

**THE EFFECTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON THE BEHAVIOR AND
WELFARE OF THE CHILDREN IN KASESE, UGANDA**

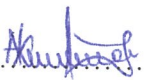
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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF
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DECLARATION

I **Atuhairwe Keren** hereby declare that the work in this research dissertation is my original work to the best of my knowledge and has never been submitted for any award in any university or institution.

Signature: 

ATUHAIRWE KEREN

Date 01st JUNE, 2013

APPROVAL

This research dissertation has been submitted for examination with my approval as university supervisor.

Signature

Dr. Otanga Rusoke

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my parents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I greatly acknowledge the efforts of my respondents from Kasese for their active participation during my research which enabled me to fulfill the objectives of my research.

My special thanks and recognition go to my supervisor Dr Otanga Rusoke who has been guiding me during my research until its completion.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	i
APPROVAL	ii
DEDICATION.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	iv
ABSTRACT	viii
 CHAPTER ONE	 1
1.0 The perception of the problem.....	1
1.1 Background to the study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	3
1.3 Objectives of the study	3
1.3.1 General objective	3
1.3.2 Specific objectives	3
1.4 Research questions.....	4
1.5 Scope of the study.....	4
1.6 Significance of the study	5
 CHAPTER TWO	 7
LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1 The nature of domestic violence.....	7
2.2 What are the causes of domestic violence?	9
2.3 Effects of domestic violence.....	10
2.4 Need for Prevention and Early Intervention in cases of domestic violence	18
 CHAPTER THREE	 21
METHODOLOGY	21
3.1 Research design	21
3.2 Study population	21
3.3 Sampling procedure	21
3.4 Sample size	22
3.5 Tools of data collection	22
3.6 Sources of data.....	22
3.7 Data analysis	23
 CHAPTER FOUR	 24
ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS	24
4.1 Bio data.....	24

4.1.1 Sex	24
4.1.2 Age distribution of the respondent	25
4.1.3 Education level	26
4.1.4 Marital Status	27
4.2. Rate of domestic violence in Kasese	27
4.3 Forms of domestic violence.....	28
4.3.1 Physical Harassment.....	28
4.3.2 Denial of food.....	29
4.3.3 Sexual violence.....	29
4.3.4 Gender violence	29
4.3.5 Beating and Bullying	29
4.3.6 Verbal abuse	30
4.4 Causes of domestic violence.....	30
4.4.1 Drunkardness	30
4.4.2 Misunderstandings between spouses	31
4.4.3 Poverty	31
4.4.4 Cultures and traditions.....	31
4.4.5 Peer pressure among children	31
4.4.6 Adultery	32
4.5. Effects of domestic violence on child welfare.....	32
4.5.1 Physical disabilities	32
4.5.2 Lack of parental care.	33
4.5.3 Divorced parents.....	33
4.5.4 Lack of education	33
4.5.5 Street children	33
4.5.6 Death.....	34
4.6 Attitudes and beliefs attached to domestic violence.....	34
4.7 Solutions to the problem of domestic violence.....	35
4.7.1 Legislations.....	35
4.7.2 Sensitization.....	35
4.7.3 Establishment of family welfare offices	36
4.7.4 Advocacy	36
4.8 challenges to solving the problem of domestic violence	37
4.8.1 Hiding information on domestic violence	37

4.8.2 Poverty	37
4.8.3 Poor law enforcement	38
4.8.4 Corruption and Bribery	38
4.8.5 Lack of funds	38
4.9 Help given to children who are affected by domestic violence	39
4.9.1 Rehabilitation programmes	39
4.9.2 Separating children from their abusers	39
4.9.3 Sponsoring children in schools	40
4.9.4 Establishment of children homes	40
CHAPTER FIVE	41
DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	41
5.1. Discussions	41
5.2 Conclusions	42
5.3 RECOMENDATIONS	43
5.3.1 Recommendations to the Government	43
5.3.2 Recommendations to the NGO's	43
5.3.3 Recommendations to the local community	44
5.3.4 Recommendations to the international community	45
5.3.5 General recommendations	45
5.3.6 Area for further research	46
REFERENCES	47
APPENDIX I	50
APPENDIX II: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES	53
APPENDIX III: PROPOSED BUDGET	55
APPENDIX IV: TIME FRAME	56

ABSTRACT

The study aimed at establishing the effects of domestic violence on the behavior and welfare of the children in Kasese in Uganda. The problem was the persistent domestic violation of behavior and welfare of the children and therefore, to assess the effects of domestic violence on the behavior and child welfare in Kasese and find out the way forward to solve the prevailing violation. The objectives of this study were; to establish the different forms of domestic violence and child abuses in Kasese, to establish community attitudes, beliefs and values about domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation in Kasese, to identify the causes and effects of child domestic violence on child welfare in Kasese, to establish the prevention strategies for domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation in Kasese. Domestic violence is a pressing issue and has been the subject of much debate, activism and academic research. It is commonly argued that violence between intimate partners remains largely hidden and that children in families where poverty is the order of the day endure much physical, emotional and sexual abuse. This qualitative study focuses on the experiences on the effects of domestic violence on the behavior and welfare of the children in Kasese, Uganda. Although the children had been fearful of reporting their abuse and had spent years suffering silently, all had finally displayed much urgency in reporting the actions of their abusers. In reflecting on their circumstances, the children refer to the primary factors influencing their parents to become abusers: unemployment, financial hardships and poverty, alcohol and drugs, and factors such as immature attitudes, cultural beliefs and jealousy.. Children born in disorganized families had suffered more abuse and were controlled than their children from organized counterparts. The study makes many policy recommendations but emphasizes the importance of doing substantive work to probe childrens' experiences of abuse in intimate unions in Kasese district western Uganda.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 The perception of the problem

This chapter discussed about the following sub heading in details; background, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study and significant of the study.

