

CHRISTIANS' PERCEPTIONS OF CHURCH MARRIAGE:

A CASE OF RUBAGA DIVISION,

KAMPALA DISTRICT

BY

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INTERNATIONAL

UNIVERSITY

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research work is my original work and to the best of my knowledge, it has never been published and submitted for the award of any academic qualification in any university or institution before.

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that this research of Businge Lydia under the title “Christian’s Perceptions of Church Marriage” was carried out under my supervision and is now ready for submission to the academic board of Kampala International University with my approval.

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(SUPERVISOR)

DATE:

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated with affection and gratitude to my father, brothers, sisters, Misimenta Jackline, Medius, and my friends Bayaruhanga clement, Ben, Christine Nabasumba, Stella Naziza and almighty God.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

The study on the Christians perceptions of church marriage carried out in Rubaga division, Kampala District. The study was carried out basing on the following objectives. To establish Christians perceptions of church marriage, to find out why some Christians hold church marriage and yet others do not hold it. Primary data were collected by using questionnaires, observation and Oral interviews were analyzed and interpreted using figures, frequency tables, bar graph and pie charts were used to present the data. Recommendations were derived from the study indicated that life is a gift from God so it should not be misused by Christians through neglecting church marriage. This would help to improve on number of Christians participating in church marriage.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter has been centered on the following aspects that include: background of the study, objectives, scope and significance of the study.

1.1 The Background of the Study

One of the greatest challenges faced by Christians especially the youth generation was church marriage. According to Henslin (1995), defined marriage as a group approved mating arrangements usually married out by a ritual of some wedding to indicate the couple's new public status. Church marriage is approved by the Almighty God in Genesis Chapter 2: 24. God has created man and woman and joined them together to become one flesh. These kinds of marriage were always associated with high costs or expenses and a lot of preparations were to be done before the wedding was put into consideration. However, Church marriage was blessed by God and Christian youth were encouraged to always seek embrace church marriage. This Christian marriage was known as church marriage and it was always presided over by the priests, reverends, pastors, they represent God in uniting the two couples that were to say as man and woman who come together and become one.

These partners after courtship and came to understand one another, they agreed to be one, after understanding the implications of the marriage. They accepted to be man and woman; these couples committed themselves to one another after making vows to each other in the church. In the church, the couples agreed to accept the consequences and signed before the Christian congregation. In most cases this type of marriage was sanctioned after certain customary obligations have been finalized especially bride wealth. The elders of both partners came together the agreement of both parents was very vital and blessed, respected before the church marriage was carried out.

Church marriage was strictly monogamous unlike other types of marriages that gave room for polygamy. Church marriage was meant to be permanent. Divorce could be there in case one partner was dead or unfaithful. The church marriage usually it was based on love and it encouraged equality, companionship of both man and woman. In most cases children produced in such marriage were seen as God's blessing, Psalms 127:3, but even if without children or the childless couples still had to stay together in love because apart from bearing children, marriage had other values in life. The reason why I had decided to research on this was that most people had neglected church marriage so much both the elders, church leaders and most especially the youth tend to look at church marriage as wastage of resources.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Some Christians perceive church marriage as friendship, companionship, love, sharing, humour, and ability to trust in each other, common, interests, set life commitment to each other, family unit and the future togetherness in church marriage. However other Christians perceive church marriage as a type of marriage that involved a lot of commitments; promise made in church, vows shared time wasted when organizing the ceremony, a lot of responsibilities.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the perception of Christians of church marriage in Rubaga Division, Kampala district.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were to;

- i) Establish Christians' perceptions of church marriage in Rubaga Division, Kampala district.
- ii) Find out why some Christians hold church marriage and yet others do not hold it.

1.5 Research questions

Research was guided by the following questions.

- i) What are the Christian perceptions of church marriage in Rubaga Division, Kampala district?
- ii) What are the reasons why some Christians hold church marriage and yet others do not hold it?

1.6 Significance of the Study

This research study intended, in addition to the pool of knowledge that was already put in place, to bridge the wide gap that exists between Christian perception and church marriage. This was also to help the Christians and the church to:

- I. Improve on their commitments in the church and formulate proper policies on church marriage.
- II. The study was to contribute to the knowledge on church marriage and other related concerns in marriage.
- III. Researchers who would use the research in their academic pursuit especially when learning and investigating on church marriage.

1.7 The Scope of the Study

This study was conducted in Rubaga division and areas like Bakuli, Namirembe church, Rubaga Church, winner's chapel.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

Marriage

This was the legal commitment of a man and a woman in order to share emotional feelings and physical intimacy with the purpose of producing children or this is an agreement of a man and woman to establish a permanent community children and upbringing them, saying together for life for mutual love, companionship, relationship and fellow.

John J. Mbiti (1991) introduction to Religion 2nd edition defined marriage as a voluntary union for life of a man and woman for purposes of starting a family.

A Christian

This is a follower or a believer of Jesus Christ.

Family

It has been the basic human unit in which mankind was brought up.

Mary Kay Degenoval (1992) se defined family as any group of persons united by the ties of marriage blood or adoption or any sexually expensive relationship in which the adults co-operate financially for their mutual support.

1.9 Anticipated Constraints in the Study

It was anticipated that the following problems were to be faced;

Financial problems.

Insufficient time, people are not ready to provide information, language barrier.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

Many scholars have tried to explain marriage as legal union of man and woman. However my focus has been on church marriage. Therefore this chapter would cover gathered data advanced by the scholars to satisfy the perception of church marriage.

2.2 Institution of marriage

Marriage has been an institution in which interpersonal relationship usually intimate and sexual are acknowledged by a variety of ways, depending on culture or demographic. Some examples include the state, a religious authority, or both. It has been often viewed as a contract. Civil are a legal concept of marriage as a governmental institution irrespective of religious affiliation, in accordance with marriage laws of the jurisdiction. If recognized by state, by the religions to which the parties belong or by society in general, the act of marriage changes the personal and social status of the individuals who enter into it. People marry for many reasons, but one or more of the following: legal, social, social, emotional and economical: the formation of a family unit; the education of and nature of children, legitimizing sexual relations; public declaration of love

Marriage practices are adverse across cultures and may take any forms; and are often formalized by a ceremony called a wedding day. The act of marriage usually creates normative or legal obligations between the individuals involved. In some societies these obligations also extend to certain family members of the married persons. According to Confucius "Marriage is the union of the representatives of two different surnames, in friendship and in love, in order to continue the posterity of former ages and to produce those shall preside at the sacrifices of heaven and earth. In conclusion of English Opium-Easter (1821] Thomas de Quincy defined marriage as "a union between two persons, who lived in harmony so as to be independent of the world outside.

2.3 Types of marriage

2.3.1 Civil marriage

A civil marriage has been one where the marriage ceremony has a government or civil official perform the ceremony. Civil marriage has further defined as a wedding that takes place without any religious affiliation and meets the legal requirement.

2.3.2 Traditional marriage

Traditional marriages was the type of marriage between a man and woman and this was the most acceptable form of marriage in society (<http://ezinearticle.com>)

2.3.3 Church marriage

Church marriage was the type of marriage whereby couples sustain each other in grace throughout their live and their children are welcomed as God's gift
<http://wikipediafreeencyclopedia>.

2.4 Christians' perceptions of marriage

Christians' perceptions on marriage was that they know that marriage was along life commitment between husband and wife. Christians perceive marriage as that which was meant to be monogamous ad yet others in society preferred polygamous for purposes of producing children for society. Christians consider love as the basis and it does not care about the production of children and yet in African marriage and children go together Christian perceives marriage as along time process because it requires preparation's in church thus being recognized as a man and woman. Some Christians perceive marriage as a strong friendship companionship, love, sharing humor ability to communicate with others, trust in each other family y common interests and future togetherness.

