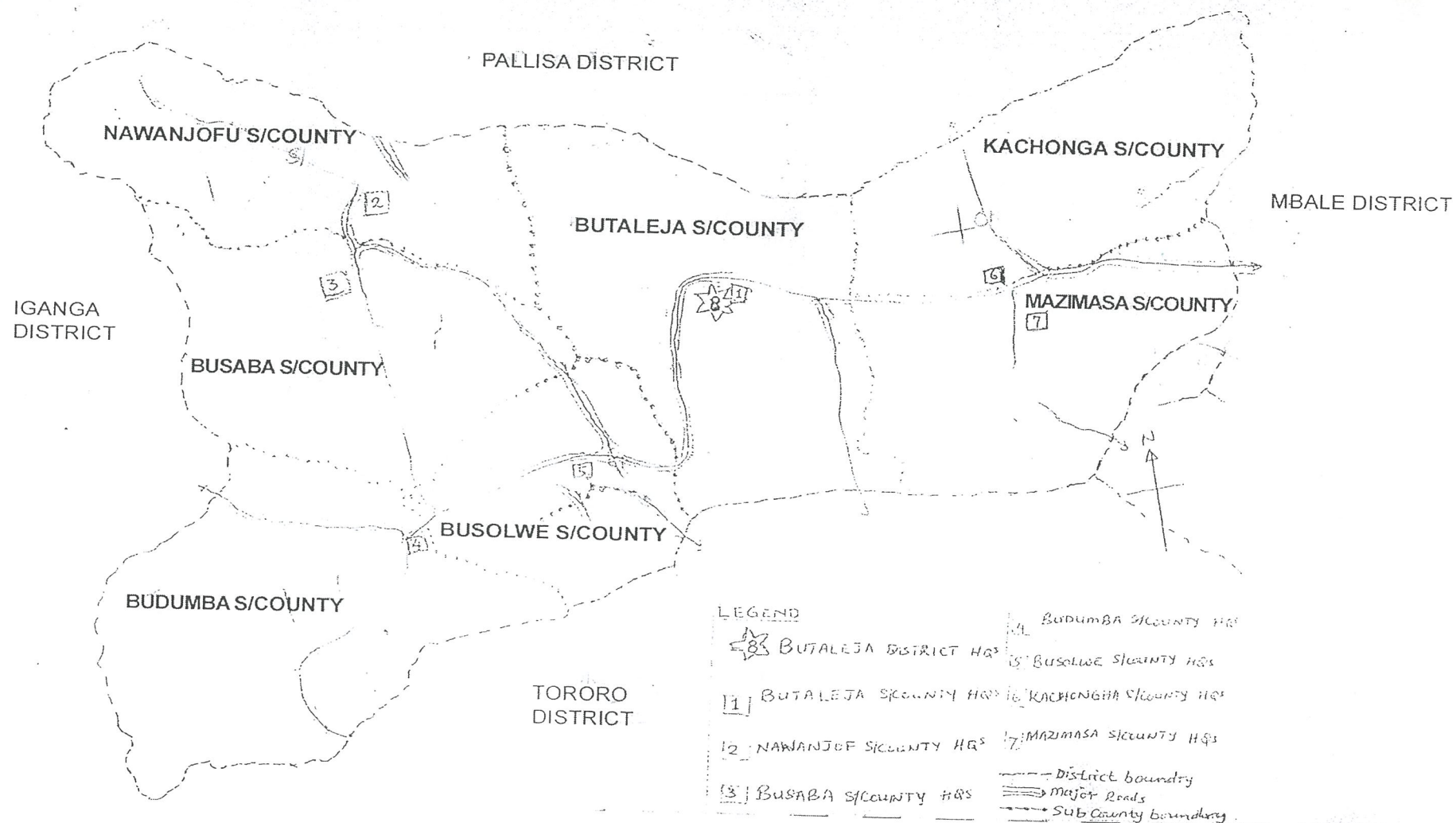
Sub-county	Male	Female	Total
Budumba	14112	14377	28489
Busaba	8747	8652	17399
Busolwe	9822	10513	20335
Butalya	12676	13742	26418
Nawanjofu	6000	5909	11909
Kachonyia	13588	15094	29682
Mazimesa	13127	13568	26695

***Source UBOS population census provisional results (2002)***

It follows that Budumba is the highly populated sub-county and Nawanjofu as the least populated.



# A SKETCH MAP OF BUTALEJA DISTRICT SHOWING ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS AND MAJOR ROADS



Original Sketching

Not drawn to scale

### 1.3 Problem statement

Most studies on poverty in Uganda have no direct linkage on alcohol consumption. Such notable one including Appleton (2001), Lwanga and Kintbely 2003.Opoloti (2002).

Munene(2005), Muhwezi (2006),Kiwewa (2006) and Atwine (2006).

Other studies on alcohol were mainly for investigation of biological effects of alcohol which includes:-

Muhimbura (1977), Ossya (1995), Kabaireho (1981) Human development report (2000) and many others.

Even those studies on poverty link, it is to other variables such as economic status, age, gender. (Appleton 1999,Muhwezi(2006),Atwine (2006) Kiwewa (2006)

There was no specific study linking alcohol consumption to poverty in Uganda.

This study attempts to close this knowledge gap.

Poverty is measured as being below the poverty line of one United States dollar per day while alcohol consumption is measured by **Yes** and **No**.

This study investigates the relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty in the rural setting in Buteleja district which is a rural area. The reason for this is basically that poverty is more pronounced in rural areas than urban centers and



therefore many poor people engaged in beer drinking than the rich as evidenced in the questionnaire responses.

Why beer consumption is linked to poverty alone is for justification of the linkages, although poverty has other variables such as gender, place, region, education, economic status, age, social status in society.

Based on existing reports concerning alcohol consumption as in literature review as well as continuous observation of people drinking, there is a general tendency of excessive drinking of alcohol. This is also manifested by having many drunkards almost all places of the district especially in evenings.

This overdrinking has associated effects such as over spending on buying beers, sacrificing time for production to drinking , mortgaging of household assets for beer drinking , intoxication , lawless ness amongst drinkers, family neglect, loss for appetite and general body weakness of victims.

This is what makes alcohol drinking a problem and consequently forming a problem statement.

### **Alcohol and disease.**

A small consolation goes to drinkers. With new findings in Denmark showing that moderate drinking of beers protect against heart diseases and diabetes. However, this calls for a careful drinking style such that, over drinking which leads to addiction and intoxication is bad.





## 1.4 Objectives of the study

The major objective of the study was to determine the effects of alcohol consumption on household income of the people in the study area

### Specific objectives included

- To determine the profile of alcohol consumers by age and sex in relation to income. The determinants of alcohol consumption include: staggering, intoxication effects, number of alcohol selling points and general opinion of the people regarding effects of beer drinking.
- To determined the relationship between alcohol consumption on; family income, time resource allocation, household investment, crime rate and family stability.

The research instrument containing questions as in the following questionnaire: in Appendix II

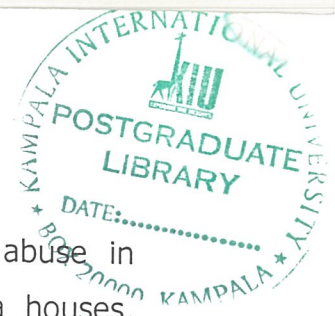
## 1.5 Research Question and hypotheses

- The null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) was that there was no relationship between alcohol drinking and poverty in the district.
- The alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ) was that there was a relationship between alcohol drinking and poverty in the district.

## 1.6 Significance of the study

The study is important because alcohol seems to cause more problems than it solves. Such ills include crime, prostitution, perversion, sickness and immorality as elaborated.





The police have launched a campaign against drugs and alcohol abuse in Kampala to be conducted by the Uganda police and various media houses, targeting the youth and families which have become vulnerable groups to the adverse effects of alcohol and drug abuse<sup>1</sup>.

Uganda's only free alcohol rehabilitation clinic has registered record numbers of patients since it opened its doors in June. Doctors say the number of patients checking into Butabika Hospital was growing every month. This is a clear pointer to the growing problem of alcoholism in the country thus supporting the World Health Organization Report which listed Uganda as the leading consumer of alcohol in the world<sup>2</sup>.

This is applicable to all addictive subsistence where alcohol falls. It said that it is only the police and Ministry of Health that have been left to deal with the problem. They called for a national body to deal with narcotics and penalties given to people caught to<sup>3</sup>.

It is a common practice to see unbecoming vices like homosexuality and lesbianism being practiced openly in bars around Kampala city associated with alcohol drinking that people's behaviors are exposed to the public which is an action of alcohol on drinkers<sup>4</sup>.

It is common knowledge that drinking alcohol can wreak the liver was a leading cause of mobility and mortality throughout the world. In Uganda, about 7% of the population is dependent on alcohol for their social well being (David Basangwa of Mulago Hospital)<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Savio Kyambadde New Vision Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup> 2003

<sup>2</sup> Sunday Monitor October 15<sup>th</sup> 2006

<sup>3</sup> Charles Ariko New Vision Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 2004

<sup>4</sup> Kennedy Oryema New Vision Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2003

<sup>5</sup> Sheila Gashishiri New Vision Monday January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004

Some people were involved in indecent behavior and become immoral upon drinking. The case in place was a girl who walked naked as people were watching while dancing and drinking during the end of year fire works<sup>6</sup>.

Such stories like this one are a manifestation of lawlessness caused by alcohol which increases the crime rate. In this articles are 2 stories of a man declaring that the war on HIV / AIDS is over thus, inciting other people into indiscriminate sex which is bad in society. In a similar story a woman undresses herself before the husband in a bar. All these are signs of crime rate increase in society caused by drinking<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> Chibit WaDauallo New Vision Thursday January 30, 2002

<sup>7</sup> Alex Balimwinguku New Vision January 10<sup>th</sup> 2004





## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW



#### 2.1 Literature review

Quite a lot of research has been done on alcohol, ranging from understanding of what alcohol is, to its consumption and respective effect on human being. In this aspect, we talk of ethyl alcohol of a chemical formulation of:  $C_2H_5OH$

According to the oxford English dictionary, alcohol is defined as a liquid extract or spirit obtained by distillation. It is also defined as a pure wine or the Intoxlcatng compound of fermented or distilled liquors.

On the other hand poverty is defined as a condition of having little or no Wealth, indigence, destitution, wants relative lack of money or material possession.

Although poverty and alcohol are differently defined by different people and poverty being relative, there is evidently a relationship between the two. The relationship being that alcohol is an economic good, while poverty is an effect of poor use of economic goods/resources (*Amartyr Sen 1998*)

As already seen, alcohol is made from fermented organic foods of various plants or out of distillation, which process is done locally in all parts of Butaleja district and world over.

The most related literature to this study was on human behavior upon consumption of alcohol and poverty as a result of consuming it. Although alcohol is a food of carbohydrate nature, its energy can not be used efficiently because of its quick intoxicating characteristic, which weakens numerous body functions

and creates a situation of sickness and weak inexorable physiological effect of impairing function WHO (*sub – Alcohol committee 1952*) Series No 48.