1.1 Background to the study

Domestic violence is the establishment of control and fear in an intimate adult relationship through the use of violence and other forms of abuse. The aim of domestic violence perpetrators is power and control over victims. Domestic violence takes many forms. Abusive behaviors used by perpetrators, also called batterers, include physical, sexual, and psychological attacks; economic oppression; intimidation; threats; manipulation and maltreatment of children; and isolation.

Domestic violence can occur in heterosexual relationships, same-sex relationships, and teen dating relationships. Although women can be batterers, recent statistics show that 85% of domestic violence victims are female (BJS, 2003).

Child abuse and neglect is a community concern. Each community has a legal and moral obligation to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, which includes responding effectively to child maltreatment. At the State and local levels, professionals assume various roles and responsibilities ranging from prevention, identification, and reporting of child maltreatment to intervention, assessment, and treatment. Child protective services (CPS) agencies, along with law enforcement, play a central role in receiving and investigating reports of child maltreatment. With the increasingly recognized overlap between domestic violence and child maltreatment, CPS is working more closely with those providing services related to domestic violence to ensure more comprehensive assistance to both the child and victim. This manual offers considerations

and alternate protocols for CPS caseworkers culled from the practices of various agencies involved in addressing both forms of violence.

To protect children from harm, CPS relies on community members to identify and report suspected cases of child maltreatment, including physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and psychological maltreatment. Many community professionals (including health care providers, mental health professionals, educators, and legal and court system personnel) are involved in responding to cases of child maltreatment and domestic violence and providing needed services. It is important to note that various professionals are mandated to report suspected child maltreatment to CPS or law enforcement, such as health care workers and school personnel. In some States, those who provide services related to domestic violence also are mandated reporters. In addition, community-based agency staff, clergy, extended family members, and concerned citizens play important roles in supporting and keeping families safe.

Domestic violence is a devastating social problem that affects every segment of the population. While system responses are primarily targeted towards adult victims of abuse, increasing attention is now focused on the children who witness domestic violence. Studies estimate that 10 to 20 percent of children are at risk for exposure to domestic violence. Research also indicates children exposed to domestic violence are at an increased risk of being abused or neglected, and that a majority of studies reveal there are adult and child victims in 30 to 60 percent of families who experience domestic violence.

Therefore, it was from this background that the researcher wanted to establish how the problem of domestic violence had affected the welfare of children in Kasese and Uganda at large. This helped to provide viable strategies that could be put in place to solve the problems of domestic violence and child abuse.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Despite the significant progress registered in Uganda's efforts to raise public awareness about individual fundamental rights to protection from violence and discrimination, violence against women and children continues to undermine family stability, female productivity and national development efforts. Counseling, capacity building and human rights monitoring interventions have identified direct and non-direct forms of gender-based domestic violence against children as major contributory factors to serious social problems like the early pregnancies, child prostitution, family neglect, dramatization of children, child labor and street children.

The current relatively uncoordinated interventions in this area are predominantly carried out by civil society organizations. The state does not have in place a comprehensive strategy that combines policy and practice to address this "hidden" problem of child abuse and exploitation as a result of domestic violence. Therefore, this research will aim at establishing the effects of domestic violence on child welfare and suggest viable measures that can be taken to solve the problems associated to child abuse and domestic violence.

1.3 Objectives of the study

1.3.1 General objective

To assess the effects of domestic violence on child welfare in Kasese.

1.3.2 Specific objectives

- i. To establish the different forms of domestic violence and child abuses in Kasese.
- ii. To establish community attitudes, beliefs and values about domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation in Kasese.
- iii. To identify the causes and effects of child domestic violence on child welfare in Kasese.
- iv. To establish the prevention strategies for domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation in Kasese.

1.4 Research questions

- i. What forms of domestic violence and child abuses exist in Kasese?
- ii. What are community attitudes, beliefs and values about domestic violence and child welfare in Kasese?
- iii. What are the possible causes and effects of domestic violence on child welfare in Kasese District?
- iv. What preventive strategies can be put in place to solve the problems of domestic violence and child abuse?

1.5 Scope of the study

1.5.1 Geographical scope

The study was carried out in Uganda, Kasese district.. The area was one of the areas in Uganda with high reproductive rates and overpopulated.

It also experienced a problem of alcoholism which is one of prime causes of domestic violence. It has a cold climate for most of the year and is more of an agricultural centre with a lot of food crops being produced in the area for both commercial and subsistence purposes.

1.5.2 Content scope

The study focused on the effects of domestic violence on the welfare of children in Kasese. It examined the community attitudes, beliefs and values towards domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation, the causes to domestic violence and child abuse and exploitation, the forms of child abuse and domestic violence and the strategies that could be put in place to solve the problem of domestic violence.

1.5.3 Time scope

The study was carried out for a period of four months starting from February to May 2013.