Pop Pius ix insisted on calling marriage a vocation from God and a way f mutual perfection and a way of mutual perfection and we further stated that marriage is any

institution for procreation and education of children but in a wider sense a complete and intimate life partnership an association.

There are reasons as to why some Christian are so reluctant to embrace church marriage Joe Jenkins has confirmed that despite the ideal nature and benefits of Christians still prefer post pond their wedding meanwhile keep cohabiting thus more than 85% the adults, many in their lives, nearly half of the couples who marry in church have lived together. However some other Christians perceive marriage as important form Europe which was associated with western culture especially church marriage and therefore some loss hope in couples when they become unfaithful to each other in marriage thus discouraging the youth. Irresponsibility and lack of commitments by many couples already married in church discourage others from to join marriage. Therefore thinking that marriage takes a lot of time organizing marriage especially wedding which is very expensive. According to Kiza Hilary (2001), marriage is defined as “A life long union of husband and wife.” He further states that it involves the establishment of relationship between the families of the husband with that of the wife. In the eye of God, marriage is dissolvable and holy.

James H. Henslin (1995) marriage can be viewed as “groups approved mating arrangements usually marked out by a ritual of some sort (wedding) to indicate the couple’s new public status.” Mbiti (2003) defined marriage as “a voluntary union for life of man and woman for purposes of funding a family.” Olson John (2000) defined in their book of marriage and family, Diversity, strengths and legal commitment between two people to share emotional and physical intimacy, various tasks and economic resources. DeGenova (1992) intimate relationship and family defined marriage as a legal union of a man and a woman for purpose of love, companionship and satisfaction of emotional needs.

Kottak Conrad Phillip (2003) mirror for humanity a concise introduction of cultural Anthropology defined marriage as “a union between a man and woman such that the children born to the woman are recognized as legitimate offspring of both partners.” According to Nisar of General Principle of law, defined marriage as “a contract between a

man and wife” He further stated that relationship confers a status on the parties to it where by a man gain status of a husband and wife. In Genesis 1: 26 man was created in God’s image and when these join together as man and woman to become one body. David N. Olson extent they assert that, “marriage is an opportunity to develop an intimate, sharing, relationship. Although many marriages fail, many others provide a supportive support context in which people develop and maintain intimacy.”

Further more, the Christians perceive marriage as very crucial in that man and woman cannot do without each other. To bring the world under control the two are complement to one another. In genesis chapter 2 the purpose for the creation of woman was for complementary of needs. Christians also view church marriage as very essential since two sets are equal before God. According to Genesis 2:21-22; it states that “He crated them male and female” Even by creating a woman from the rib of man it meant that the two are to walk together side by side. The church recognizes Christian marriage as monogamous type of marriage that is to say one man for one wife.

More so, Christians view church marriage as an important aspect because by creating man and woman God initiated the ritual of marriage Christians therefore respect church marriage which was God’s plan for kind. In addition other people view church marriage in a way; the two partners should help one another and complement each other’s needs work should be shared between man and woman. Further still, in church marriage they emphasis that woman was created to guide and counsel a man. Therefore the two cannot mislead each other but they should guide each other and accept to be guided.

Other people attach great values on Christian marriage since the two couples should worship God and wit love since he created them and gave them intelligence lacing in other animals. Other people see it as a symbolic covenant made between people and God, and as much as it is an alliance or agreement it enters the couples into a strong bond marked by the ring and such alliance is not supposed to be broken. Some people view church marriage as very attractive, enjoyable and full of happiness. On the other hand, other people regard church marriage as unnecessary because of the permanent commitments involved.

Lastly, some people regard Church marriage as expensive and that it takes a long process, considering the preparations involved people view it unnecessary.

In conclusion, marriage is an institution that is historically filled with restrictions from age, to gender, to social status; restrictions are placed on marriage by society for reasons of benefiting the children. [Http://ezinearticle.com](http://ezinearticle.com).

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines the nature in which the study has been conducted. It shows the research design, study area and population the sample selection and size the data collection methods/instruments, procedure of data collection and data analysis.

3.2 Research Design

The study was cross sectional and descriptive. The study was conducted on a case study basis. This research design was considered appropriate because there was need to establish Christian perceptions and their impacts on church marriages with in a short period.

3.3 Area and Population of Study

The study was carried out among the Christians of Rubaga division in Kampala District. This area is dominated by mainly the Catholics, Protestants and the saved. This has been chosen because most of the people in that area are to busy with business other than attending church services, I discovered this when I was staying in that area for two months.

3.4 Sample Selection and Size

In this study the sub parishes in Rubaga division was chosen on the basis of their religious foundation bodies and the state of their sect in Christianity. In this study the size was constituted of one hundred (100) respondents, the respondents were categorized into three groups namely couples that were to say husband and wife; youth and church leaders of Rubaga division. First of all, I used key informants who were informed sub-group of (10) respondents and it included church leaders for instance pastors, priests.

Another group was comprised of 20 respondents, this included youthful generation. Another category consisted of seventy respondents; these were the general residence elders of Rubaga division. To select the size above purposive or judgmental sampling and proportionate stratified random selection methods were used.

3.5 Data Collection Methods /Instruments

Data collection in this method involved use of various data collection, techniques. They also included questionnaires, observation oral interviews.

3.5.1 Validity and reliability

Before data collection, pilot sturdy was done in which the questionnaires pre-tested. This was done to check the validity of the information collected by the questionnaire as well as making sure that all the aspects of the study objectives were covered. The questions were both structured and open ended.

3.6 Procedure of Data Collection

The permission to carryout research was obtained from the university, respective administration of Kampala International University. Faulty of Education.

The school administration was granted permission to the researcher to the researchers to carryout research in their area of concern.

Questionnaires were administered to the Christians and they assured confidentiality and interviews, orally to some Christians.

3.7 Data Analysis

The results were analyzed and attention was on Christian perceptions on church marriage chosen as shown in their respective church. The data collected was manually processed and analyzed by the researcher other techniques of data analysis like tabulation and summarizing data in tables by use of percentages.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

In this chapter, different research findings of the study are discussed. Also, analysis of data is addressed. Data were collected using questionnaires which targeted the Christians perceptions of church marriage in Rubaga division so that answers could be got to address the study objectives. These were the responses for questionnaire for couples.

Table 1: Age groups of marriage

| Age blacket | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| 12 – 19 years | 4 | 15.4 |
| 20 -25 years | 11 | 42.3 |
| 30 – and above | 11 | 42.3 |
| Total | 26 | 100 |

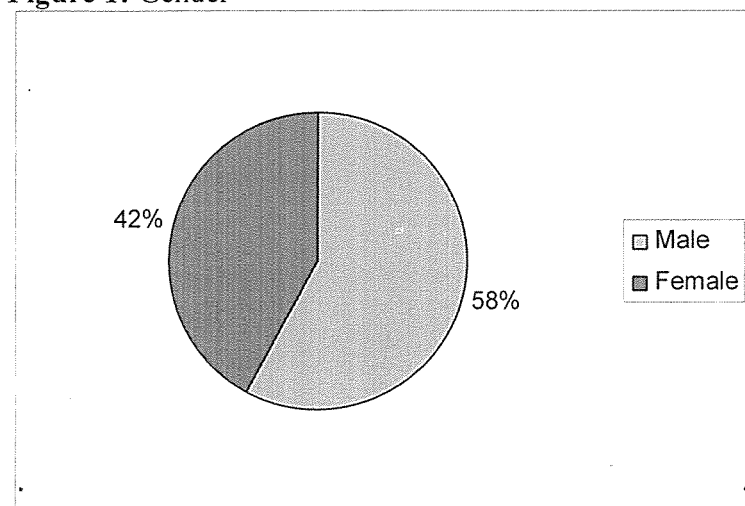
Source: Primary data

Table 1 shows the age distribution of the respondents, 15.4% fall within 12-19 years, 42.3% fall between 20-25 year and 30 and above also have 42.3%. Therefore majority of the Christians from 20 years and above enter marriage.