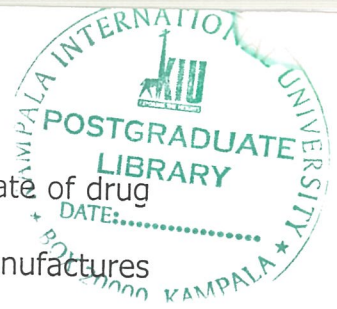
Alcohol is the most widely used drug in America, with more than one half of population engaged in it (Hollister1983) It was also noted that drug abuse had an increasing trend relationship with crime rate. Vayhinger et al (1989)

Right from periods of social history, alcoholism was associated with poverty. Deliberate policies have been put in places that were aimed at reducing the rate of alcohol consumption. Such policies included controlling the availability of alcohol, inclusion of health warning on their adverts such as one done by Smirnoff black ice in Uganda saying '*strictly for persons over 18 years, and excessive consumption of alcohol is harmful to your health*'. This is good and has been an achievement towards formulating essential drug policies and increasing the availability of safety in especially developing countries.

There are some related literature in Uganda. and such notable ones were Muhimbura (1977). Excessive alcohol consumption has effects on family in that heavy drinking leads to broken homes and family neglect. (Kabaireho1981).

Others like Ossya (1995) noted that, drug abuse has a negative bearing on human productivity. Although in his concept he meant other drugs other than alcohol, he asserts the influence of parents who are alcoholic thus, increasing vulnerability to their children into inherent addiction.





He further noted that weakness of laws in Uganda had escalated the rate of drug abuse and this is manifested in failure of enforcement of Enguli and Manufactures Act 2000 and also the smoking law of 2004.

Interestingly, the national drug authority, does not list alcohol a drug, thus increasing its social -economic effects on the people in Uganda.

Since alcohol influences expenditure behavior, poverty therefore has a human face as decided by the very person spending. Although Uganda was rated 66<sup>th</sup> in the group of developing counties (*Human Development Report 2000 pg 229*) poverty is so high at grassroots level and it has a gender relationship, with women being poorer than men PEAP (2005). This situation is aggravated by majority of men depriving women of vital resources in homes while diverting it to alcohol consumption. It is also an attested fact that majority of the men in Uganda spend most of their time in bars and hanging around trading centers: Tumusiime (2004).

The human development report (1998) also noted that, the notable causes of poverty included ill health, abandonment of home responsibility old age and alcohol abuse. These references are in agreement with the situation on ground in Butaleja, where alcohol consumption was a mainly male dominated practice.

The primary function of liquor consumption is reduction of anxiety. It may develop as a result of drinking Barnouw (1973). He proposed that drinking alcohol tends to be accompanied by release of sexual aggressiveness and provocative character, a condition of being drunkard .

Based on the above, Uganda made a law on '*enguli*' which is contained in Chapter 86 of the Laws of Uganda referred to as **Enguli Manufacture and Licensing Act 1965, as updated in 2000, (chapter 83** as well as the **Liquor act chapter 93 of the laws of Uganda.**

Alcohol was noted to be part of spending, by people of all walks of life which leads to increased household spending *Munene et-al (2005)* Some research showed that, alcoholism tends to run in families (Cotton 1979). Although many people consume alcohol, the critical issue is the stage of alcoholism where individuals redirect their economic resources to drinking.

There is a relationship between financial conditions of an individual, and the drug that one takes *Robert T. et - al (1970)*

Most studies on alcohol done were on biological effects on the body. Alcohol has a lot of biological influence on human activism *Newlin et-al (1990)*. The motives of alcohol has a lot of biological influence consumption are mainly those that include

- Reduction of anxiety
- Increased aggressiveness.

This means that people drink to feel stronger. *McClelland et-al (1972)*. Some researchers have suggested that alcoholism is associated with pre-mature aging of cognitive capacities. *Ryan (1982)*. This theory although not the principle parameter of this study, was commented on by about 30% of the respondents of the questionnaire in Butaleja. Seven million children get involved in drinking alcohol in America alone. This is not a normal but just because of living with







alcoholic parents. Woodside (1983). This is from the obvious reason that children adopt from their parents. There is also a relationship between alcohol consumption and erectile dysfunction which has been noted in male alcoholics, regardless of hepatic deterioration, *Snyder and Karacan* (1981). About 50% of alcoholics of both genders reported that drinking relieved their sexual problems even though 25% of women and 60% of men were considered sexually dysfunctional *Jensen* (1984).

Studies and realities show that it provides permission to engaging in activities that would not ordinarily be thought of as acceptable, *Lnag et- al* (1980). It is this activities that cause drunkards active and responsive to whatever that comes in their sight

According to the World Health Organization Report 2003, chronic diseases and injuries are the leading problems in all but linked to changing lifestyle which includes diet rich in sugar, widespread use of tobacco and increasing consumption of alcohol.

Another report also rates Uganda as having a percapita alcohol consumption of 19.48 in 2001. (*WHO statistical information system*). This means that alcohol consumption, measures of health and nutrition, correlated closely with the level of percapita income According to international labor office alcohol consumption had an effect on time resource allocation: *Zhang* (1999). This therefore calls for a clear decision statement on important matters such as household spending:

Alcohol as already quoted; contribute to ill health as emphasized in American journal of public health (1973 Vol. 62 pg 64).

The cause of mortality in adults are heart related diseases, stroke, cancer which is associated with certain identifiable risk factors, some of which affects the feeding habits of addicted people.

This is why alcoholic people loose appetite for food and live a poor health: *Bracking* (2003). She noted that economic disempowerment and market failure leads to destruction of social capital and violence are which is common characteristics of alcohol intoxicated persons.

People engaged in alcohol consumption are characterized by hiring out labor so cheaply in order to sustain their daily drinking.

The leading cause of poverty is lack of social capital, Munene et el (2005) of which drinking contributes through social frustration especially when the social economic well being of a victim declines. It leads to alcohol abuse especially when one fails to cope up with the prevalent situation. Alcoholism generally leads to poverty either directly or indirectly by affecting time and other resource allocation or causing ill health conditions which are detrimental to economic activities of affected people.

Although studies on alcohol have been conducted, many of them were concern with alcohol effects on body functions rather than its social economic effects on society or perhaps specifically on its relationship with poverty.



However, much as the theories on alcohol consumption have direct indication and indirect effects on social life style of drinkers, this study is concerned with alcohol effects which leads poverty.

Alcohol has undesirable effects that change drinkers into sick conditions (Nail and Walton), in this case this literature describes the physical and physiological effects of alcohol to the body which impairs the malfunction of the body organs, leading to alcohol diseases. The first thing to be depressed is the power of restrain. Alcoholism is known for leading the victims into a vicious cycle of alcohol drunkard ness. This situation is brought about by the automatic release of *tetrahydroisoquinolin* which is a highly addictive substance triggered by consumption of alcohol *Cohen .J. et-al* (1958). The more people drink, the more their faculties and judgment are lost and consequently the less they appreciate this falling off of skills. This is why alcohol leads many people to falling into traffic accidents. The most serious problem of alcoholism is malnutrition which arises in two ways as outlined below.

- a) Alcohol causes anorexia thus causing a loss of appetite to the victim.
- b) The victim does not eat enough partly because his/her earnings maybe small for buying a variety of foods and beer. In this case, an alcoholic person prefers spending on beers than food.

In both cases above, alcoholism leads to poverty because the victim will be weak to work hard and the budget constraint in allocation of funds for beer drinking will



prevent him/ her to develop economically. Alcohol brings various features on the body, some of which includes gross shaking of the hands which makes difficult to do any thing with them. There is general anxiety, physical restlessness and a general filling of weakness. Advanced stages may lead the victim to sit still, or cannot pour any thing without spilling Neil and Walton (1965). These conditions have a direct effect on economic and social performance.

Culture has a role to play in alcohol consumption, in which case popular festivities take place during which group drinking occur such traditional funeral rites In this case, sexual immorality is condoned and this is detrimental to social economic progress; *Horton* (1943).

Effects of alcohol vary with social economic stratum along the continuum. It was noted that effects on the rich are different from the effects on the poor. The rich may be affected by loss of integrity and status while the poor may be affected by decline in economic progress.

Alcoholic are grouped by *Jellinek E.M* (1960) into the following categories:-

- a) The unsuspecting Alcoholic. These are people who drink but do not perceive that they are addicted. They may not be easily identifiable.
- b) The regular and restrained alcoholic. These are alcoholics who must drink every day and such person's resources for drinks are usually relatively unlimited.





- c) The compulsive alcoholics whom when start drinking, they make sure they drink all their money until is exhausted.
- d) Neurotic Alcoholic. This is a group which is affected physiologically upon drinking of beers and they are subjective to distress.
- e) Symptomatic alcoholism. This is a situation where alcoholism brings out the unnoticeable symptoms of diseases or disorder in the victim.
- f) Bout drinkers. These are people who don't usually drink but occasionally start drinking excessively and then stop drinking.

All these categories are social practices evidenced every where in drinking communities of Butaleja District and elsewhere in the world.

Drinking brings miseries in homes, by one partner being alcoholic while another one not or both being alcoholic. Usually the wife suffers most as mostly the husbands who become alcoholic. These miseries lead to poor progress in economic affairs of the family and eventually leading to family collapse.

Although alcohol is a food, a provider of calories, it must be one of the most expensive and certainly the most extensively taxed. It is a carbohydrate and because of its rapid absorption from the stomach, it is a quick source of energy. However, this energy cannot be used efficiently because of the uncoordinating and intoxicating effects; *Neil and Walton* (1965).

In this respect, alcohol tortures its victims thus, becoming powerful because of excessive energy, which characteristic is seen in alcoholic people expressing

excess power in terms of physical and mental ability yet in reality, they are not powerful as assumed by self.

Quite a lot has also been reported in news papers as practices associated with alcohol consumption. The researcher extracted some practices reported in newspaper articles from the New Vision paper in Uganda and Monitor, which are the major papers with the new vision being the government official daily news paper Some of the articles of interest include the ones below:

**Moslems drink to fallen hero Saddam.** A well known Muslim left many people stupefied when he boozed himself silly; an act he later attributed to Iraq President Saddam Hussein's betrayal by his loyal supporters who disclosed his hideout . The incident was at Kiwatule Resort Beach on Palm Sunday. Zubairi even offered to buy beer for every one who would mention the name of Saddam Hussein<sup>1</sup> .

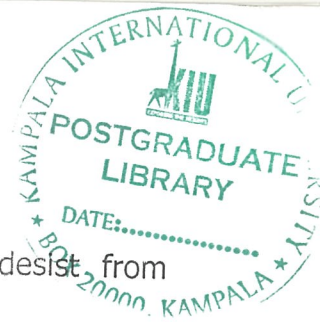
**I was attacked by police homos.** It is a common practice to see unbecoming vices like homosexuality and lesbianism being practiced openly in bars around Kampala city. This is associated with alcohol drinking that peoples behaviors are exposed to the public which is an action of alcohol on drinkers<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> New Vision reporter NV. Sat. April 19 2003

<sup>2</sup> Kennedy Oryema New Vision Friday. Jan 10, 2003





### **Janet warns youths**

The first Lady Mrs. Janet Museveni has advised the youth to desist from premarital sex and alcohol abuse that are detrimental to their lives<sup>3</sup>.