1.6 Significance of the study

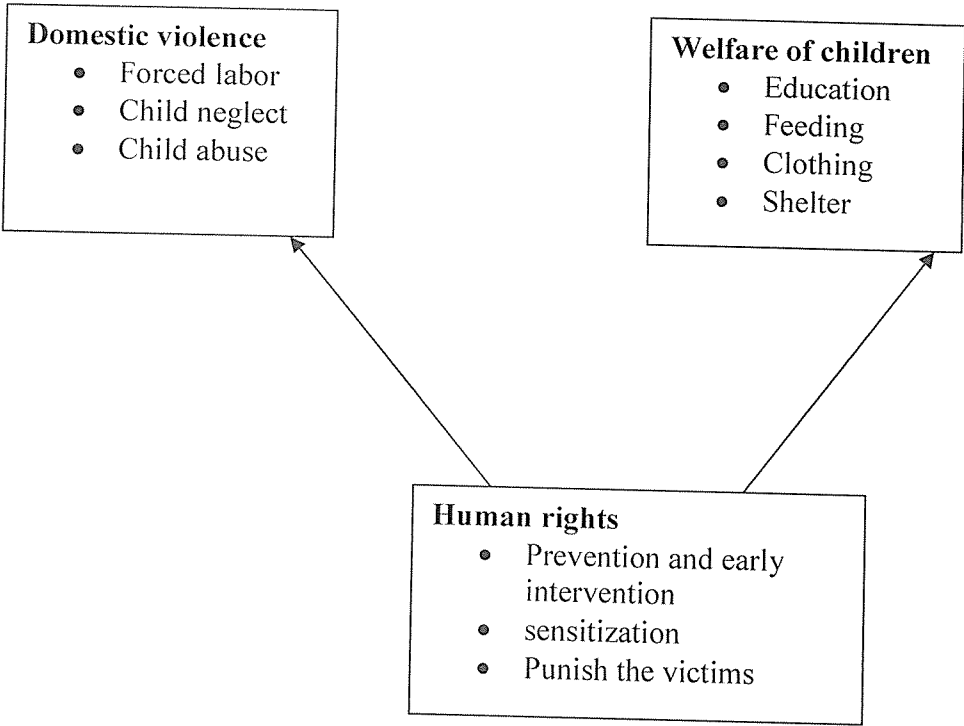
The study findings helped to reveal how the status of children in Uganda was concerned. This will provide a baseline on which children's rights activists are going to work in order to promote quality life of children, men and women at family level and national level at large.

The study results will try to educate the public on the role of children towards community social economic development. This will enlighten the public about the need for children to be fairly treated and given every social need for better growing hence fostering community development.

The study results will provide information to the public policy makers to recognize the impact of domestic violence on children's welfare. This will lead to the formulation of policies that are gender sensitive hence put children's rights at the fore front.

The study results will be used by future researchers and academicians for future reference to understand the nature of the research problem at length.

1.7 Conceptual frameworks.



Source: Researcher’s developed model

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the nature of domestic violence, causes of domestic violence, effects of domestic violence, need for prevention and early intervention in cases of domestic violence.

2.1 The nature of domestic violence

Though experts suspect is vastly under-reported, it is known that domestic violence in the United States is widespread. Nearly 25% of American women report being raped or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, cohabiting partner, or date at some time in their lifetime, according to the National Violence against Women Survey (CDC, 2000).

Violence of this kind occurs every year to women from all walks of life. In 2001, more than half a million American women (588,490 women) were victims of nonfatal violence committed by an intimate partner (BJS, 2003). Women of all races are about equally vulnerable to domestic violence (BJS, 1995).

Domestic violence can be fatal. On average, more than three women are murdered by their partners in the U.S. every day. In 2000, 1,247 women were killed by an intimate partner. The same year, 440 men were killed by an intimate partner (BJS, 2003).

Adults are not the only victims of domestic violence. Children live in many of the homes where domestic violence occurs: one study found that slightly more than half of female victims of domestic violence live in households with children under age 12 (DOJ, 1998).

In some of these homes, children are maltreated by the batterer, his victim, or both. The correlation between domestic violence and child maltreatment is a strong one, especially where the domestic violence is frequent: in a national survey of more than 6,000

American families, half of the men who frequently assaulted their wives also frequently abused their children (Strauss & Gelles, 1990).

Research at Yale New Haven Hospital revealed that “in the vast majority of cases” where a mother was battered and a child was maltreated, the man who battered the mother also abused or neglected the child. In other words, the “man hits wife, wife hits child” scenario is rare; abuse tends to flow from a single source usually the male batterer (Weinstein, 2002).

In the minority of cases when the adult victim of domestic violence abuses or neglects her children, her actions are often linked to the domestic violence. For example, a batterer’s actions may prevent a woman from satisfying her children’s basic needs for food, supervision, and support. However, some battered women will abuse or neglect their children whether or not they are being abused themselves.

There is also a link between domestic violence and child fatalities. Of the 67 child fatalities in Massachusetts in 1992, 29 (43%) were in families where the mother identified herself as a victim of domestic violence. In 17 of the 22 (77%) child deaths examined by the N.C. Division of Social Services’ child fatality review team in 2000, the families involved were struggling with both domestic violence and substance abuse (McHenry, 2001).

Even if they are not physically involved, often children know about domestic violence. It is estimated that 87% of the children in homes where domestic violence occurs are aware of the violence (Youngblood & Morris, 2003). As discussed below, witnessing domestic violence can have serious consequences for children.