4.1 Gender of Respondents

There was need for the researcher to know the composition of gender of the respondents and the results were as below (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Gender



Source: Primary data

Figure shows that male intervened in the study than female.

4.2 Age of respondents

The age of respondents in Rubaga Division was important to be known to discover whether the marriage is composed of old or young people.

Table 2: Form of Marriage

| Form of marriage | Number of Respondents | Percentage (%) |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Church marriage | 14 | 53.8 |
| Traditional marriage | 12 | 46.2 |
| Civil marriage | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 26 | 100 |

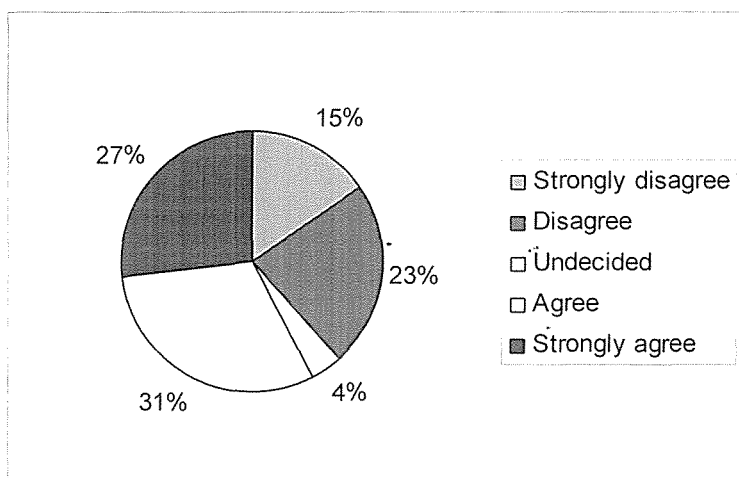
Source: Primary data

From the findings (table 2) revealed that 53.8% out of 26 respondents support to church marriage, 46.2% out of 26 respondents prefer traditional marriage and 0 percent for civil marriage out of 26 respondents. From the above findings and analysis, it shows that church marriage is strongly recognized by Christians of Rubaga Division and followed by traditional marriage and the last is civil marriage which did not have any respondent.

Table 3: Christians perceive marriage as commitment to each other

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Christians perceive marriage as commitment to each other | 4 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 7 |

Figure 2: Christians perceive marriage as commitment to each other



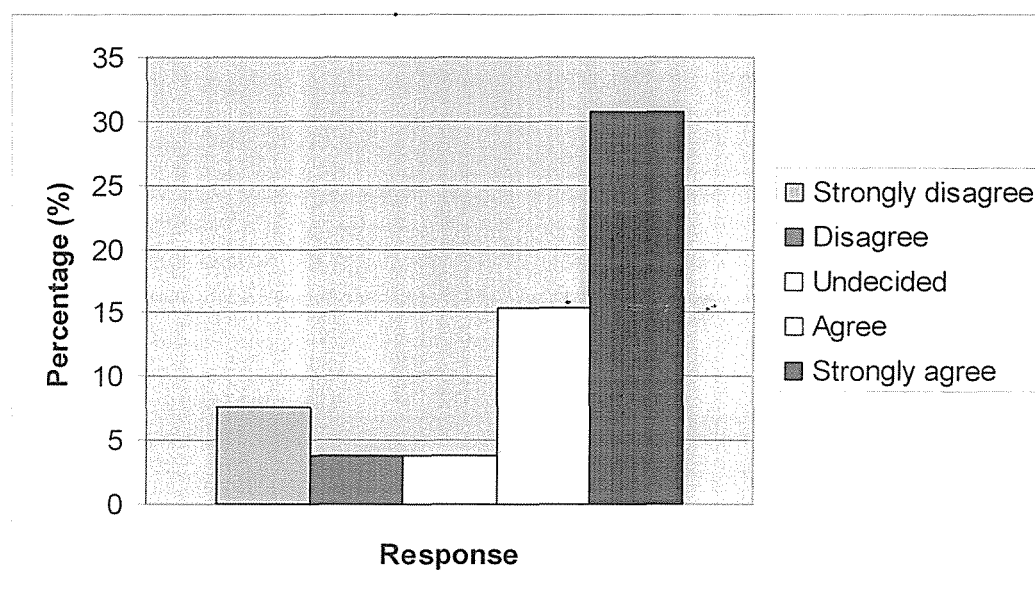
Source: Primary data

From the above statement, 15.3% out of 26 respondents strongly disagree on Christian's perceptions of marriage as commitment to each other; 23.0% out of 26 disagree, 3.8% undecided, 30.7% out of 26 agree, 26.9% out of 25 strongly agree. From the above analysis 30.7% out of 26 respondents agree and 2.9% out of 26 strongly agreed that Christians perceive marriage as commitment to each other.

Table 4: Christians perceive marriage as expensive

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Christians perceive marriage as expensive | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8 |

Figure 3: Christians perceive marriage as expensive



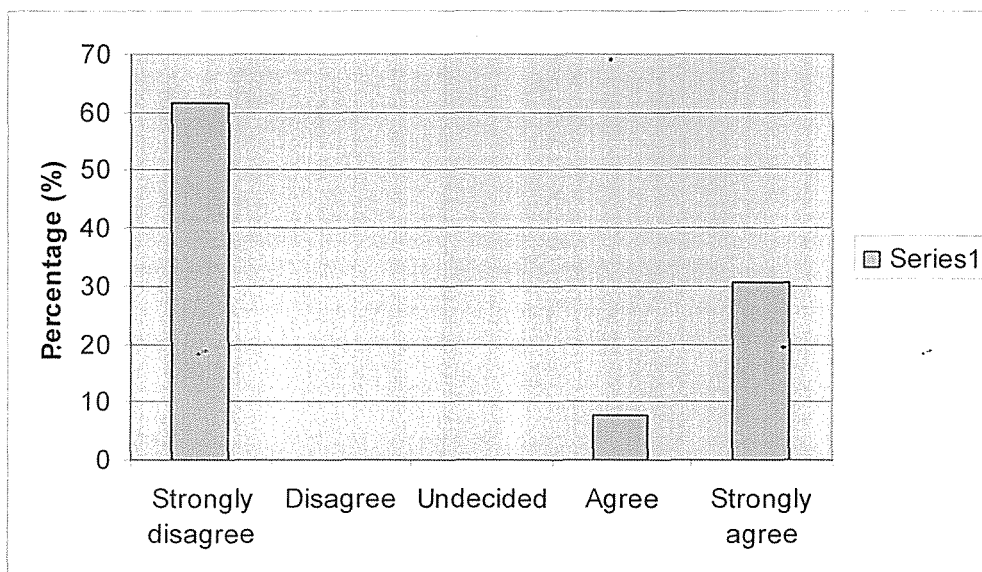
Source: Primary data

From the findings (figure 3) 7.6% out of 26 strongly agreed, 3.7% out of 26 disagreed, 3.8% out of 26 was undecided, 15.3% agreed, 30.7% strongly agreed. Therefore from the above analysis 30.7% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed that Christians perceive marriage as expensive.