### **Cops starts fight on drugs**

The police have launched a campaign against drugs and alcohol abuse in Kampala. The campaign is to be conducted by the Uganda police and various media houses, targeting the youth and families which have become vulnerable groups to the adverse effects of alcohol and drug abuse<sup>4</sup>.

### **Problems of enforcing morality**

Some people are involved in indecent behavior and become immoral upon drinking beers. The case in place was a girl who walked naked as people were watching while dancing and drinking of beers during the end of year fire works<sup>5</sup>.

### **Medical doctors warn Ugandans, officials of high heroin addiction.**

This is applicable to all addictive subsistence where alcohol falls. The statement said that it is only the police and Ministry of Health that have been left to deal with the problem. They called for a national body to deal with narcotics and penalties given to people caught<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> New Vision reporter New Vision Sat, Jan 11, 2003

<sup>4</sup> Savio kyambadde New Vision Tue Jan 21, 2003

<sup>5</sup> Chibit WaDuallo New Vision Thu Jan 30, 2002

<sup>6</sup> Charles Ariko New Vision Mon. Jan 19 2004



## **Alcohol and work.**

The inspector general of police warned police officers and men that they would not tolerate drunkard ness in the force while pointing at one of the police officer who was looking drunkard. This is when he was touring police force in Kumi district. This practice is detrimental to one's career as it may lead to unemployment<sup>8</sup>.

## **Alcohol ruins the liver**

It is common knowledge that drinking alcohol breeds poverty, destroys marriages, causes conflicts and leads to accidents. Worse still, alcohol can wreak the liver. Alcohol abuse is a leading cause of mobility and mortality throughout the world. In Uganda about 7% of the population is dependent on alcohol for their social wellbeing (Dr. David Basangwa of Mulago Hospital)<sup>9</sup>

## **Drunks to get sober -- up drug**

Research is progressing on alcohol to such an extent that, in America, there is a discovery of a drug that limits the effects of alcohol and quickly sobers up a drunken person. This would go a grate deal in saving many people from effects of alcohol intoxication. In this way, such effects as getting accidents on the way are hoped to be reduced<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> John Omoding New Vision Feb 2, 2005

<sup>9</sup> Sheila Gashishiri New vision Monday Jan 5, 2004

<sup>10</sup> Dpa news New Vision Tuesday Jan 6, 2004





## Men start brawl over HIV/AIDS in Kasubi bar

Such stories like this one are a manifestation of lawlessness caused by alcohol which increases the crime rate. In this articles are 2 stories of a man declaring that the war on HIV / AIDS is over thus, insighting others people into indiscriminate sex which is bad in society. In a similar story a woman undresses herself before the husband in a bar. All these are signs of crime rate increase in society caused by beer drinking<sup>11</sup>.

## Alcohol and disease

Uganda's only free alcohol rehabilitation clinic has registered record numbers of patients since it opened its doors in June. Doctors say the number of patient checking into Butabika Hospital is growing every month. This is a clear pointer to the growing problem of alcoholism in the country thus supporting the world Health Organization Report which listed Uganda as the leading Consumer of alcohol in the world<sup>8</sup>

By use of the National Survey report on household expenditure, The National Bureau of Statistics calculates the real income expenditure per adult equivalent. Household which their real expenditure per adult equivalent falls below a given level are considered poor. in this respect, the trends of poverty as recognized by the PEAP 2004 – 2005 rates Eastern region where Butaleja district falls at 46% below the poverty line (*UBOS 2002/2003*) while the Northern at 63.6%, Western was at 31.4% while central was 22.3%. The report also recognizes crop farmers

<sup>11</sup> Alex Balimwinguku New Vision Saturday Jan 10, 2004

<sup>8</sup> Sunday Monitor Oct /15/2006



of about 50% to be living below the poverty line while non crop farmers at 34% hence being at an advantage. This is possibly because the Agricultural soils have so much declined in fertility and there is also less adoption of improved technologies.

Based on the objectives of this study and the results got, the following parameters as indicated in the following tables were summarized in a single hypothetical table as in chapter 3 pg 55 of this report.

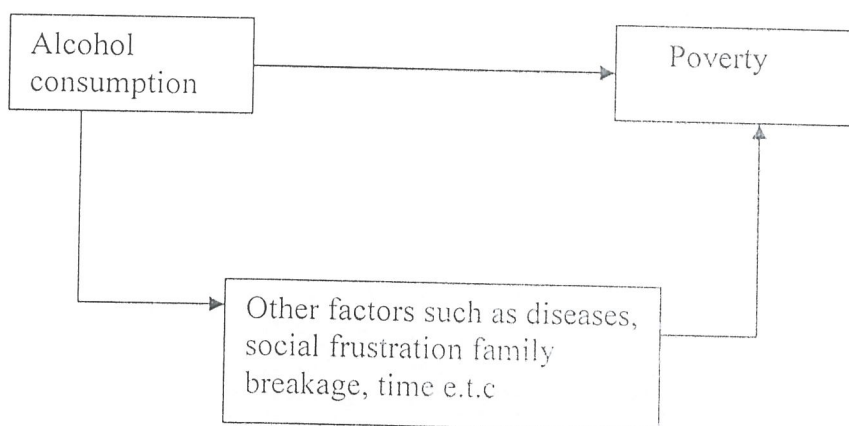
Upon this, results were summarized in 2 tables showing alcohol consumption practice parameters which were denoted by x values and summary affects which were denoted by y values .The summary table are as follows;



## 2.2 Conceptual framework

From the literature review, a conceptual frame work was developed. Correlation of alcohol consumption and poverty was developed into two diagrammatic frame work models as per the following model.

**Figure 2: Conceptual Framework Model On Alcohol Consumption**



*Source = DRT*

### 2.2.1 Drinking

The examination of this relationship is all about determining how each of the parameters has effects on the economic welfare of the people. Detailed description of the parameters is explained in the proceeding paragraphs.

In respect of this study, the alcohol regarded is the locally processed or manufactured organic foods of various plant origins which have intoxicating effect to the consumers.

The kinds of alcohol considered in this aspect are:-

- "Malwa" Which is out of fermented cereal grain mixed with manufactured yeast.
- "Tonto" which is from fermented banana juice, upon mixing with malwa as a precursor.
- "Kwete" which is from fermented maize flower, mixed with locally manufactured yeast.
- Crude waragi which is distilled from processed beers such as Malwa, Tonto and fermented molasses

This study explores the relationship between drinking of alcohol and poverty. Among alcohols consumed, waragi is the most common

This is because crude *waragi* is relatively cheap, locally made and is abundantly available in all villages and also throughout the year. Other factors are that, there are so many drinking joints in every village such that It is sold in any unit that consumers would afford thus making it very cheap for every body wishing to buy it. Based on this and limited household incomes in a situation of addictions resulting from beers, it causes a conditional budgeting for beers which are at easy disposal to every body who wants.

This budgetary constraint leads people to economic instability and finally poverty which may be either immediate or in a longrun depending on the prevalent economic conditions of a victim.





This brought the researcher to setting up seven parameters of study of alcohol consumption practices verses effects which were determined by seven sets of questions which were contained in two sets of field questionnaire with each set containing seven questions. These parameters were the independent and dependent variables.

In this case the people of Butaleja mainly fall in the category of people living in abject poverty which is much affected by beer drinking effects as depicted in the conceptual frame work model.

### **2.2.2 Poverty**

In this case therefore, the effects of poverty originating from beer consumption may be immediate or eventual after some time depending on the present economic status of the victim, with the well to do becoming poorer later in life.

Alcohol consumption is such an old practice in humanity, whose origin is not clearly stated but known to have been a practice long before civilization. (Ibid)

According to the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), it recognizes drinking of alcohol as one of the causes of poverty in households, which is brought about by transfer of resources to drinking beers. PEAP (2005).

At the same note, even the working groups who engage in beer drinking also land in the same poverty trap but at quite a longer period than the unemployed poor.



This is because the well to do have abundant economic resources they allocate to drinking without getting dwindled in a short run.

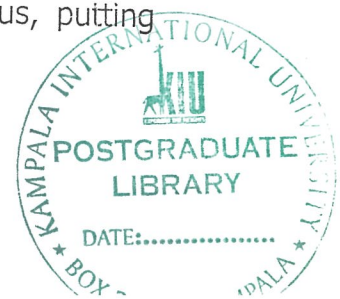
### 2.2.3 Poverty and drinking Relationship

However, the theory is that when working people loose jobs, they become frustrated and resort to alcohol consumption and fail to cope up with the social situation prevalent. In the end, the misery of poverty arises and that is why it is said that drinking leads to states of poverty. It is also noted that, almost every village in Butaleja has a bar that sales beers thus making beers abundant every where and cheap to poor people, which becomes expensive upon addiction to priotisation to directing economic resources to beer drinking by an adictee.

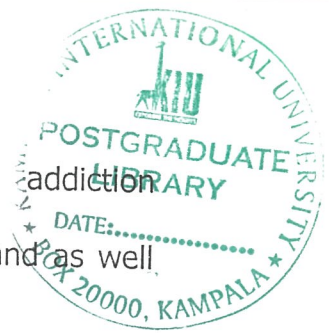
There is a general theory that beer manufacturers are the beneficiaries of the expenses by drinkers on beers. This theory puts manufacturers at an advantage in terms of economic gain while the consumers remain at an absolute loss.

Majority of the beer processing factories in Uganda except local distilleries in villages, are owned by foreign investors and these include such as Nile breweries and Uganda breweries. These factories do make a lot of sales in Uganda because of the practice of excessive beer consumption by Ugandans.

This therefore implies that the dividends of these factories are taken to home countries of these investors, with little paid to factory workers wages. This situation becomes an "*economic loss to citizens*" of the country thus, putting



them into a state of poverty in their country in such aspects of as addiction influenced spending, excessive economic allocation to beer drinking and as well as underemployment by beer factory workers .



Scientists have recognized many different alcohols but the one referred to in this aspect is the ethyl alcohol with carbon, hydrogen and oxygen as the only chemical elements. The theory of alcohol consumption recognizes it as a social practice which leads to numerous effects that range from alcoholism to several other effects that affects society in various ways.

By nature of alcohol, it causes intoxicating effects on one who consumes it and eventually causes addiction in the person drinking it. This practice of addiction is what brings the condition of alcoholism.

Alcoholic is a condition which is difficult to explain and as such, defined differently by different scholars. According to Neil and Walton, An alcoholic person is one who recognizes that he has to stop drinking alcohol but he cannot do so thus, having an indiscriminate alcohol drinking and thus becoming sick.

This means that, an alcoholic person is one who is dependent upon alcohol, for his/her body functions as a social being. It is this condition which makes alcoholism a disease which unfortunately is recognized by a few as a disease.

Alcohol contains a substance called *tetrahydroisoquinolin* which is highly addictive and it is triggered automatically upon consuming it. This substance upon getting

released causes conditions of continuous desire for alcohol under all costs thus, leading to addiction ness.

Alcoholism can also be passed from one generation to another at the same time getting acquired at any stage. The condition of passing a practice to another generation is called inherent addiction. Inherent addiction is a common phenomenon in alcohol consuming communities including Butaleja District. This is because many families take it as a pride for their children to drink and this is accelerated by the much levels of ignorance as regards alcohol and its effects

Alcohol affects all classes of people both lower as well as higher classes as already seen, with all circles getting affected although at varying degrees.