The number of children exposed to domestic violence is staggering. Between 3.3 million (Carlson, 1984) and 10 million (Strauss, 1991) children in the U.S. witness some form of domestic violence each year.

2.2 What are the causes of domestic violence?

Over the years, people have attributed the cause of domestic violence to factors such as genetics, illness, alcohol and drugs, anger, marital problems, and stress. Sometimes people even blame the victim, believing her behavior provoked the violence.

In truth, battering is a learned behavior. Individuals learn domestic violence in their families, communities, schools, peer groups, and in our culture at large. It is reinforced through exposure to values and beliefs put forth by the media, education, religion, and other social institutions that directly or indirectly condone the use of violence against women.

Although in a sense battering is caused by our culture, from a legal and practical standpoint every perpetrator of domestic violence, like everyone else in society, is ultimately responsible for his/her abusive behavior, and for stopping it.

Most victims of domestic violence are women involved in heterosexual relationships, although men and people involved in same-sex relationships can also be targets of intimate violence. When battering occurs in same-sex relationships the tools of abuse are often different. For example, a female partner may threaten to “out” a woman to her friends and family in order to gain control over her.

Victims of male violence are no more likely than non-victims to have symptoms of psychopathology, to be hostile, or to abuse alcohol. When victims of domestic violence do exhibit mental illness or substance abuse issues, these problems are often the result of stress caused by the chronic abuse (Hotaling & Sugarman, 1986).

In the short term, whether it is the first incident of domestic violence or the hundredth, domestic violence is often marked by a particular cycle. In this cycle of violence there is a buildup of tension, followed by an abusive event (not always physical), followed by contrition from the abuser and a period of relative calm. The cycle then repeats itself. With some abusers this cycle gradually increases in frequency and intensity, putting the woman and her children at greater and greater risk (Walker, 1979). Though there is some

disagreement within the domestic violence movement about whether this cycle is applicable to all cases of domestic violence, every child welfare professional should understand this important theory.

In order to protect themselves and their children, victims of domestic violence usually go to great lengths to prevent, anticipate, and avoid abusive episodes. Ganley and Schechter (1996).

Child welfare workers should consider the victim's attempts to protect herself and her children as strengths that can be built upon during an intervention. Though they may not work, these attempts may have been the best choice for her within the context of the abuse.

2.3 Effects of domestic violence

Domestic violence affects its adult victims in a number of ways. In addition to physical injuries, batterers often inflict emotional and psychological damage on their partners. Normal emotional responses to battering include fear, denial, anger, guilt, and feelings of helplessness. Some of the more serious psychological consequences of battering include depression, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and substance abuse. As is the case with child maltreatment, when the domestic violence is severe and chronic, victims are more likely to suffer serious effects for a longer period of time. However, many victims recover well from the effects of the abuse once they are safely out of the abusive situation and properly supported.

Domestic violence can definitely interfere with an adult victim's ability to parent her children. For example, injuries caused by the batterer may prevent a mother from getting out of bed in the morning, so that she cannot feed her children and tend to their needs. Even when she is physically capable, batterers may interfere with proper care of the children (e.g., preventing her from taking children to the doctor).

Perpetrators of domestic violence take away the victim's ability to direct her own life and protect her children. With appropriate intervention, most victims of domestic violence can provide proper care for their children.

Children who see, hear, or are otherwise aware of domestic violence in their homes experience a broad range of responses. Some appear to be unaffected. Others experience negative developmental, emotional, psychological, and behavioral consequences. Indeed, some children who live with domestic violence demonstrate the same symptoms as children who are physically abused and neglected (Mecklenburg, 1999).

A number of factors may influence how an individual child responds to being exposed to domestic violence. These factors include the level of violence, the degree of the child's exposure to the violence, the child's exposure to other stressors, and the child's individual coping skills. Not surprisingly, the child's age affects his or her ability to cope with exposure to domestic violence: younger children are more vulnerable. The victim's relationship to the child and the presence of a parent or a caregiver to mediate the intensity of the event are also potential factors in a child's reaction (Weinstein, 2002).

Short-term effects in children exposed to battering include PTSD, sleep disturbances, separation anxiety, depression, aggression, passivity or withdrawal, distractibility, concentration problems, hypervigilance, and desensitization to violent events. Child observers of domestic violence also tend to have a higher rate of academic difficulties than other children (Weinstein, 2002).

Once safety and security are provided to these children, symptoms tend to disappear. Studies have demonstrated that, among children exposed to the most severe domestic violence, over 80% tested psychologically normal, were self-confident, had positive images of themselves, and were emotionally well (Weinstein, 2002).

Although much less common, the long-term effects of exposure to battering can include delinquency, higher risk for substance abuse, a propensity to use violence in future relationships, and a pessimistic view of the world (Weinstein, 2002).

Historically, exposure to domestic violence has also placed some children at risk of inappropriate child welfare interventions—specifically, with unnecessary placement in foster care. Certainly this is the conclusion reached by a federal judge in the case *Nicholson v. Williams*, a class action lawsuit in which adult victims of domestic violence in New York City alleged that they were unfairly harmed when the city’s child welfare system placed their children in foster care.

In his decision in this case, Judge Jack Weinstein (2002) wrote “Some child protection agencies in the United States appear to be defining exposure to domestic violence as a form of child maltreatment....Defining witnessing as maltreatment is a mistake.”