Table 5: Christians perceive church marriage as time wasting

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Christians perceive church marriage as time wasting | 16 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 |

Figure 4: Christians perceive church marriage as time wasting



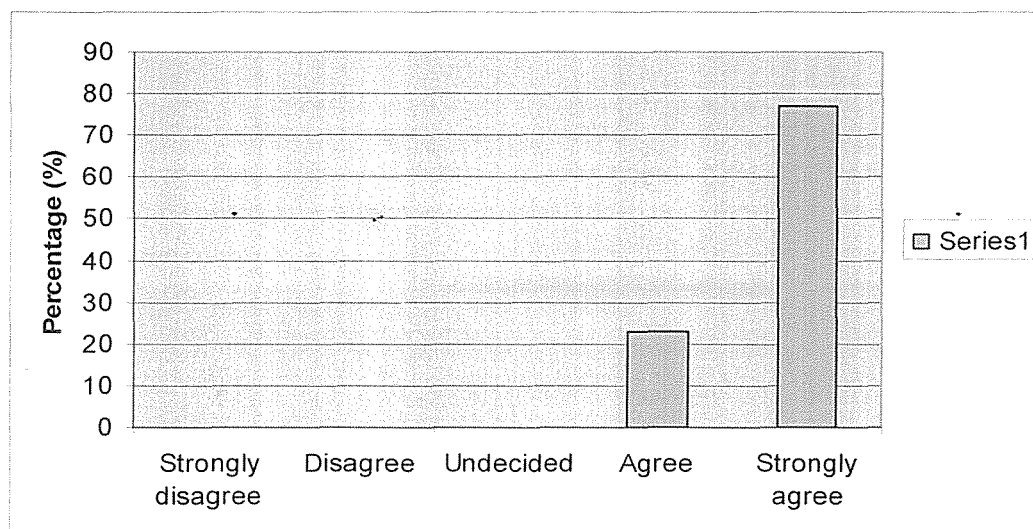
Source: Primary data

From the findings (figure 4), 61.5% out of 26 respondents strongly disagreed that Christians perceive church marriage as time wasting; none disagreed not undecided, 7.6% agreed, 30.7% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed. From the above analysis 61.5% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed from the statement in figure 4.

Table 6: Church marriage is holy and God recommends it to the Christians

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Church marriage is holy and God recommends it to the Christians | 0 | 0 | 0 | 06 | 20 |

Figure 5: Church marriage is holy and God recommends it to the Christians



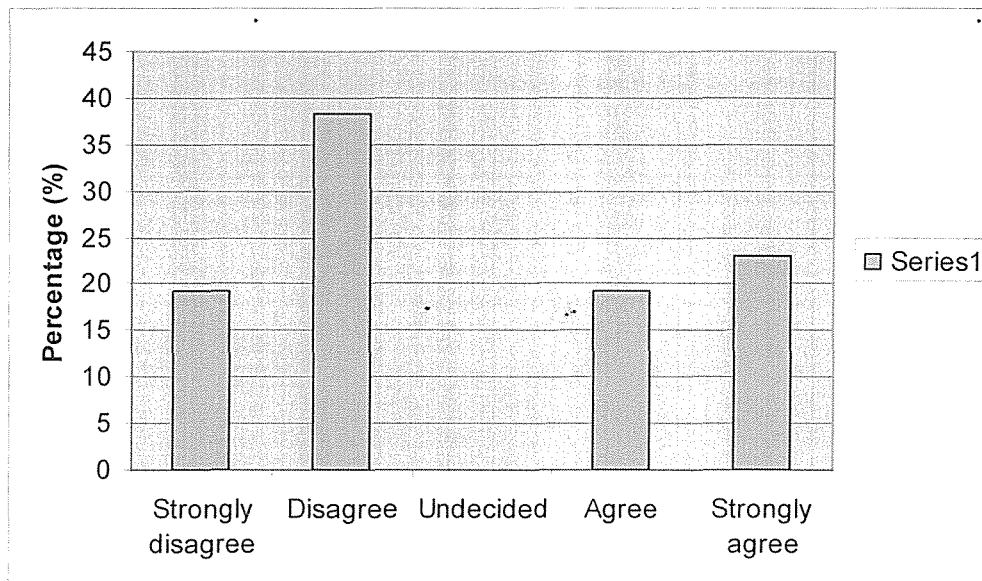
Source: Primary data

From the findings, none strongly disagreed, disagreed, and undecided, 23% out of 26 respondents agreed, 77% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed. Therefore from the above analysis, 77% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed that church marriage is holy and God recommended it to the Christians.

Table 7: Vows strengthen commitment in marriage

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Vows strengthen commitment in marriage | 5 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 6 |

Figure 6: Vows strengthen commitment in marriage



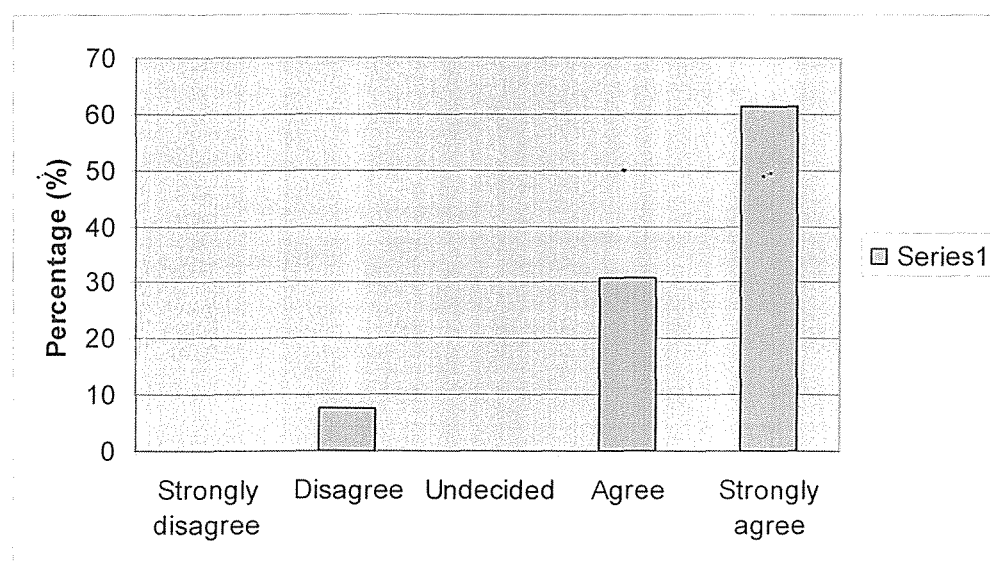
Source: Primary data

From the findings above, table 7 and figure6 shows. 19.2% strongly disagree, 38.4% disagreed, none undecided, 19.2% agreed, 23% strongly agreed out of 26 respondents. From the above analysis majority of the respondents disagreed on vows that strengthen commitment.

Table 8: In some culture marriage is an obligation of both man and woman to bear children

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| In some culture marriage is an obligation of both man and woman to bear children | 0 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 16 |

Figure 7: In some culture marriage is an obligation of both man and woman to bear children



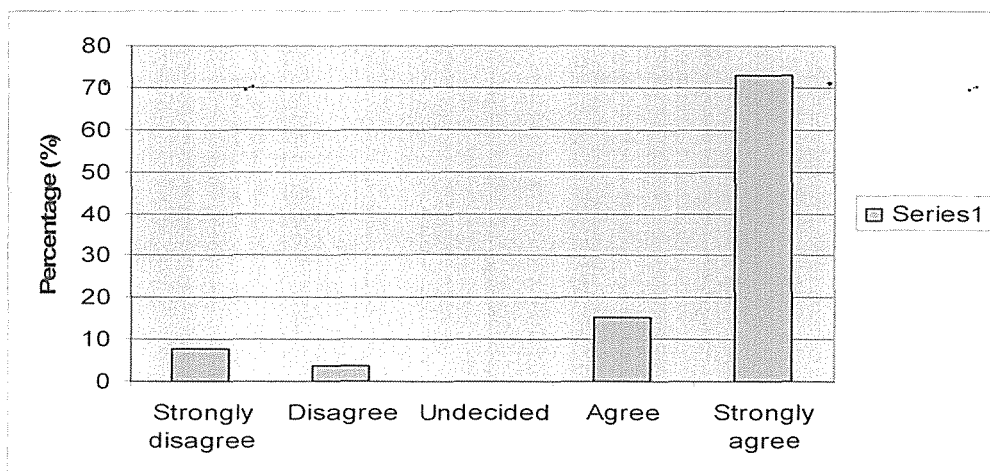
Source: Primary data

From the findings, none strongly disagreed nor undecided, 7.7% disagreed 30.8% agreed, 61.5% out of 26 respondents strongly agreed that marriage is an obligation of both man and woman to bear children from the analysis above.