The addiction ness is manifested by cause of comparative denial, whereby the addicted person starts taking simple reasons for justification of drinking of alcohol and such reasons may include such as:-

- *I take less than the other one*
- *Alcohol relieves me from very many social problems.*

All these and other reasons for simple justification.

By getting addicted, the addictee starts blaming others for his conditions and for the case of drinkers in Butaleja District, they start associating over drinking to being cursed by others. This situation leads to a vicious cycle of alcohol drinking and poverty.





Alcoholism causes a lot of social frustrations and discrimination to the people drinking it, which include among others the following:-

- Family breakages which arise when one partner over drinks and fails to meet social obligations of satisfying the other in marriage. This situation leads to social mistrust and eventual collapse of marriages.
- Loss of jobs resulting from one getting intoxicated with alcohol consumption. This leads him or her to getting inefficient in service delivery, which condition leads to automatic dismissal from job thus, causing unemployment.
- Being alcoholic leads to loss of opportunities and a lot of miseries as the whole society starts discriminating against the victim in various situations. One can not be voted into a public office for instance when he or she is alcoholic; even if he/she buys beers for voters, although in some localities it happens occasionally.
- Loss of credibility also arises as a result of secondary effects of alcohol, where the victim expresses deviant behaviour to society, which leads to getting discredited.
- Diversion and mortgaging of resources to alcohol which includes money, time, household goods all of which are diverted for beer drinking.

All these and other unmentioned vices cause a lot of social and economic misery to the victim as well as to society. This is so because many useful people have their talents been lost because of alcohol drinking. The social science of understanding alcohol drinking is interesting. It analyses that alcohol tortures its



victim in stages. It starts with the initial stage, then to intermediate stage and finally advanced stage as analyzed by Neil and Walton.

The initial stage is when one starts taking small units, taking less alcoholic brands of beers as well as drinking stealthily. As conditions get deeper, the victim accelerates to another stage which is intermediate. At this stage, the victim allocates some time to drinking beers but to a limited scale. He /she starts taking stronger brands and seeking for alternatives. If is a victim who had been drinking stealthy, he / she starts drinking openly with off course giving reasons for justification as already mentioned.

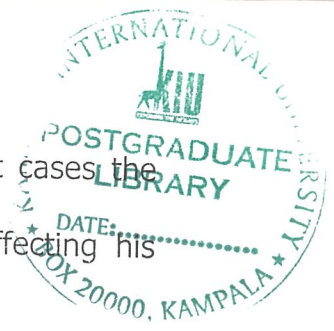
With the release of *tetrahydroisoquinolin* however, the victim reaches an advanced stage, where the alcohol intoxicates him / her such that at all times, he/she wishes to be drinking beer.

Under such a stage, the victim becomes anorexic such that he /she loose appetite for food but feeling satisfied at all times. This is a stage at which the victim is physiologically sick and most cases at this level, it leads to sudden death.

However although alcoholism is a disease, no person has ever gone to hospital for treatment at least in Uganda but eventual deaths resulting from such an intoxication, being attributed to intended poisoning by the beer sellers. (ibid) this is because of physiological failure of body coordination of organs and systems.



When the victim dies it is associated to being poisoned and in most cases the alcohol seller pays a big price although may be innocent. Thus, affecting his business income and finally to poverty



Alcoholism leads to absenteeism and unemployment, debts, crimes, social status declines and sometimes child neglect as well as accidents Neil and Walton (1980). Since beer consumption is a social spending practice which impacts on economic resource allocation, it therefore increases household expenditure which is associated with heightened vulnerability (Wood 2001). This means that there is always a budget constraint which alcohol consumers have to undergo and take decisions of either consuming alcohol or spending on other economic projects. Because of addictions they prefer beers to other social goods. This misallocation is what makes alcohol impacting negatively on economic wellbeing of drinkers. The other part is that, if one is addicted, is forced by all means to attain his / her obligations to drinking alcohol. This becomes tempting to criminality of the victims in either petty stealing of goods for meeting the daily obligation or suppressing the family members.

The theory about alcohol consumption is wide and complex but for purpose of this study, we get limited to alcohol consumption and poverty.

As already noted, all people involved in alcohol consumption are prone to having economic constraints in their lives. Such may include lack of capability to coping up in a normal situation which leads to socials frustration (*Psychological Bulletin* 1987, 1989). However, Uganda is rated amongst the countries with the highest

per capital consumption of the beer in the world (World Health Organization report 2005), yet it is among the poorest countries in the world. This and several other relationships on beer consumption and poverty led me to conducting up this research in order to contribute knowledge for social research and the much required policy on alcohol.

In Butaleja District, Alcohol is consumed in all sections of life that include traditional and modern social organization. In traditional functions such as marriage, funeral rites as well as modern functions, all are punctuated by beer consumption. This kind of honor of beer is not only in Butaleja or Kinyole Culture but almost all cultures in Uganda.

There is a theory behind the non compliance to beer abstinence among the Moslem believers. Some Moslems drink openly while others hide and drink secretly. In all cases, it's manifested in the growing markets for beers almost every where in Butaleja District, including Moslems dominated communities (ibid). This scenario is country wide where reports of low sale of Tyson waragi goes down during the month of ramathan, where Moslems are obliged to reform and then the sales rise after *Idi El-fitiri* (local observation in Busolwe Town council which has 80% Moslems).

Alcohol consumption as testified by all people who drink it and those who don't alike agree that where it is practiced, associated expenditures such as pork consumption, roasted chicken, meat and eggs which increase on social



expenditure in drinking joints are thus, redirecting social capital for family development to sustaining beer consumption.

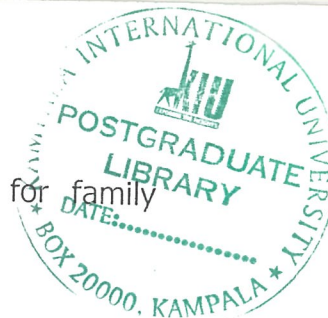
Some communities in Butaleja have got drinking groups, where they contribute daily for beer drinking groups. This daily subscription/ obligation is intended to prepare for Christmas festivities which involve drinking beers, eating meat for a period of about 20 days in rotation to each member's home.

This practice does not warrant proper family economic planning but only consumption of meat and drinking beers.

As already seen, capital transfer and misallocation of economic resources affects long term investment such as education, public Health, agricultural investment.

It is noted that, alcohol consumption leads to poor health by increasing the cost of health services in homes as well as medical care. These trends have direct impacts on economic well being of families thus, leading to states of poverty.

There are several other theories associated with alcohol consumption which contribute to household as well as national poverty status. Such includes the social practices associated with stimulating immorality in all sexes which is well known for causing the spread of HIV/AIDS and other STDS. Further still, the immoral society is associated with very many social problems that include; family neglect and breakages, family mistrust, high rates of reproduction which leads to rapid population growth thus, putting pressure on land and finally leading to poverty. Based on these theories and the relationship between alcohol





consumption and poverty to the people of Butaleja, which situation may be the case for the whole Uganda and beyond, this study is timely towards contributing to alcohol consumption policy. This theory makes a fundamental cause for justification of the significance of this study and hence rationale for determination of alcohol drinking and poverty relationship as per the following paragraphs:-

### **2.3 The Law / policy on beer consumption**

In Uganda, there is no policy on alcohol consumption but only written laws designed in 1960s. The law In this respect, absence of a clear policy makes respective laws redundant. This makes the population to act at their will, as regards alcohol drinking. Such a policy if to be designed, would be done by the line ministries of health, gender and community development but the ministry of health was just in initial stages of formulating one and the first of the kind in the country.

However, there are Laws on alcohol, contained in the laws of Uganda, cap 84 and cap 93, otherwise known as Enguli Manufacture and Licensing Act 2000 and the liquor act 2000 which are in place. Earlier, these laws used to be enforced by the ministry of culture and community development together with police at that time in 1960s but no longer enforced to day thus, making it redundant. Interestingly, many people in villages know this Law but are not afraid of breaking it. The law is in place but hampered by a weak enforcement mechanism especially on the side of law enforcers.





Reports from police department in Butaleja district show that alcohol is a problem in society, which leads victims to various petty crimes such as family neglect, affray, petty theft, idle and disorderly.

However, due to the complexity in prosecution, it is very difficult to identify alcohol related crimes, since common charges preferred against victims are based on the action but not cause

Hence, referred to as "*actus reus*" rather than "*mens rea*". This forms a complex process in determining which one is an alcohol related crime in the district. To this effect, only one crime was identified as alcohol related in 2007 and the charge preferred against victims was that of idle and disorderly.

## **2.4 Poverty in Uganda.**

Uganda, like any other least developed nation is faced with a poverty situation. Poverty is defined as a situation where people can not afford getting basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing. UBOS (2002). It is also defined by the state of income, where people can not afford getting more than one United States dollar per day. Appleton (1999)

There are various types of poverty as identified by various scholars and researchers. Most notable types in Uganda includes among others the following; Mental poverty, income poverty, consumption related poverty, gender related poverty expenditure poverty. Mugambe (2005), Kiwewa (2006) Appleton (1999).

All these forms of poverty have a bearing on socio-economic lifestyle of Ugandans. Mental poverty for instance affects the human capacity for investment on the side of households. This in turn affects economic returns for households and consequently leading to poverty.

Income poverty is the most commonly thought of as poverty in Uganda, with various households having tangible real estates but claiming to be poor. This form of poverty is the most pronounced in Uganda based on the little income. World Bank report (2006)

Expenditure related poverty is directly related to income poverty on the basis of socio-economic principles of income and expenditure. People in Uganda have a low consumption power of goods and this is the generalization for poverty.

There are two common ways to define poverty namely:

- Lack of resources to rise above poverty line, otherwise referred to as absolute poverty.
- Lack of resources to enjoy life by an average person in society which is referred to as relative poverty. Munene et-al (2005), all of which refer to expenditure related poverty. Lwanga et al (2003). Both expenditure and consumption related poverty have inter linked characteristic. The interlinkage is such that as people have their income lessened their consumption power declines. Amartyrsen (1998) and the potential for economic growth declines.





Development research and training in Uganda recognizes determinants of poverty as based on season, time, region, physical disability status. Kimberly et al (2003) while other determinants include gender, age and the capacity of social capital Mugambe (2005)

### **Why Poverty?**

There are various attributed to this effect, which makes people poor. Some common causes of poverty included Laziness, sickness, alcoholism, lack of social capital. Measures such as land, physical disability, lack of formal education coupled with ignorance all makes people live in poverty. MacLean Et al (2003).however, education does not cause wealth. Muhwezi (2006) People are also poor because of poor markets for agricultural products, low productivity potential and un planned spending especially on alcohol which makes people trapped in poverty cohen (2006)

Many physical, social and economic factors have made people live poor in Uganda thus creating a vicious cycle of poverty. Culture and customs are among the social factors which have made people trapped in poverty. Some times government interventions/ programs are misdirected thus creating the gap between the rich and the poor widen. Appleton ( 1999) which eventually makes the poor to get poorer.