Weinstein goes on to state that automatically defining witnessing as maltreatment harms children. He bases this conclusion on the research showing that not all children are negatively affected by domestic violence, and upon evidence from experts.

During the trial psychologists and others testified that children separated from their mothers because of domestic violence experience that separation as exceptionally traumatic because, in the words of one witness, the child “is terrified that a parent might not be OK, may be injured, may be vulnerable. They feel that they should somehow be responsible for the parent and if they are not with the parent, then it’s their fault.”

The judge also found that in concluding that abused mothers had neglected their children by exposing them to domestic violence child welfare agencies often ignored battered mothers’ efforts to develop safe environments for their children and themselves. “To blame a crime on the victim,” he wrote, “desecrates fundamental precepts of justice.”

Weinstein found that these inappropriate foster care placements resulted from “benign indifference, bureaucratic inefficiency, and outmoded institutional biases.”

Domestic violence is a devastating social problem that affects every segment of the population. While system responses are primarily targeted towards adult victims of abuse, increasing attention is now focused on the children who witness domestic violence. Studies estimate that 10 to 20 percent of children are at risk for exposure to

domestic violence. Research also indicates children exposed to domestic violence are at an increased risk of being abused or neglected, and that a majority of studies reveal there are adult and child victims in 30 to 60 percent of families who experience domestic violence.

In 2004 the ILO reported in its report entitled *Helping Hands or Shackled Lives? Understanding Child Domestic Labour and Responses to It*, Geneva, Switzerland, 2004). indicates that as many as ten million children or more were engaged in domestic labor globally. The report gives estimates of child domestic workers in various countries, including 700,000 children in Indonesia, 559,000 in Brazil, 300,000 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 264,000 in Pakistan, 250,000 in Haiti, 200,000 in Kenya, and 100,000 in Sri Lanka. Many children were very young. About 22% of domestic child workers in Senegal were under fourteen years of age, 70% in Morocco were under twelve, and 10% were under ten in Haiti.

Many community professionals (including health care providers, mental health professionals, educators, and legal and court system personnel) are involved in responding to cases of child maltreatment and domestic violence and providing needed services. It is important to note that various professionals are mandated to report suspected child maltreatment to CPS or law enforcement, such as health care workers and school personnel. In some States, those who provide services related to domestic violence also are mandated reporters. In addition, community-based agency staff, clergy, extended family members, and concerned citizens play important roles in supporting and keeping families safe.

According to Kane, due to the hidden nature of domestic child labor, children are at risk of physical abuse and violence, as well as sexual abuse. They may be beaten and tortured, not only by the adults in the house but also by the children in the family who consider domestic workers as their inferiors. They may also suffer beatings at the hands of the other domestic workers in the house. Girls are especially at risk for sexual abuse by their male employers, visitors to the house, and other domestic laborers. In addition, children

in domestic service may be exposed to dangers associated with their jobs. They may have to handle hazardous substances, such as cleaning fluids and machinery with which they are not familiar. Poor working conditions, such as rooms lacking in proper ventilation and heating, are also detrimental to their health.

Child abuse and domestic violence often occur in the same family and are linked in a number of important ways that have serious consequences for the safety of all family members as well as for members of the larger community. Where one form of family violence exists, there is a strong likelihood that the other one does too. Research shows that the impact on children of witnessing parental domestic violence is strikingly similar to the consequences of being directly abused by a parent, and both experiences are significant contributors to youth violence. Many of the factors highly associated with the occurrence of child abuse are also associated with domestic violence, and many of these are the same factors that put children at risk for youth violence and adult violent crime. Overlapping all these problems is substance abuse, which is associated with each form of violence as a co-factor. These linkages have important implications for intervention and prevention efforts.

The concurrent incidence of domestic violence and child abuse within the same families is well documented. In a national survey of over 6,000 families, researchers found that 50% of the men who frequently assaulted their wives also frequently assaulted their children. Reviewing 200 substantiated child abuse reports, the Massachusetts Department of Social Services found that 48% of the case records mentioned adult domestic violence. Among hospitalized child abuse cases, 59% of mothers of abused children have been found to be beaten by their male partners.

Domestic violence and child abuse take a devastating toll on children and society at large. Early childhood victimization, either through direct abuse, neglect, or witnessing parental domestic violence, has been shown to have demonstrable long-term consequences for youth violence, adult violent behaviors, and other forms of criminality.

Children can be killed, physically injured, psychologically harmed, or neglected as a result of either domestic violence or child abuse. From 1990 to 1994, 5,400 children are known to have died from abuse or neglect. Studies suggest that domestic violence was present in a large percentage of these cases: The Oregon Department of Human Resources reports that domestic violence occurred in 41% of the families in which children had been critically injured or killed. In fact, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect suggests that domestic violence may be the single major precursor to child abuse and neglect fatalities in this country.

Domestic violence perpetrators sometimes intentionally injure children in an effort to intimidate and control their adult partners. These assaults can include physical, emotional, and sexual abuse of the children. Children may also be injured - either intentionally or accidentally - during attacks on their mothers. An object thrown or a weapon used against the mother may hit the child. Assaults on younger children may occur while the mother is holding the child, and injuries to older children often happen when they attempt to protect the mother by intervening.