Table 9: Promises and responsibilities hinder Christians from Christians from church marriage

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Promises and responsibilities hinder Christians from Christians from church marriage | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 19 |

Figure 8: Promises and responsibilities hinder Christians from church marriage

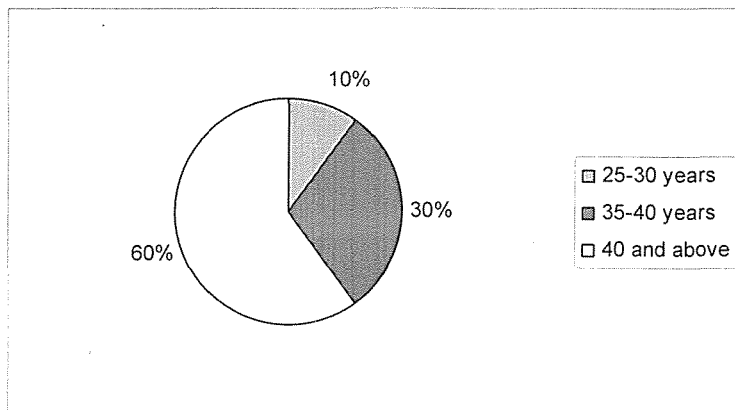


Source: Primary data

From table 9 and figure 8, 7.7% strongly disagreed, 3.8 disagreed, none undecided, 15.4% agreed and 73.1% strongly agreed out of 26 respondents. From the above statement in table 9, majority strongly agreed that promises and responsibilities hinder Christians from attaining church marriage.

Church leaders

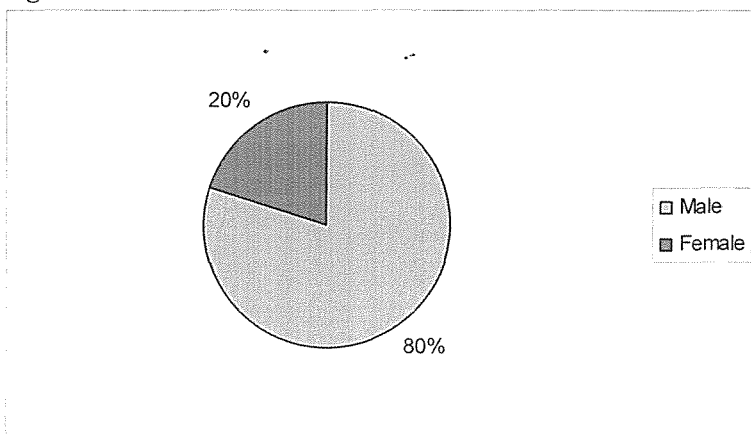
Figure 9: Age



Source: Primary data

From the above findings 25-30 years, 10% out of 10 respondents, 35-40 years 30%, 40 and above years 60%. So from the above years majority are 60% out of 10 respondents.

Figure 10: Gender



Source: Primary data

Table 10: Marital status

| Marital status | Number of respondents | Percentage (%) |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Married | 6 | 60 |
| Single | 4 | 40 |
| Total | 10 | 100 |

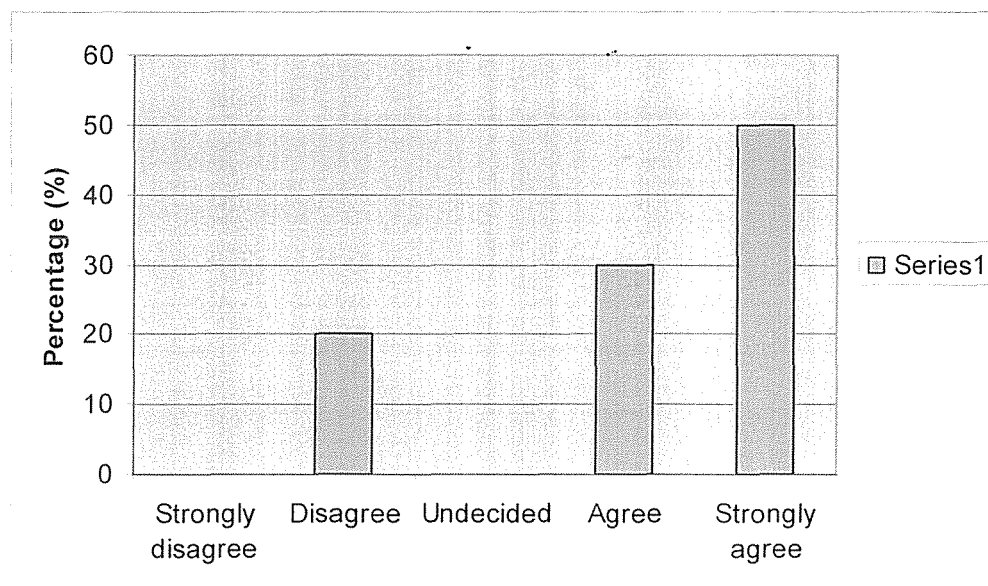
Source: Primary data

From the findings, married are 60% out of 10 respondents, single are 40% out of 10 respondents from the above data 60% out of 10 respondents are married.

Table 11: Christians ignore church marriage due to its commitments and vows

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Christians ignore church marriage due to its commitments and vows | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 5 |

Figure 11: Christians ignore church marriage due to its commitments and vows



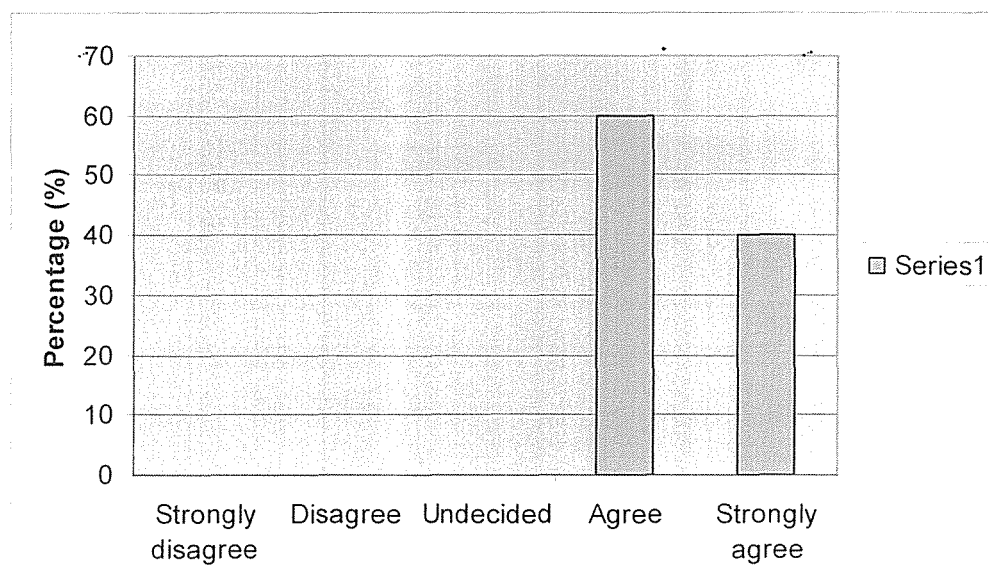
Source: Primary data

From the findings (table 11 and figure 11) none strongly disagreed nor undecided, 20% disagreed, 30% agreed and 50% out of 10 respondents strongly agree. From the above research, 50% out of 10 respondents strongly agreed the above statement in table 11.