### **When are people poor?**

Having already mentioned that poverty is prominent in the population, it strikes households during seasons. This is because most Ugandans are farmers whose

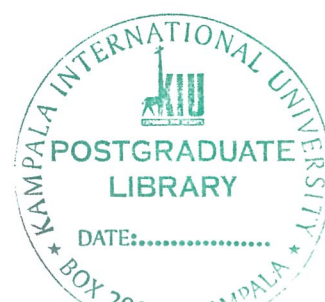


products are seasonal. It also follows that most money injections through salaries and wages is at the end of the month thus, making people poor for the second and third week of the month, with the other weeks being periods of less poverty.

Substantial financial injections is put in the population during Christmas and Easter seasons which makes people offset their states of poverty during such periods. This clearly makes poverty characterized by seasonality. However, during catastrophes such as internal displacement, floods, people tend to be poor continuously. This is because such situations affect productivity and get engaged in non productive ventures such as alcohol drinking which eventually causes poverty and other hazardous condition to drinkers Cohen (2006)

During colonial period, Uganda used to be a clear pearl of Africa with a good economic base. The economy improved further during 1960's up to 1971 when Amin took over power. That period of steady economic growth was characterized by establishment of development policies that saw the enactment of alcohol regulatory laws in the country.

The economy dwindled during 1970s and 1980s with poverty hitting to the maximum. Late 1980s saw the development of economic recovery programs which led to the establishment of the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). Go.U (1995), whose objectives were geared towards eradication of poverty in the population.





During periods of economic decline, many people got engaged in alcohol processing for economic survival which led to massive involvement in alcohol consumption in the country.

### **Where the situation is actual.**

Based on the above enumerated poverty and alcohol production trends, it follows that poverty is much more pronounced in rural areas than urban settings. In urban areas, it is more pronounced in suburbs and peri –urban communities. Opolot (2005)

It also follows that it is in rural areas and peri- urban settings where alcohol is much produced and consumed. Cohen (2006).

It is during periods of economic struggles for alleviation of poverty in house holds that led to the brewing and growth of distillation centers for Waragi in the country. Such examples including among others Wandago in Mayuge district, Kasese, Lira, Kasoli in Tororo, Maluku in Mbale all of which are characterized by production and drinking of waragi.

### **Who are the parties?**

Literally, poverty strikes to all people but the degree of effect varies from different people's economic background. Appleton (1999)

For the case of alcohol production the people involved are the poor while bottled beer is produced by giant companies. However, they all target the same customers in the market. This is manifested from typical beer joint having such products as ranging from Waragi to bottled beer and Malwa.

Much as it clearly mentioned in the PEAP reports there is a contradiction whether poverty has a relationship with alcohol consumption.

There is however a relationship between the two and the nature of the relationship is in various ways which includes the following: budgetary constraint to alcohol consumers, intoxication leading to alcohol disease, time wasting leading to low production of other economic goods and services.

Justification of the relationship is supported by period results as indicated in the table below:

① → P

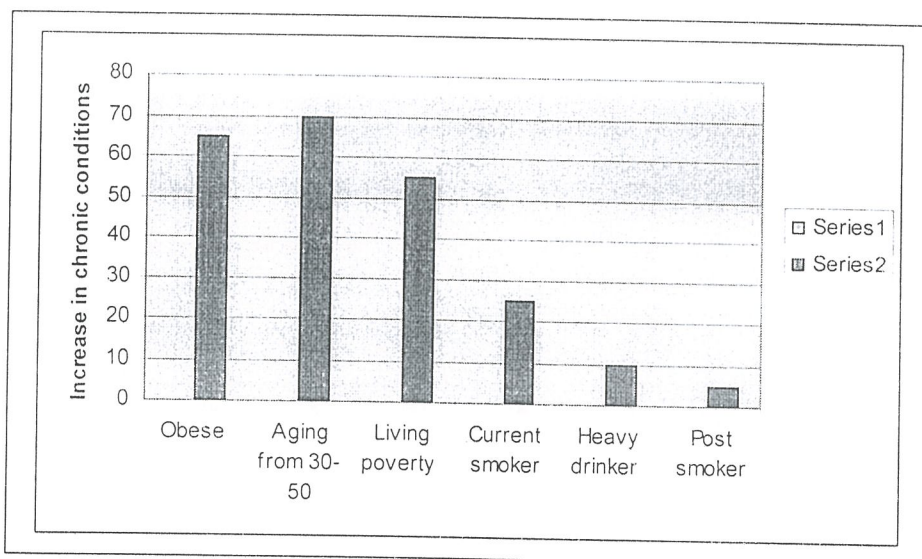


Various studies word over have been done or attempted to be done on comparison of alcohol, poverty and other social parameters

Heavy drinking and poverty have been documented but no proper comparison done for alcohol and other factors such as poverty; Santa (2002) Effects of obesity on smoking, heavy drinking and poverty on chronic conditions of health expenditure were examined by Roland Sturn and KennethWells;Santa (2002)

Their study showed that obesity is linked to high rate of chronic illnesses higher than living in poverty and much higher than smoking and heavy drinking. Findings of this study were illustrated in the histogram below:-

**TABLE 4: Obesity linked to significant increase in chronic conditions**



Baseline – Comparable normal weight individuals with no history of smoking or heavy drinking.

Source = RAND 2002.



## Interpretation

The graph shows that alcohol effects are linked to obesity, smoking and poverty. However, alcohol consumption relationship with obesity is smaller than that of poverty and aging. It is also lower than smoking. This could be because obesity is highly linked to higher levels of illness than living in poverty. It is also higher because disease is more pronounced as a problem than heavy drinking. This makes drinking less significant

There is also a big relationship of aging, obesity and living in poor conditions. This could be from the fact that more elderly people get sick due to the forces of poverty which accelerates disease conditions. Such social force includes heavy drinking and smoking. It could be that younger people are less involved in smoking and heavy drinking due to their social commitments in school and early responsibility

The practice of alcohol consumption was also compared by the report, whose results are analyzed in table. This table analyses drinking comparisons in African countries.





## CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Research design

The researcher was designed as a social economic survey which was meant to determine the relationship between alcohol consumption and its respective effects which lead to economic decline of drinkers.

An instrument was designed, based on the objectives of the study and meant to capture questions, responses from respondents as regards alcohol and its effects.

The instrument was pre-tested to 20 respondents, for determination of among others the following;

- Time spent on responding to the questionnaires
- Justification of its validity
- Determination of correlation factor using a ranking table.

At data collection stage, unquantifiable variables were assigned codes to make them quantifiable.

The sample frame was a whole district, with all its Sub-Counties and the sample population was estimated at one hundred and sixty thousand people.

Actual respondents were selected using random sampling in Sub-Counties.

This study was planned in such a way that raw data was collected from all sub-counties that formed Butaleja district which are:-

Budumba, Busaba, Nawanjofu, Busolwe Butaleja, Kachongha and mazimasa.

This is because these sub counties comprised of basic administrative units where policies are made, implemented and personnel present in helping collecting data

The actual design started at proposal level and was projected to be done in a period of four months starting with Data collection in March, 2006. Two questionnaires sets were developed, based on the objectives, the theory and practice of alcohol consumption as per the literature review and also based on curiosity in observation of excessive beer drinking in District.

These questionnaires included a general one for capturing primary data and another one which was a summary of the other general questionnaires. The summary questionnaires were at two levels; - one for every sub-county and another summary for the district.

### **3.2 Population and sample size Determination**

Before actual data collection, a pre-testing exercise of a questionnaire was done, where 20 respondents were selected at random, in the study area. They were interviewed and time spent on each in minutes was recorded, and then fitted into a ranking table. The purpose here was to identify the sample correlation as seen in the correlation table forward. A square man's formula was used to calculate the correlation factor of respondents.

Upon getting the sample population, the researcher divided it by the number of sub-counties where the data was collected (from the seven sub counties). By use of the Slovene's formula, a sample population was obtained where the actual data was collected.





Raw data was collected, summarized and later analyzed by correlation analysis and using Microsoft excel. Correlation analysis was also used which involved the use of chi –square t – test analysis as well as Slovene’s formula for establishing a sample correlation. The reason for selection of these methods is that they were simple and the data used was little. Results were interpreted and respective conclusions and recommendations made in this thesis.

### 3.3 Determination of sample size

The research area has a population of 160,000 people with about 18750 Households; *Census report* (2002). In order to get a sample population, The sample size was determined by the Slovenes’ formula as follows

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

Where:-

n = sample size

N = population of the area as per 2002 population census.

e = degree of confidence level at 95%

The findings were as follows;-

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



Where:

$$n = \frac{160000}{1 + 160,000 (0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{160,000}{401}$$

$$n = 399$$

This implied that, in each of the seven sub-counties that comprised of Butaleja district as listed before, about 57 people were respondents to each of this questionnaire thus, making a total of 399. However, because of limitation of funds and misconception from some members of the community about data collection, it led to only 300 questionnaires to be served to the seven sub counties with 280 for the actual data collection while the 20 were for pre-testing.

It implied that in each sub-county, 40 respondents were achieved; excluding the 20 pre-testing questionnaires.

None response to this questionnaires was at 29.8%.

This is rather a high non response which is due to deliberate actions of respondents as a result of misunderstanding and weakness of field staff that assisted the researcher in collecting data. Field staff is used to money support upon data collection thus; this factor was responsible for non return of questionnaires.

### 3.4 The sampling process

The actual process of grass root selection of respondents however was through a random approach and was assisted by area government staff at sub-counties.



The randomization was on the basis that every adult person in the area knows some thing concerning alcohol be it positive or negative regardless of culture, religion or values. In this way even people who don't drink were potential respondents. Questionnaires were administered by self as assisted by respective field staff in each of the sub- counties in a period of one month.

Questionnaires were collected from each respondent and made a sub-county summary for each, then summarized them into one summary with average assigned values as shown in chapter four.

Based on the random sampling process and the perfect correlation above during pre-test process, the research validity is justified by a perfect correlation and thus the study being reliable.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

#### 4.1 Data presentation

Data was finally presented, analyzed and recommendations made to the effect.

From the instrument summary, parameters for alcohol consumption were captured against effects as in the set of questionnaires as in the Appendix.

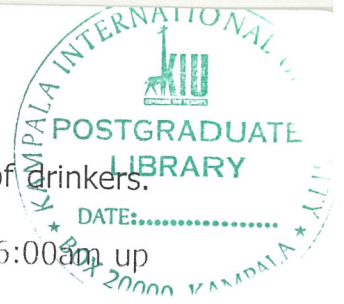
##### 4.1.1 Alcohol consumption Butaleja.

a) Alcohol consumption in the district is a general practice of people drinking beers which leads them into intoxication and alcoholic situation. The type of beers consumes includes Waragi, Malwa, Tonto, and bottled or packaged beers manufactured in factories.

Beers are highly consumed on grounds that most of them are locally manufactured or processed and it is relatively cheap. Beers are available in all places in villages and towns, which make it affordable and available all times. This increases the rate at which it is consumed.

When it is consumed depends on a season and financial capacity of drinkers. There is no limit for drinking. Beers are highly consumed on grounds that most of it is locally manufactured or processed therefore making it cheap. It is locally available in all villages of the district, which factor makes it cheap. This factor is responsible for the high rate of alcohol consumption in the district





When it is consumed also depends on season and financial capacity of drinkers.