Even when domestic violence does not result in direct physical injury to the child, it can interfere with both the mother's and the father's parenting to such a degree that the children may be neglected or abused. A perpetrator is clearly not providing good parenting when he physically attacks the child's mother. The physical demands of parenting can overwhelm mothers who are injured or have been kept up all night by beatings. The emotional demands of parenting can be similarly daunting to an abused woman suffering from trauma, damaged self-confidence, and other emotional scars caused by years of abuse. In addition, abusers often - as a means of control - undermine their partner's parenting.

Children whose mothers are abused sometimes suffer at the hands of their mothers as well. One study found that the rate of child abuse by mothers who were beaten is at least double that of mothers whose husbands did not assault them.

Children of all ages are deeply affected by domestic violence and by child abuse. Infants exposed to violence may not develop the attachments to their caretakers that are critical to their development; in extreme cases they may suffer from "failure to thrive." Preschool children in violent homes may regress developmentally and suffer sleep disturbances, including nightmares. School-age children who witness violence exhibit a range of problem behaviors including depression, anxiety, and violence towards peers.

The impact of domestic violence and child abuse may continue through adolescence and adulthood. Adolescents who have grown up in violent homes are at risk for recreating the abusive relationships they have seen.

They are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution and other delinquent behavior, and commit sexual assault crimes. A study conducted by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention found that 70% of adolescents who lived in families with parental conflict self-reported violent delinquency, compared to 49% of adolescents from households without this conflict. This study also revealed that exposure to multiple forms of violence, including domestic violence, child abuse, and general family climate of hostility, doubles the risk of self-reported youth violence.

Researchers also found that men who as children witnessed their parents' domestic violence were twice as likely to abuse their own wives as sons of non-violent parents. A significant proportion of abusive husbands grew up in families where they witnessed their mothers being beaten. Clearly, domestic violence and child abuse are spawning grounds for the next generation of abusers, as well as for violent juveniles.

In 1994 there were an estimated 2.9 million reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. Data from a 1995 Gallup Poll of family violence suggest that from 1.5 million to 3.3 million children witness parental domestic violence each year. These are sobering statistics in light of the known impact of child abuse and witnessing domestic violence on each child, the social costs associated with it.

The overlap between child abuse and domestic violence is not limited to their consequences or prevalence. Many of the risk factors that are highly associated with child maltreatment are the same factors that put women at risk for domestic violence and children at risk for juvenile violence. For example, child abuse risk factors include young age of parents, social isolation, the abuser's history of being a victim of child abuse or a witness to domestic violence as a child, and poverty, among others.

Similarly, research on domestic violence risk factors shows that women in low-income households experience a higher rate of violence by an intimate partner than women in households with higher incomes. The rate of intimate partner violence against women generally decreases as household income levels increase. Also, younger women, aged 16-24, experience the highest per capita rates of domestic violence, and slightly more than half of female victims have children under the age of 12 years.

Social isolation characterizes many families in which either domestic violence or child abuse is present, although it is not always clear whether the isolation causes the abuse or whether the abuse causes the isolation. A study of the social support and social network relationships of neglecting and non-neglecting, low-income, single, African-American mothers found key differences in the mothers' perceptions of their relationships and interactions. The study found that negative relationships were an important differentiating factor between neglecting and non-neglecting mothers. The relationships of neglecting mothers were characterized by conflict, distrust, and lack of mutuality, while non-neglecting mothers experienced satisfying supportive relationships which emphasized a sense of mutuality and fairness.

Another recent study in Chicago demonstrated a strong correlation between violence rates and community cohesion. Researchers found that several neighborhoods with characteristics generally associated with high crime rates, such as poverty, unemployment and single-parent households, nevertheless had low rates of violence. The common factor in these neighborhoods was high levels of collective efficacy, a term defined as a sense of trust, common values and cohesion in neighborhoods. The study concludes that "the

combined measure of informal social control and cohesion and trust remained a robust predictor of lower rates of violence."

A significant portion of child abusers, domestic violence perpetrators, and violent juvenile offenders grew up being abused themselves or witnessing their parents' domestic violence. However, exposure to child abuse or domestic violence as a child is not the only risk factor for juvenile violence. Living in an impoverished community that is rife with drugs, guns, and crime, having parents that use harsh or erratic discipline, and being isolated from the community, family, or school - all of these also put children at higher risk. These factors are, again, strikingly similar to those contributing to both forms of family violence.

Child welfare and domestic violence organizations are now beginning to recognize the overlap between domestic violence and child abuse and the need for collaborative efforts between the two fields. In the few communities where child welfare agencies and domestic violence programs have developed collaborations aimed at intervening in both forms of family violence, early results are promising. These efforts have underscored the need for collaborative efforts to focus on identifying these families earlier on in the cycle of family violence, and on preventing the violence in the first place.

Moreover, there has never been a comprehensive community-based prevention/early intervention collaboration that addressed all three interrelated types of violence - child abuse, domestic violence, and youth violence. The overlap of factors that we have seen contributing to all these forms of violence provides a fertile ground for successful and urgently needed collaborative prevention efforts.

2.4 Need for Prevention and Early Intervention in cases of domestic violence

The separate institutional and grassroots responses to child abuse and domestic violence which have taken place over the last two decades in the form of intensive services for battered women and abused children, while critical, have proved woefully inadequate. In fact, both of these problems continue unabated.

Despite more than 1800 domestic violence programs across the country, the media reports almost daily grisly stories of battered women doing all the right things: calling the police, obtaining restraining orders, getting divorced, moving away - only to be murdered (often along with their children) by their batterers. Almost four million women were abused in the last year alone.