Table 12: Church leaders encourage Christians to join church marriage because it is recognized by God

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Church leaders encourage Christians to join church marriage because it is recognized by God | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 |

Figure 12: Church leaders encourage Christians to join church marriage because it is recognized by God



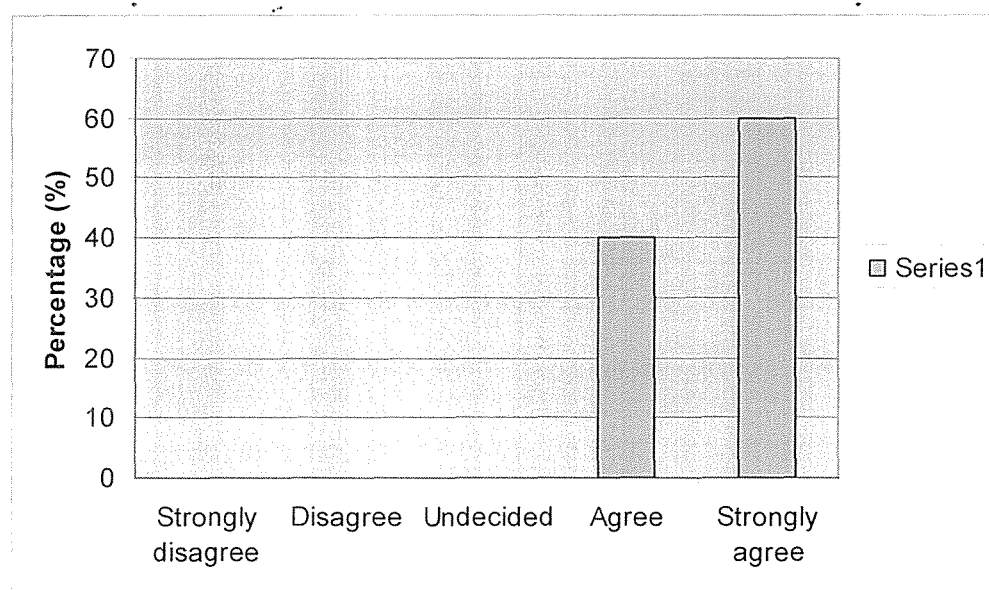
Source: Primary data

From the above table 12 and figure 12, none strongly disagreed, disagreed and undecided, 60% agreed and 40% strongly agreed. From the above findings, 60% out of 10 respondents agreed to the above statement in table 12.

Table 13: Value of church marriage are friendship, companionship, love sharing, trust to each other, commitment to each other

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Value of church marriage are friendship, companionship, love sharing trust to each other, commitment to each other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 |

Figure 13: Value of church marriage are friendship, companionship, love sharing trust to each other, commitment to each other



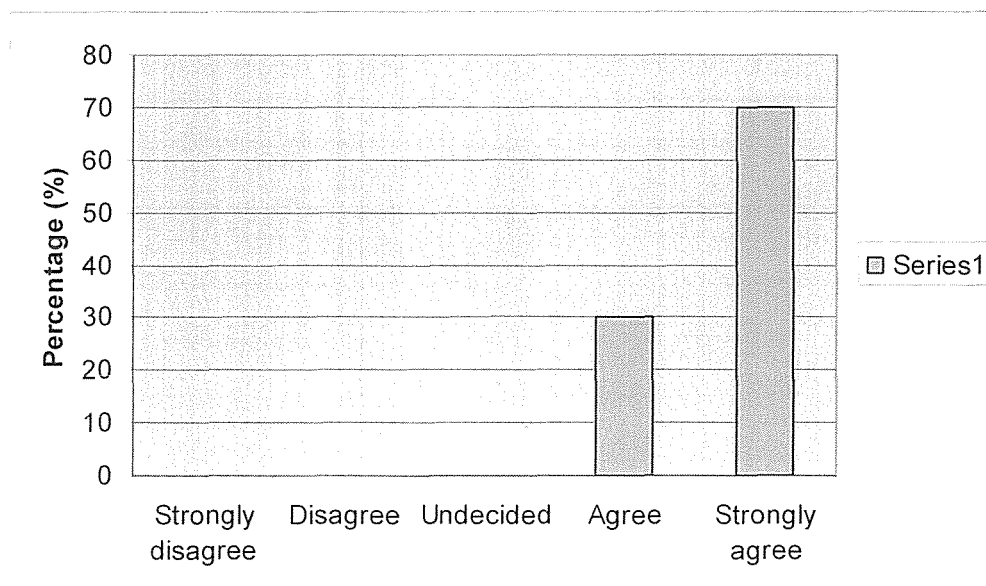
Source: Primary data

From the above tables 13 and figure 13 showed that none strongly disagreed, disagreed nor undecided, 40% agreed, 60% strongly agreed. From the above observation or findings, 0% out of 10 respondents strongly agreed on the statement in table 13.

Table 14: Church leaders facilitate workshops for Christians to learn more about church marriage

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Church leaders facilitate workshops for Christians to learn more about church marriage | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 |

Figure 14: Church leaders facilitate workshops for Christians to learn more about church marriage



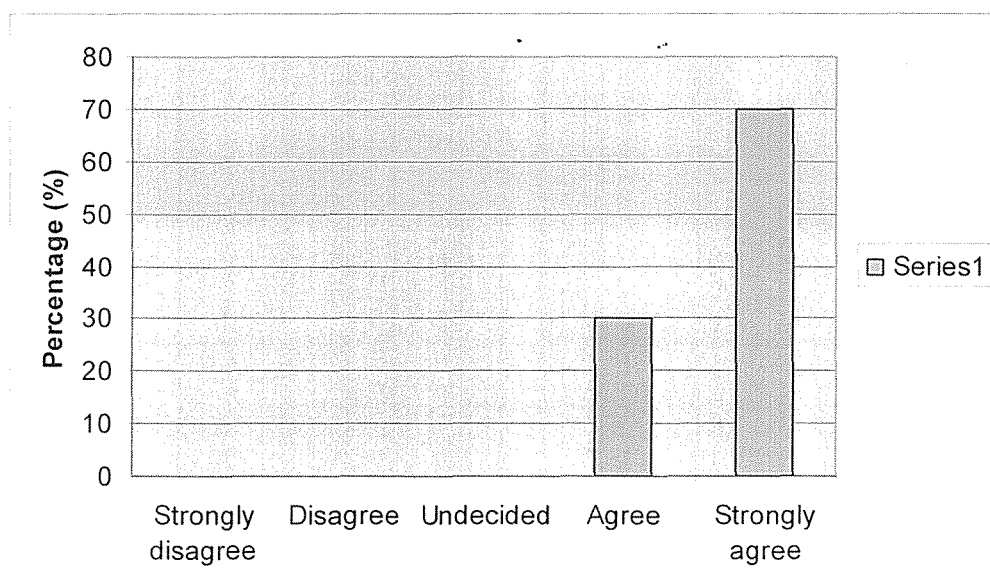
Source: Primary data

From the table 14 and figure 14 above, none strongly disagreed, disagreed nor undecided, 30% agreed, 70% out of 10 strongly agreed. From the above, this means that Christians strongly agreed that church leaders facilitate workshops on church marriage.

Table 15: Church leaders encourage the youth to go for church marriage

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Church leaders encourage the youth to go for church marriage | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 |

Figure 15: Church leaders encourage the youth to go for church marriage



Source: Primary data

From the findings, none strongly disagreed, disagreed nor undecided, 30% agreed and 70% out of 10 respondents strongly agreed on the statement in table 15. From the above analysis, church leaders encourage the youth to go for church marriage as shown in figure 15.

The following are the views mentioned by the church leaders why Christians evade church marriage.