There is no limit on drinking in Butaleja, to an extent that as early as 6:00am up to as late as midnight, people are engaged in drinking. Some days as during beer promotion, people drink transnight.

The practice is done in people's homes, bars, retail shops social functions where beers are available. Those who drink are mainly males of ages 18-40 but not exclusively ruling out women, children and the elderly.

#### **b. Analysis**

Alcohol consumption as already mentioned is mainly of Waragi, Tonto, Malwa. Excessiveness of drinking is manifested in the indicators to that effect.

Indicators of excessive drinking include, staging with uncoordinated reasoning for drinkers on daily basis, high volume of alcohol sold daily or consumed daily, staying long hours in drinking places. These indicators form the basis of conclusion for overdrinking in Butaleja district.

#### **C. Interpretation.**

Having got the picture of alcohol consumption in Butaleja district , it is evident that indicators for alcohol drinking justify the excessiveness of the practice. Interpretation is as explained in the following paragraph.



### **Consumption depends on season.**

Having known that people in Butaleja district are farmers whose crops are harvested twice in a year thus in the two seasons, it follows that even income out of sale of crops follows those seasons and consequently drinking alcohol is more during harvesting and marketing periods. Some types of beers like Malwa are customarily prepared during harvesting or after harvesting of millet, grain, for cerebation of harvest. This practice escalates excessive consumption of alcohol.

### **Unlimited drinking.**

Although people are aware of the laws regarding drinking, especially Enguli Manufacturers and Licensing Act, which was well enforced in the 1960s and 1970s, they of late ignored those laws, a practice which has escalated consumption of beers unlimited. This is facilitated by a situation of law enforcement agents getting involved in drinking. Police, Local leaders particularly chiefs have become daily drinkers in Butaleja district, which condition facilitates dormancy of the existing laws. With overdrinking and addiction to beers, there is no time limit for starting and ending the practice.

### **Beer promotion.**

Various beer manufacturers and marketers do promote their products in the district thus attracting many customers, a practice done almost every month. Promotion of products has a direct promotion of drinking thus leading to excessive drinking.





### **Place of sale and consumption.**

As already hinted, the weakness of enforcement led to flourishment of drinking points. This scenario manifests a high demand for alcohol thus, a sign of over drinking in the community. Many alcohol selling points is a clear indicator of high demand which is directly related to excessive drinking of beers.

### **Interpretation of effects**

Uncoordinated actions of victims such as staggering uncoordinated reasoning and general body weakness are symptoms of over drinking of alcohol. Staying long hours in drinking joints is a manifestation of excessive drinking.

This, interpretation serves as a basis for justification of over drinking of alcohol in Butaleja district.

#### **4.1.2 Poverty in Butaleja district.**

Based on the general poverty situation in Uganda and the general state of environment of Butaleja district, poverty is highly entrenched in the community such that the per capita income is estimated to be about seventy United states Dollars per annum, far below the national average of 300\$ pa

The reason for this poor economic state is over dependence on crop farming which is characterized by frequent crop failure, low production output and low prices of produce which makes farmers earn little and spend substantial income on beers.

The issue of poverty in Butaleja is escalated by a high population growth which causes pressure on resources. This factor is a contribution to low productivity which causes poverty. Other struggles for economic survival include petty trading in domestic consumables including alcohol.

The national state of environment report recognizes crop farming yielding low financial returns as compared with livestock agriculture. Butaleja district being a mainly crop farming area therefore, it justifies the high levels of poverty prevalent there.

#### **4.1.3 Relationship between Alcohol consumption and poverty**

This study was to examine the relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty. From data collected analysis done and tested the statement of hypothesis.

The null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis taken, justifying that there is a relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty.

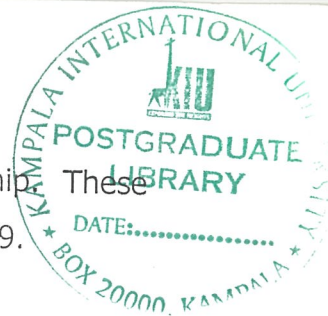
This relationship was enriched by the related literature and studies conducted on alcohol and poverty.

Various finding were observed for justification of conclusion.

Testing of the null hypothesis was use by a chi-square and the results of the computation (chi-square results) showed three percent relationship of alcohol consumption on poverty.



A conceptual framework model was used to show the relationship. These relationships are either direct or indirect as shown in figure 2 on page 29.





**Table 4: Observation of drinkers**

Alcohol consumption analysis was also analyzed using a chi-square as follows:-

Drinking status	Poor	Not poor	Total
Yes	180	20	200
No	70	10	80
Total	250	30	280

The table shows that there are more poor people who drink than the rich who drink. This could be from the fact that there are more poor people in Butalaja than the rich. There also more poor people who don't drink than the rich who don't drink. The same reasons above apply that is to say more poor people are in Butalaja than the rich.

#### 4.2 Chi-Square Presentation

**Table 5: Chi-square**

	Observed (O)	Expected (E)	(O - E)	(O - E) <sup>2</sup>	(O-E) <sup>2</sup> /E
	180	174.5	5	25	0.17
	70	75.5	5	25	0.40
	20	25.5	5	25	1.19
	10	4.5	5	25	6.72
Total	280	280		0	8.48

*Used Yates Correction factor*

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

$$C.D = \sqrt{\frac{\chi^2}{n + \chi^2}}$$





$$= \frac{8.48}{288.48}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.029}$$

$$R^2 = C.D^2 \times 100$$

$$= 0.029 \times 100$$

$$= 2.9\%$$

This implies that alcohol consumption explains poverty by about 3%. The other 97% is explained by other factors such as indulging in crop agriculture, low education, region, living in rural areas, gender. Description of such factors is as outlined below;

### **Other factors**

#### *Crop Agriculture*

Crop agriculture is a low financial yielding venture which is highly influenced by weather, prices determined by buyers thus, and putting crop farmers at a disadvantage.

#### *Low Education*

It is generally acceptable that formal education leads to economic prosperity in society. This is because educated people take rational decisions in economic development than illiterate society. Higher Education implies higher economic prosperity. However, education is not a guarantee to wealth, since there are other factors which influence it.

### *Region*

As shown in the literature review, Eastern region is next to the north, which is the poorest region in the country. Living the Eastern Uganda means less chances of getting rich as compared to the central region of the country.

### *Living in rural areas*

It is ironical that there are fewer chances of marketing goods in rural areas than in urban centers. This puts rural people suffer from poverty than those in towns. However, poverty is prominent in towns as well.

### *Gender*

Society in Butaleja district discriminates women from ownership of basic economic resources such as land. This facilitates them into living in states of poverty as opposed to men.

However benefits of drinking include the following;

- Beer processors and traders gain financially from the sales
- The country gets taxes out of beer sales

Based on the advantages and disadvantages of alcohol, it is clear that there are more disadvantages than advantages.

Both of these factors justify the relationship for alcohol consumption and poverty being negative.



### 4.3 General Analysis

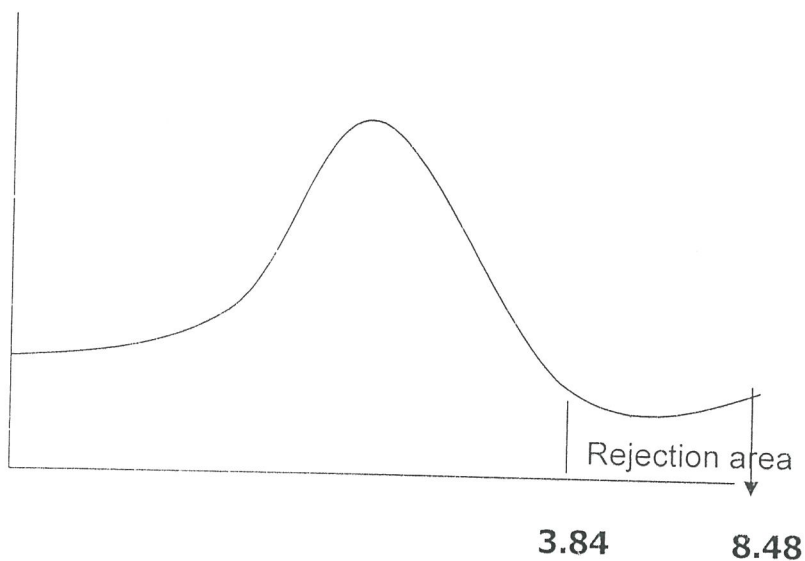
The null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) was that there was no relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty. The computed  $X^2 = 8.48$  that exceeded the tabulated  $X^2$  of 3.84

(8.48 and 3.84) at 95% degree of confidence level.

This led to rejection of the null hypothesis of no relationship.

The alternative hypothesis was therefore applicable. It implies that there was a relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty in Butaleja district.

**Figure 3: Relationship graph**





## CHAPTER FIVE

### FINDINGS, DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Conclusion

Based on this study and related literature, it is certain that alcohol has a relationship with poverty in Butaleja district. This relationship is either direct or indirect but having positive and negative effects.

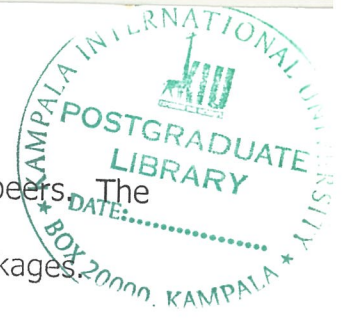
From findings, alcohol consumption explains the relation with poverty by 3 percent with 97% explained by other factors such as time, education, gender, age, etc.

3 percent value of effects of alcohol looks a small percentage but significant in the economic situation affecting the population. This could be from the direct effects of alcohol such as intoxication which weakens victims so that they cannot carryout their normal activities well. It could also mean misallocation of financial and time resource towards drinking. These direct factors have a negative effect on economic progress of household since they are household heads known for drinking most.

The indirect effects identified include such social effects as; immorality leading to HIV/AIDS, family breakages, increased crime rate related to alcohol and auctioning of household assets for beer drinking.

All above factors are practical social effects of alcohol addicted persons which lead to poverty indirectly. HIV/AIDS for instance is acquired when drunkards





loose their moral ethics and indulge in sex under influence of beers. The immorality leads to family neglect and eventually leading to family breakages.

When such situations arise, they demoralize family members from working hard which eventually leads to poverty in homes. With intoxication, it is usual for victims acting against the law, which situation increases crime rate in society. Drunkards for example loose temper very easily, which leads to fighting in public. Alcohol related crimes although literally common, they are difficult to be captured, as the actual action is what is captured thus, making it extremely difficult whether the crime committed is out of alcohol or other factors.

Much as the study shows that there is over drinking in Butaleja district, other factors are considered for justification of poverty in the district.

Other factors such as place, age, physical state and gender are also responsible for explaining the poverty prevalent in the district.

People living in rural areas are at a disadvantage of competing with those living in or near trading centers and towns because of market availability in towns. This explains poverty as well as alcohol consumption effects in society.

The alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ) that alcohol consumption has a relationship with poverty is a justification of the conclusion that alcohol has effects on poverty.