Likewise, child deaths and injuries continue to mount. In 1994, there were an estimated 2.9 million reports of suspected child abuse and neglect compared to 1.2 million in 1982. Between 1985 and 1992, the number of child maltreatment reports rose by 6% per year. In 1990, 143,300 children were reported with serious injuries due to maltreatment; more than three children die per day because of child abuse and 87% of these deaths are children under age five. Of the 2.9 million reports in 1994, about one in three were substantiated as involving maltreatment, with neglect being the most frequent type substantiated (53% of substantiated cases).

In addition, there has been a dramatic increase in youth violence. In 1993, U.S. juvenile courts processed nearly 1.5 million juvenile delinquency cases. Juvenile courts receive an average of 55 delinquency cases for every 1,000 juveniles age 10 or above living in their jurisdiction. Statistics show that the juvenile court's caseload rose 23% between 1989 and 1993, while the juvenile population increased by less than 8% during the same period. Between 1989 and 1993, person offense cases processed by juvenile courts (including criminal homicide, forcible rape, aggravated assault, simple assault and other violent sex offense) increased by 52%, a much greater increase than in most other case types.

As the number of child abuse reports rise, CPS continues to be the only organization mandated to respond. Thus, diminishing resources are directed more and more to only the most serious cases, leaving little or no attention being paid to the less serious cases. While primary prevention is important, it is also critical that we as a society are able to reach out to families in the early stages of escalating violence. Our current child protection system (CPS) is seriously inadequate at doing this.

Clearly, then, financial and programmatic resources must be directed to prevention, not just emergency service. In addition to saving lives, prevention efforts save dollars. In 1995, federal and state spending specifically on child welfare programs exceeded \$11.2 billion. This does not include funds spent on individual cases by allied government systems such as the courts, law enforcement, schools, or the health and mental health care systems. Cost-effective prevention programs could save millions. The current child protection system, domestic violence intervention services, and responses to youth violence devote relatively few resources to prevention/early intervention.

A growing body of evidence supports the need for early intervention into childhood development of criminal propensities. Research has shown that early intervention efforts enjoy public support and are proving to be effective in reducing criminal and delinquent behavior. The social factors that these successful prevention programs address are similar to those found to be associated with domestic violence and child abuse, and the contribution of family violence to later youth violence, is clear. This overlap cries out for collaborative prevention efforts between the fields of family and community violence.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter focused on the research design, the study population, sampling procedure, sample size, tools and methods of data collection, sources of data, data analysis techniques, ethical considerations and limitations of the study.

3.1 Research design

A descriptive research design was used to describe the role of humanitarian organizations and how they were helping children in realizing their rights. It helped the researcher to explain the violations of the rights of the children in their families. This helped the researcher to suggest recommendations on how these violations can be remedied.

3.2 Study population

The study encompassed the local people who were the focus of the human rights organizations, the officials from Human rights organizations and the local leaders in Kasese. These helped the researcher to collect a variety of information from the respondents hence complementarily within data that would be collected.

3.3 Sampling procedure

Simple random sampling procedure was used to select a representative sample from the local people. A list of names of local people was collected from the chairpersons of local council one. Each name was allocated a number and put into a container, shaken well to mix and each number was selected randomly until the required sample number was achieved. This helped to give all respondents an equal chance to participate in the study.

Purposive sampling was used to select respondents from officials from human rights organizations that were dealing in promotion of children's rights and local in Kasese. This helped to avoid non-responses to certain questions.

3.4 Sample size

A sample size of 80 respondents was selected from the study population. This was selected in the ratio of 50 local people including men, women and children, 20 local leaders and 10 officials from the human rights organizations. This was to give an equal representation to all groups of respondents.

3.5 Tools of data collection

Interview guides

These were used to collect data from local people who could not read and write. This involved a face-to-face interview sessions between the researcher and the respondents. This helped the researcher to probe the respondents and seek for clarifications from the respondents.

Key informants guide

These were used to collect data from the key informants who were the local leaders and officials from human rights organizations. These helped the researcher to obtain detailed information which was used to discuss fully the findings of the study.

3.6 Sources of data

Primary source

This was the field from which the researcher collected raw data from the respondents. This was the data the researcher used in the findings of the study. These helped to draw conclusions and recommendations of the study.

Secondary sources

These were the sources from which the literature of the study was reviewed. These sources included the following; research reports and other publications, textbooks, journals, online articles and ministry reports that may contain data relevant to the topic. These sources helped the research to cite gaps that could be filled by carrying out this research.

3.7 Data analysis

Collected data was analyzed using personal communication and simple arithmetic. This involved coding editing and sorting related data according to the research questions. This helped to generate simple percentages that was presented in form of pie charts, and tables using computer packages like Microsoft excel and Microsoft word.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

This chapter analyzes presents and interprets the findings of the study. This was done in themes that reflect the objectives and the research Questions of the study.

4.1 Bio data

This section dealt with the biographic data of the respondents. It intends to bring out how personal characteristics of respondents can influence the final findings of the study.

4.1.1 Sex

This was aimed at examining the sexual distribution of respondents.