- They give less attention to God.
- Some Christians are pagans
- Indeed church marriage is expensive for some Christians
- Some Christians believe in culture of polygamous.

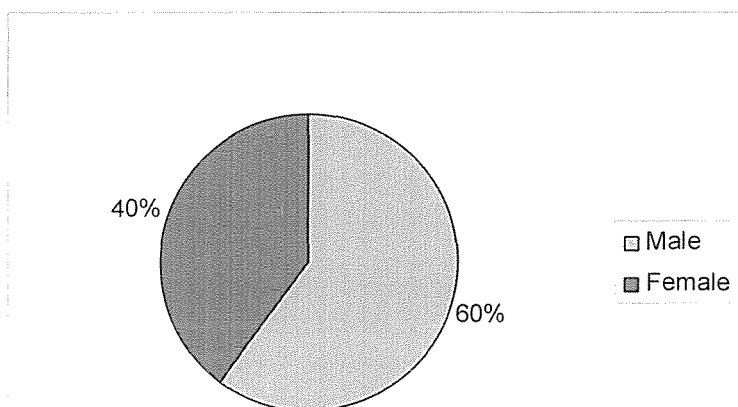
The Youth

Table 16: Age bracket

| Age bracket | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| 12 -19 years | 4 | 20 |
| 20 -25 years | 6 | 30 |
| 25 -30 years | 10 | 50 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

Figure 16: Sex



Source: Primary data

Table 16 shows age distribution 20% of years 30%, 50% out of 20 respondents. This means that majority of the youth from 25-30 years participate in marriage. Figure 16 shows the gender, number of respondents and percentages from figure 16, 60% represent males out of 20 respondents, 40% were female out of 20 respondents.

From the above table 16 and figure 16 showed that majority of the people belong to 25-30 years and from figure 16 it showed 60% of male.

Table 17: Marriage is an obligating to every youth

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Marriage is an obligating to every youth | 0 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 8 |

Table 18: Marriage is an obligating to every youth

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 0 |
| Disagree | 5 | 25 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 7 | 37 |
| Strongly agree | 8 | 40 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the table 17 and 18 showed that none strongly disagreed, nor undecided, 25% disagreed 35% agreed, 40% strongly agreed in the above statement in table17. From the above analysis, 0% out of 20 respondents strongly agreed with the statement in table 17.

Table 19: Church marriage is the best for the youth intending to marry

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Church marriage is the best for the youth intending to marry | 0 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 11 |

Table 20: Church marriage is the best for the youth intending to marry

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 0 |
| Disagree | 4 | 20 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 5 | 25 |
| Strongly agree | 11 | 55 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the above tables 19 and 20, none strongly disagreed or undecided, 20% disagreed, 25% agreed on the statement, 55% strongly agreed out of 20 respondents from the above findings, 55% out of 20 respondents strongly agreed on the statement in table 19.

Table 21: The youth do not want to take up responsibilities in society

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| The youth do not want to take up responsibilities in society | 4 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 10 |

Table 22: The youth do not want to take up responsibilities in society

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Strongly disagree | 4 | 20 |
| Disagree | 2 | 10 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 4 | 20 |
| Strongly agree | 10 | 50 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the above findings, 20% strongly disagreed, 10% disagreed, none undecided 20% agreed and 50% strongly agreed out of 20 respondents. From the findings, 50 % out of 20 respondents strongly agreed on the statement in table 7.

Table 23: The youth do not want to be committed in marriage

| | Responses | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Statement | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| The youth do not want to be committed in marriage | 1 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 4 |

Table 24: The youth do not want to be committed in marriage

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Strongly disagree | 1 | 5 |
| Disagree | 5 | 25 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 10 | 50 |
| Strongly agree | 4 | 20 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the tables 23 and 24, 5% strongly disagreed, 25% disagreed none undecided 50% agreed and 20% strongly agreed. From the above analysis, 50% agreed out of 20 respondents in the statement in table 23 and 24.

Table 25: The youth have to remain single

| | Responses | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Statement | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| The youth have to remain single | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 0 |

Table 26: The youth have to remain single

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Strongly disagree | 10 | 50 |
| Disagree | 4 | 20 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 6 | 30 |
| Strongly agree | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the findings (table 25 and 26), 50%strongly disagreed, 20% disagreed and none undecided, 30% agreed none strongly agreed. From the above analysis 50% out of 20 respondents strongly disagreed in the statement in table.

Table 27: Youth consider church marriage as western culture

| | Responses | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| Statement | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Youth consider church marriage as western culture | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 10 |

Table 28: Youth consider church marriage as western culture

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 0 |
| Disagree | 8 | 40 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 2 | 10 |
| Strongly agree | 10 | 50 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From table 27 and 28, none strongly disagreed, 40% disagreed, none undecided, 10% agreed and 50% strongly agreed. From the above findings, 50% out of 20 respondents strongly agreed in the statement in table 27.

Table 29: Marriage increases problems of the youth

| Statement | Responses | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------------|
| | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Marriage increases problems of the youth | 1 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 10 |

Table 30: Marriage increases problems of the youth

| Responses | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Strongly disagree | 1 | 5 |
| Disagree | 6 | 30 |
| Undecided | 0 | 0 |
| Agree | 3 | 15 |
| Strongly agree | 10 | 50 |
| Total | 20 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

From the above findings 5% strongly disagreed, 30% disagreed none undecided 15% agreed, 50% strongly agreed according to the responses from the respondents. From the above analysis, 50% out of 20 respondents strongly agreed on the statement in table 14.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter gives a flash back on what has been discussed in the previous chapters. Findings were collected in previous chapters and now in this chapter they act as a means to an end to provide a basis for conclusions and recommendations.

5.1 Summary of the Findings

5.1.1 Christian's perceptions of Church marriage

From the respondents church marriage has been found out to be assign and an image of the communion of the father san and Holy Spirit, marriage from the creation reflects the father's work of creation.

It has been found out that, many Christians cherish monogamy as advocated for church marriage, accept a few who are still considered traditional values church marriage has expressed distinguished love trust, commitment and faithfulness between the couples.

Considering the social being of marriage we find that, this church marriage relationship must be nurtured and maintained for a welfare and sustainable society.

From the findings majority of the respondents still respect church marriage as the only important type of marriage in society.

A few respondents mainly the youth try to evade church marriage due to fear of responsibilities, promises, being expensive. However majority of the Christians in Rubaga division still embrace church marriage despite of the fact that a few problems like

a lot of preparations during the ceremony and other causes like poverty, rigid culture that hinder some Christians from embracing church marriage.

The church marriage reflects father's work of creation of children in a family. In relation to the above one respondent mentioned that a family that is built on foundation of church marriage couples exhibit trust and love in themselves and among their off springs.

Couples who are willingly decided to have marriage vows in the presence of the church or congregation are more important because God becomes the author of the marriage. Similarly one respondent said that revelation 19:9 says "blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the lamb" So God gives an appreciation of the importance of church marriage from the biblical perspective.

Some respondents explained church marriage as imported from Europe which is associated with western culture and therefore what is recognized is traditional marriage. Another respondent said that one of the partners gets a problem especially a man, the church or the parents of the girl can not rescue you.

5.1.2 Reasons why some Christians hold church marriage

One respondent said that church marriage is permanent and for life that is to say the marriage cannot easily be broken, that Jesus him self clearly shows that marriage should be permanent (Mark 10:2-11).

More so, some respondents hold church marriage because it is holy, pure. It involves future togetherness, love and common interests in the church.

One respondent said that church marriage is good because it brings prestige to the parents of both side the members of the church, bride and bridegroom especially on the give away day all people are honored on the wedding day.

Further more, one respondent hold church marriage because of the emphasis of one woman one man and this is found in Genesis 2:21-22 and this marriage does not give room for indissolubility.