## 5.2 Limitations

The biggest limitation of this study was to justify what the 3 percent relation of alcohol consumption to poverty is. It is a limiting factor because it is not known whether the relationship causes or contributes to poverty and in which period.

The correlation of this factor of 3 percent and other factors such as time is a critical factor which affects the validity of these findings.

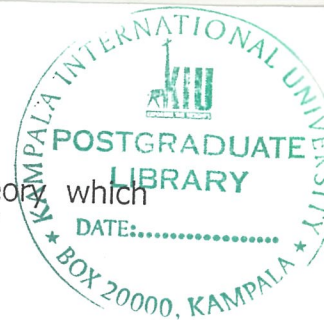
Based on this enrichment by literature review it was adequate enough to support the theory and practice of alcohol consumption in the following paragraphs:-

- Small sample frame would be a constraint in a way such that a relatively longer size and population of possibly four districts would be a better representation of Uganda.
- Much as the pre test was done and explanations given to respondents, there were some misunderstanding of the study, by non respondent groups. This would affect appreciation of the validity of the study by the general population.
- The respondents were selected at random and this brought on board non drinkers who could have provided unrealistic responses against alcohol and likewise drinkers providing information exclusively for support of alcohol industry.

However, despite these limitations, data was collected, presented and analyzed using scientific principles which therefore provides a basis for validity of this



study. This is supported by wide comparison of literature and theory which provide critical justification to support the findings.



### 5.3 Discussion

**Effects associated with the profile of consumers:** It was clear that most engaged age group were people between 18 - 40 years. The categories of below 18 and above 40 however, were also engaged but to a less extent. This could have emerged as a result of financial constraints associated with the under 17 and the elderly because they mostly rely on handouts from relatives and friends.

It was also noted that the most engaged sex in drinking alcohol were men although women were also involved. This seems to have come from the culture of male domination that did not allow women to move freely, looking for alcohol. The other factor is that women are always committed to keeping homes thus, having no desire to leave their homes for search of alcohol.

On the question of family size, there was no relationship with it and alcohol consumption because both big and small family sized homes had their members participating in drinking of alcohol either directly or in secrecy.

Other parameters that were not considered in analysis were employment status and educational levels. It had no effect on alcohol consumption.



Alcohol in Butaleja was consumed massively by the formally employed and the unemployed alike. Also by elites, semi-elites and the illiterates taking same type and quantities of beer.

The effects of high social expenditure were not the same for all categories thus, affecting their household spending and poverty in different proportions for different categories.

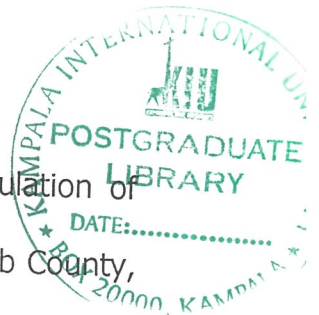
**Effect associated with the quantity of alcohol consumed:** It is upon this that most of the parameters of study were centered and the results showed a negative effect of alcohol consumption on economic well being of individuals.

The results of this study were quite interesting in a social economic context of the people of Butaleja and their settings in particular.

Out of the 280 respondents interviewed, the results as already analyzed in chapter three, were indicative of a negative relation of alcohol consumption on economic prosperity.

In Butaleja district, almost all beers were consumed but most commonly consumed were waragi, *tonto*, *malwa* and bottled beers such as senator larger. The high consumption rate is attributed to alcohol being readily available and various types being affordable to drinkers.





With the size of Sub-Counties of the district having an average population of about 20,000 people each and having about 200 drinking places per Sub County, it means that 100 people are served by one joint. At an average of about two hundred people per LCI cell, it implies that in every cell, there are two drinking places. This is regarded too high thus leading to excessive beer drinking.

It was also noted that most families near swamps and spring wells were involved in waragi distillation. It is these factors which raised the number of drinking joints to all that high.

However, locally distilled waragi was the mostly consumed among the beers in the area. Interestingly, although distillation and enguli / waragi was going on massively, all people distilling and consuming were aware of the Enguli and Manufactures Law of 2000 and unworried of the consequences because of weak enforcements mechanism.

### **Alcohol drinking and poverty relationship**

Beer consumption was proved to be consuming much of people time resource in the following aspects and which were confirmed by the respondent's comments on the questionnaire, and they were as below:

- i. The addiction nature forces victims to start looking for money early enough in order to sustain their drinking programmes. They start

drinking as early as 8:00am thus sacrificing time for agricultural production.

- As already noted, the situation of time resources allocation had reached a worrying state as addicted people were spending over 15 hours of the day in drinking places.

This was observed to be the leading avenue for increased household expenditure for the victims and that was leading to family conflicts and neglects by husbands. In this aspect, therefore no tangible investments and purchase of household consumables and thus leading to increased poverty in homes.

*Cited an example of one home in Doho parish in Mazimasa Sub County where a husband sold all the rice and spent on drinking and related socialization in the nearby trading centre in one week.*

*What be fall in that home in the following week was a snake interesting into their house at night and they did not have a match stick or touch for lighting. As the already drunkard husband had gone out to the fathers house to ask for a match stick, a snake bite the wife and the wife died that very night. The alcohol addicted man became desperate and increased his drinking condition as a solution to self consolement until the whole family collapsed. (Source= story from respondents)*

ix) Alcohol was also noted for contributing to petty crime rates in the society, because of social responsibility of acquiring social capital for supporting alcohol consumption practices.





## **Comparison of results and literature review**

Literature review and findings in this study were proportionate in explaining the relationship of alcohol consumption and poverty Butaleja district.

Studies conducted on poverty had acknowledgement of alcohol consumption as one of the causes or factors leading to poverty. In the same way, studies conducted on alcohol have it explained that alcohol leads victims into states of economic desperation and poverty.

Although studies show such a relationship it is difficult to assess the degree of effects of drinking, given that there are several factors which cause poverty.

Both literature review and the theory behind alcohol consumption provide rich information that would form better policies and laws regarding alcohol consumption. However, much as Uganda has Enguli Manufacturing and Licensing Act and the Liquor Act, these laws are redundant, because of lack of a clear policy guideline in the government. This has made Uganda the leading alcohol consuming country as already seen.

The law an alcohol in Uganda

The Enguli manufacturers and licensing Act was created in the colonial government together with the liquor Act, with the following objectives;

- Regulate the production and sale of local beers
- Collect revenue for government
- Monitor production and sale of intoxication alcohol



However, there could have been hidden objectives as suggested by monopoly of East African breweries in Luzira which was the sole processor of local waragi into Uganda waragi and given that the factory was under control of the government of the time.

It is also possible that the laws were intended to control the manufacture and sale of local beers so that industrially processed liquor is consumed thus creating market for the factory beers.

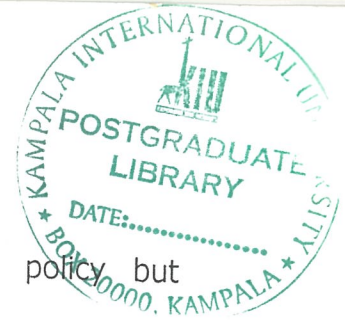
The laws however have been made almost redundant, with law enforcement officials becoming key players in breaking it.

This factor has made the spree which has caused the relationship to poverty as already seen.

Literature related to alcohol consumption world wide show a growing trend drinking, the developing countries taking the lead while developed countries reducing.

This suggest an era of sendicate which could affect the economies of developing countries and Uganda in particular, to decline further because of alcohol intoxication of the population.





### **The law of dinking in Uganda.**

Uganda, like any other country is expected to have alcohol policy but unfortunately, there is no such in place although the ministry of health was in initial stages of formulating one. Not even any district local government in the country had ever put in place an alcohol policy. However some local governments have ever put some guide lines for controlling the consumption of alcohol in accordance with the Enguli Manufacture and Licensing Act of 1965 and revised in 2000. Some years back, the ministry concerning Youth in the earlier governments used to collect revenue and enforce the Law on behalf of government. Following the same approach, some local governments have taken up the law section not for controlling beer consumption but for rising of local revenue.

In this way, beer consumption is at the mercy and will of drinkers and God for all. This paves way for gross abuse of alcohol consumption in the country.

### **The impacts of drinking**

This research examines the situation of poverty and its relationship with drinking of alcohol. As from the conceptual framework and the research done on poverty, it acknowledges the effects of alcohol consumption on level of income of people and capacity of spending, both of which are critical measures of poverty.

The poverty levels in northern Uganda are so high due to the insecurity while that of central region is better off than the rest because of adequate markets and

various economic opportunities as compared to the rest of the regions. However, had there be no war in the north, then Eastern is the potentially least economically empowered in Uganda.

In eastern Uganda, the majority of farmers are crop farmers, whose income output is less than non crop farming which is much done in other regions than the East of the country.

Various studies so far carried out on alcohol show variations and similarities in the following aspects.

- All studies carried out in both basic and social research show that alcohol is detrimental to human health in areas of intoxication, which leads to body poisoning. Such results show alcohol levels being inversely proportionate to nutritional uptake requirement, alcohol addiction, which leads to drunkard ness which situation has a social bearing on economic wellbeing.
- Other studies carried out confirm a negative relationship between alcohol consumption and personal income, on grounds that alcohol affects economic resume allocation.
- However, some studies indicate that, alcohol has a part it plays in a human body in areas of improvement of ones health that drinks, if it is not abused. This attribute is what contributes to modern people including alcohol on the daily menu, for better coordination of the brain during the process of digestion.





- Research has shown that the intoxicating nature of alcohol and the impurities associated with local alcohols are serious health hazards to consumers as well as economic problems leading to budgetary constraints in families.
- It was also noted that alcohol is a disincentive to societal progress in various aspects that arise due to addiction, peer pressure and inherent effects to proceeding generations.

There is a general agreement that laws regarding consumption of alcohol are grossly disrespected in various countries of the world, with some having no policy at all to guide the practice of drinking.

In a nutshell therefore, all studies have acknowledged the disadvantages of alcohol consumption over riding the benefits and therefore recommending regulatory controls. This implies that, alcohol has a direct bearing on human economic progress and poverty either directly or indirectly, depending on the time log frame available for it. It clearly follows that the negative bearing of the process of drinking in relation to this particular studies, follows that the low income earners are much more affected by alcohol drinking than the rich, yet the low income earners form the majority of the population. This means that alcohol has a great bearing on poverty of the biggest population of drinkers.

The relationship between poverty and alcohol is recognized by many scholars and the effects of which is a two way flow, such that alcohol causes ill health which in



turn causes poverty due to alcohol dependency (Philip 2005). Poverty in this perspective is understood as a violation of human dignity arising from, deprivation of resources necessary for enjoyment of an adequate standard of living. Philip (2005).

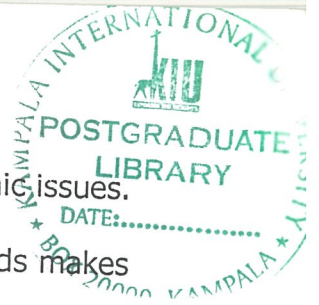
Poverty constitutes a denial of human right *UN Committee (2005)*. The relationship further indicate that alcohol dependency leads to lack of affordability of essential commodities and financial hardship (*Australia Senate inquiry report 2005*) which in turn lead to problematic behavior.