5.1.3 Reasons why some Christians do not hold church marriage

Some people see no importance in church marriage because irresponsibility and lack of commitment by many people already married in church so this discourages other Christians who would like to join church marriage.

In addition, it was found out that, some people think that church marriage takes along process, a lot of promises, too much responsibilities, vows in church as well as no room for polygamy in case of infertility of the partners or failure to bear children. Hence failure to separate.

Wedding is very expensive and some thing it is for the elites and rich only due to high bride price, which is a problem for those intending to marry and to get married, and punishment to those who fail to live to the expectations of the church for example stopping you from taking holy communion.

All in all despite all the above problems, any Christians of Rubaga division feel it as important to have their marriage blessed in church. This is evidenced by the number of respondents who ticked strongly agree in favour of church marriage.

5.2 Conclusion

The above study has been carried out effectively and the results were that Christians embrace church marriage despite of the hindrances they meet like poverty, limited time, sharing vows promises, and cultural belief depending of Christian's perceptions of marriage in society.

5.3 Recommendations

The researcher's recommendations are majority based on what was got from the research work, books, documents, oral interviews and personal experience. Therefore in trying to put across the recommendations, couples (parents), youth, church leaders and the state to work hand in hand to eradicate cases of evasion of church marriage by Christians.

5.3.1 Recommendations to the couples

Couples should be responsible and be exemplary to their children. They should have a collective responsibility of guidance and correcting their children in matters of sex and marriage. This will enlighten the children on premarital sex and cohabitation in the society.

Further still couples themselves are called upon to live faithfully according to the expectation of their promises, such as love, sharing, commitment and mutual co-operation with each other as the vales of church marriage are expected to be in church.

5.3.2 Recommendations to the church leaders

The church leaders should continue taking up the duty of educating and sensitizing Christians, about the institutions of marriage this can be done through Family Life Education Programmers. It is the duty of the church leaders to help its members of the church to identify the cultural beliefs and behaviors which are hindering church marriage among Christians.

The church leaders should discourage too much expenditure on wedding, ceremonies on this note, the church leaders can advise means of wedding Christians most especially on official days in the church's calendar.

The church leaders should put emphasis on teaching Christian norms and values in the church in order to enlighten the Christians both marriage especially church marriage.

5.3.3 Recommendations to the youth

The youth should first of all appreciate the life they have as a gift from God, so this gift of life should not be misused before marriage which may result into intended marriages that are not blessed by God.

The youth should avoid cohabiting meanwhile saving funds for expensive weddings, so they should be hard working and disciplined in society.

All in all, youth should be respectful, patient in their undertaking towards marriage and abide to the instructions given by the parents. This will help them live longer (Ephesians 6:1-3).

5.3.4 Recommendations to the State

In general the state also has a duty to provide necessary education to impart morals, values and responsibility concerning marriage.

The state should also assist in enforcing discipline in the church, families, married couples plus the youth. The government should put laws governing people's rights such as women, children, handicapped in the society.

Finally, the researcher recommends that, the state most especially the Ministry of ethics and integrity to carry out extensive and well organized seminars to the local people about marriage institution and mainly church marriage which is blessed by God.

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APPENDIX I: LETTER

KAMPALA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FACULTY EDUCATION.

Dear Respondent,

I am a student of Kampala International University doing Bachelor of Guidance and Counseling with Education first semester, third year, it is an obligation to carryout research. To the above therefore, kindly I request you to provide me with the answers to the questions below. This information is needed for academic purposes and will be handled with confidentiality and respect.

APPENDIX II: COUPLES QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Age bracket

12 -19 ☐

20-25 ☐

30-70 ☐

(Tick appropriately)

2. Sex:

Male ☐

Female ☐

(Tick appropriately)

3. Marital status:

Married ☐

(Tick appropriately)

Forms Of Church marriage

Married in church ☐

married traditionally ☐

Civil marriage ☐

Instructions

Tick from the choices below which best describe the statement.

1. Disagree

2. Strongly disagree

3. Undecided

4. Agree

5. Strongly agree

Tick from the choices bellow which the best describes the statement

| | Statements | Strongly disagree 1 | Disagree 2 | Undecided 3 | Agree 4 | Strongly agree 5 |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Christians perceive marriage as commitment to each other | | | | | |
| 2 | Christians perceive marriage as Expensive | | | | | |
| 3 | Christian perceive marriage as time wasting | | | | | |
| 4 | Church marriage is holy and God recommends it to the Christians | | | | | |
| 5 | Vows strengthens commitment in marriage | | | | | |
| 6 | In some culture marriage is an obligation of both man and woman to bear children | | | | | |
| 7 | Promises and responsibilities hinder Christians from church marriage. | | | | | |

Be blessed my brothers and sisters in Christ.

APPENDIX III: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE CHURCH LEADERS

1. Age bracket
 25 -30 ☐
 35-40 ☐
 40-70 ☐
 (Tick appropriately)

2. Sex:
 Male ☐
 Female ☐
 (Tick appropriately)

3. Marital status:
 Married ☐
 Single ☐

To the church leaders

Responses

| | Statements | Strongly disagree 1 | Disagree 2 | Undecided 3 | Agree 4 | Strongly agree 5 |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Christians ignore church marriage due to its commitments and vows | | | | | |
| 2 | Church leader encourage Christians to join | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | church marriage because it s recognized by God as the only marriage recognized by God | | | | | |
| 3 | Church leaders facilitate workshops for Christians to learn more about church marriage | | | | | |
| 4 | Church leaders encourage the youth to go for church marriage | | | | | |
| 5 | Friendship, companionship, love, sharing, trust To each other are values of church marriage. | | | | | |

As a priest or reverend, what do you think are the problems which affect Christian from joining church marriage? Mention three.

- a].....
b
c.....

Be blessed my brothers and sisters in Christ.

APPENDIX IV: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE YOUTH

1. Age bracket

(12-19) ☐

(20-25) ☐

(25-30) ☐

(Tick one)

2. Sex

Male ☐

Female ☐

3. Marital status

Single ☐

(Tick one)

TO THE YOUTH

Responses

| | Statements | Strongly disagree 1 | Disagree 2 | Undecided 3 | Agree 4 | Strongly agree 5 |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Marriage is an obligation to every youth | | | | | |
| 2 | Church marriage is the bet for the youth intending to marry | | | | | |
| 3 | The youth do not want to take up responsibilities in the society. | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5 | The youth do not to want to be committed in marriage | | | | | |
| 6 | The youth have to remain single. | | | | | |
| 7 | Youth consider church marriage as Western culture | | | | | |
| 8 | Marriage increases problems of the youth. | | | | | |

APPENDIX V

SAMPLE OF INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE

COUPLES

1. As a couple what are your perceptions on marriage?
2. If married in church, were you initially married in church at the beginning of your marriage or later.
3. What are the values of church marriage?
4. What do you think hinders some of the couples from embracing church marriage?

APPENDIX VI:

SAMPLE OF INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE YOUTH

1. Are you intending to get married?
2. What type of marriage ?
3. As a youth do you think it is important to have church marriage?
4. What do you think hinders Christians from embracing church marriage?
5. What are the values of church marriage in society?

APPENDIXVII: ESTIMATED BUDGET OF THE REPORT

| No | Item | Amount Ug Shs) |
|----|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | Ream | 6,000 |
| 2. | Pens | 1,000 |
| 3. | Flash | 40,000 |
| 4. | Library fee | 5,000 |
| 5. | Transport | 20,000 |
| 6. | Typing | 60,000 |
| 7. | Printing | 40,000 |
| 8. | Binding | 24,000 |
| 9. | Communications | 4,000 |
| | Total | 200,000 |

**APPENDIX VIII: A SKETCH MAP OF KAMPALA DISTRICT
SHOWING RUBAGA DIVISION RESEARCH AREA**