Alcohol leads to social discrimination because of decline of social status which exacerbates the rise of poverty in people (Amartyr sen 1998) it is generally agreeable that social economic status is associated with poor health while poor health plays a central role in creating poverty. The interdependence effects are exacerbated by alcohol consumption which creates a situation of ill health to people who drink.

Quite often alcohol use and such other social practices as economic hardship, ill health, drug abuse etc are categorized together as issues that lead to poverty.

This situation leads to a social discrimination which increases vulnerability or magnify poverty. Based on the foundational human rights in the UN Declaration which is also contained in article 20 (2) of the constitution of the Republic of





Uganda, people are free to exercise their abilities in execution of economic issues.

This as well taking advantage of weak enforcement of Laws in some fields makes

people exercise freely in drinking of alcohol, smoking in public places while being

conscious of highly prohibited activities such as trade in cocaine, heroine.

However, beer drinking is equally a serious environmental hazard which would

require a serious law enforcement system.

However, there is a serious concern by the state, on matters concerning alcoholism and it is its role in economic development, which calls for such interventions such as support of basic and social research on alcohol, formulation of alcohol policy, enforcement of regulations regarding alcohol consumption as well as a serious need for sensitization on effects of alcohol on economic development. These social interventions must be apprehended using a multi-sect oral approach so that all levels of social developments are involved and their respective roles appreciated. Human needs and rights are closely interrelated and comprise of nutrition, health, water and sanitation, employment in cultural and social life. Based on this therefore, there is a need to appreciate that alcohol consumption is part of society in a development process although this discussion calls for a systematic and administrative approach for discouraging alcohol. Much of the social achievement is got out of sensitization of the alcohol users. It is upon this that there is laxity in enforcement of most of the laws regarding alcohol in the world and Uganda in particular.

With addictive element in alcohol, it charges the law enforcers like it does on alcohol consumers. This scenario makes it difficult for the already addicted person to enforce the law that affects him / her. This is out of note that almost a big majority of police personnel are part of the alcohol consumption system in Uganda.

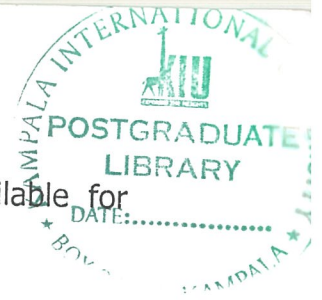
In developing an appropriate policy on alcohol, there is a need to follow the principle of participation, which requires that persons affected or likely to be affected be consulted. However, the consultation process should be made with a mind that alcohol consuming people or alcoholics do not want any process that would discourage them from drinking. This is because of the addiction nature of the stuff. Based on this fact is where the element of law enforcement using coercive methods should be coupled with massive sensitization of people on dangers of alcohol and particularly quoting how it is claiming people's lives. Alcohol policies requires to be multi governmental process that needs to be coordinated in a similar way like cocaine and heroine drugs are being treated, especially by restriction on alcoholics.

It is understandable that, under restricted conditions, people do drink but by such a pressure, it creates room for allocation of economic resources to other vital fields in life.

Efforts towards alleviation of over drinking of alcohol should be supported by a wide spread research and development. This technical backup could help



consumers to coping up with the liquor or makes information available for reforms.



Great work done by some religious circlers who discourage alcohol consumption on a generalized scale is highly commendable. However it is a great regret that some religious followers do drink stealthily. This actually reduces the rates of alcohol drinking in society.

A generalized state of drinking alcohol, especially crude waragi is bad in that, many people have lost life out of waragi intoxication, poverty out of over expenditure and mortgaging of property for beers, lost families due to poor behavior. All these are elements which contribute to the state of poverty. This is why all people should unite to restore the ideal state that would not lead to over drinking of alcohol.



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## 5.4 Recommendations

There are contradicting issues related to alcohol consumption. The producers of it and consumers see it as positive cause while research and findings see it as negative to society. However, the commodity is that, it can not be eliminated in society since it is a well entrenched social evil which is as old as civilization – conclusions and recommendations from various reports shoes different opinions and therefore provide different views.

The following reports show various conclusions for alcohol consumption and poverty.

### A) PEAP: Policy report

#### Poverty

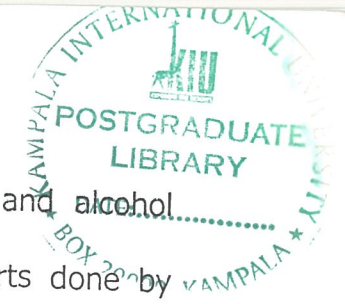
Drinking		+	-
	+	Yes	Ignored
	-	Ignored	Ignored

### B) DRT

#### Poverty

Drinking		Yes	No
	Yes	✓	Ignored
	No	Ignored	✓





It follows that most critical hypothetical conclusions on poverty and alcohol consumption relationships were ignored in most studies and reports done by various scholars and agencies. Such ignored relationships include;

- whether state of no poverty was related to the state of drinking
- State of poverty related to the state of no drinking.
- State of no poverty related to the state of no drinking

The above analytical conclusions led to conducting of effects of alcohol consumption top the people of Butaleja, whose results showed a relationship between alcohol consumption and poverty to the population of the district as already shown in the previous presentation.

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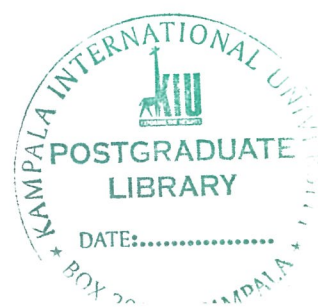




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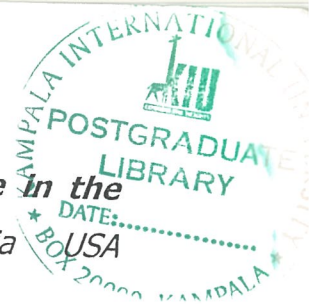
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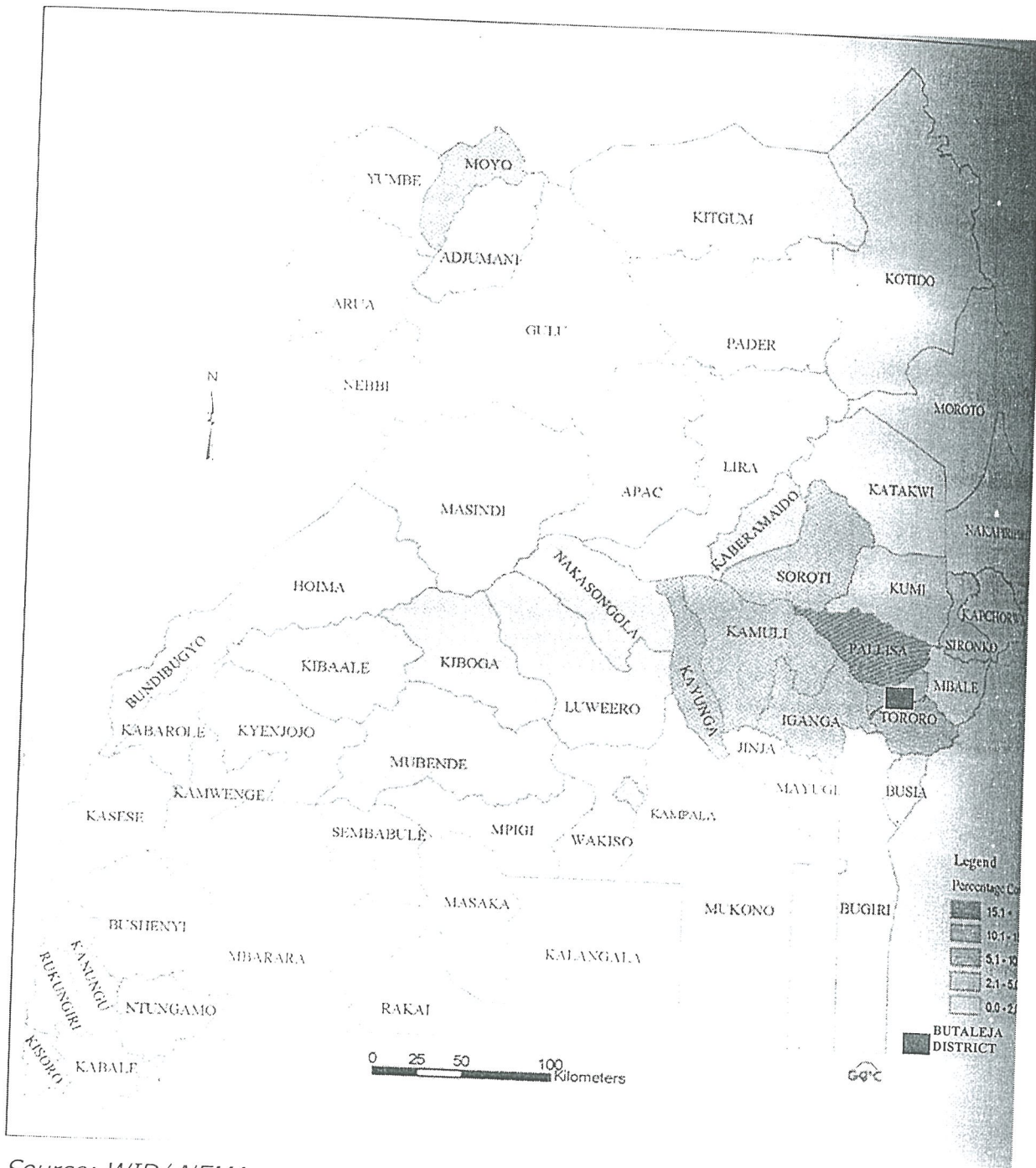
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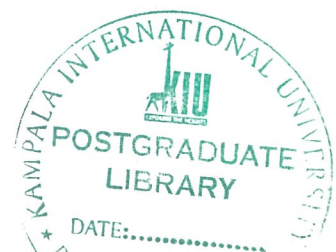


## Appendices

## Appendix I: MAP OF UGANDA SHOWING DISTRICTS



Source: WID/ NEMA





## Appendix II: Questionnaire

### Section A

**X = Alcohol consumption practices**

- (i) What are the types of beers consumed in your villages?
- (ii) On average, how many joints of beer are they in your village
- (iii) What are the most common beers consumed?
- (iv) How much do you think is consumed per person per day?
- (v) How many people do you think can attend on average, in each of the drinking joint?
- (vi) What are the age brackets of drinkers of alcohol?
- (vii) What is the most engaged sex of alcohol drinkers?

**Y = Alcohol consumption effects**

es = 2 no = 1)

Drinking alcohol increase household income. yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

) Alcohol improves health conditions and quality of life Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

i) Alcohol consumption saves time for other social activities. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

) Drinking increases investment in consumption goods Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

) It increases investments goods. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.

i) It increases crime rate .yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_.

ii) Drinking increases stability of families yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

## Section B

What is your answer on alcohol consumption in respect to poverty?

- (1) Does alcohol cause poverty?
- (2) Are people who drink alcohol poor?
- (3) Do poor people drink alcohol more than the rich?
- (4) Do poor people buy more beers, than the rich?
- (5) Is it poverty which leads to over drinking?

(Yes = 1 No = 2)

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