Table 1: Showing the Sexual distribution of respondents

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Male	42	53
Female	38	47
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research. 2010

From the study findings, 53% of the respondents were the male gender and 47% were the female sex. This unequal distribution was attributed to the fact that by the time of data collection most of women were busy doing work while the men who were free had to participate in attending to interviews. More to that, men were given attention primarily as they are highly perceived as the root causes and practices of domestic violence in many families.

4.1.2 Age distribution of the respondent

This was to establish the different age group of the people that were involved in the study.

Table II: Showing the Age distribution of respondents

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Below 20years	10	13
20-30years	25	31
31-40years	30	37
41-50years	09	11
51 and above years	06	08
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research 2010

From the study findings, 13% of the respondents were of the ages below 20years, 31% of the respondents were in between the ages of 20 and 30 years, 37% of the respondents were between the ages of 31to40years, 11% of the respondents were in between the ages of 41 to 50 years while only 08% of the respondents were of the years of 50 and above. This was to give the population and equal and fair representation in the sample. People Between the ages 20 to 30 and 31 to 40 were highly targeted as they were the major factors that influence domestic violence in homes.

4.1.3 Education level

This was intended to find out the education levels of the respective respondents that participated in the study.

Table III: Showing the education level of respondents

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Never been to school	08	10
Primary level	04	05
Secondary level	12	15
Tertiary level	56	70
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

Basing on the study findings, 10% of the respondents had never been to school, 05% of the respondents were of primary level, 15% of the respondents were of secondary level while 70% of the respondents were of tertiary level of education.

This was attributed to the fact that the study purposively wanted to focus on people who understood the problems of domestic violence and how it relates to child welfare. However, other education levels were considered to give complementary information on the study problem.

4.1.4 Marital Status

This was aimed at finding out the marital status of respondents.

Table IV. Showing the marital status of respondents

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Single	29	36
Married	35	43
Divorced	06	08
Widowed	10	13
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

Basing on the study results, 36% of the respondents were single, 43% of the respondents were married, 08% of the respondents were Divorced and 13% of the respondents were Widowed. This high number of married respondents was attributed to the fact that the study wanted to focus most on people who have families and those who have ever had a chance to own families

4.2. Rate of domestic violence in Kasese

This was aimed at establish the rate at which domestic violence case were being observed or reported in Kasese.

Table V: Showing the rate of domestic violence occurrence

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Low	12	15
Moderate	45	56
High	23	29
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

From the research findings, 15% of the respondents indicated that domestic violence cases in Kasese were low, 56% of the responses showed that domestic violence cases were moderate and 29% of the respondents indicated that domestic violence cases were high in Kasese. The decline in domestic violence cases in the area were due to high sensitization efforts on the dangers of domestic violence and the enacting of strict laws that punish the causers of domestic violence

4.3 Forms of domestic violence

This was aimed at establishing the forms of domestic violence that were row paint in Kasese.

Table VI: Showing the forms of domestic violence in Kasese

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Physical Harassment	10	13
Denial of food	18	22
Sexual violence	24	30
Gender violence	06	07
Beating/Bullying	12	15
Verbal abuse	10	13
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

4.3.1 Physical Harassment

From the study results, 13% of the respondents showed that there was physical harassment as one of the forms of domestic violence that was occurring and being reported in Kasese. This involved pulling children's ears, breaking of arms and legs of women and children by their husbands and fathers'. This was attributed to the strong object that may be used during the act of domestic violence.

4.3.2 Denial of food.

Basing on the study findings, 22% of the responses showed that denial of food was another form of domestic violence that was being practiced in Kasese. This was a form that affected both the children and parents in the home. Husbands were being denied food by the children and wives as they were not participating in home chores as well as buying food at home. Husbands were also denying children and their wives food most especially whenever they would get home drunk.

4.3.3 Sexual violence

Basing on the study findings, 30% of the responses indicated that there were cases of sexual violence as one of the forms of domestic violence in Kasese. This form was being experienced by the female gender of whom some were being raped and others undergoing forced sex by their spouses and other different forms of sexual harassment. Women were being denied a chance to have a say on issues relating to sexual life and whenever they would complain they would then be punished by their husbands.

4.3.4 Gender violence

Basing on the research results, 07% of the responses showed that gender violence at family level was rampant in Kasese. This was affecting the female gender where by men were mistreating women and girls by virtue of their gender. This some times denies girls a chance to go to school and only are left at home doing the home chores. This exposes them to being abused in homes and in their future families by their husbands.

4.3.5 Beating and Bullying

From the study findings, 15% of the responses showed that Beating and Bullying was another form of domestic violence that was being experienced in Kasese. This involved Beating and Bullying of children by their parents and step mothers because of the petty mistakes that they may have made at home. Women were also been bullied and Beaten by their male counter parts in case of misunderstandings at home.

4.3.6 Verbal abuse

From the study results, 13% of the responses indicated verbal abuse as another form of domestic violence reported in Kasese. This was affecting family members psychologically. The use of hard words and awkward words to mothers and children by men was threatening and affecting them as they were so intimating and scaring as some times due to fear children and mothers would end up running away from home.

4.4 Causes of domestic violence

This was aimed at finding out the causes of domestic violence in Kasese.

Table VII: Showing the causes of domestic violence in Kasese

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Drunkardness	19	24
Misunderstandings between Spouses	07	08
Poverty	31	39
Cultures and traditions	05	06
Peer pressure among children	08	10
Adultery	10	13
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

4.4.1 Drunkardness

From the study results, 24% of the responses showed that drunkardness was one of the causes of domestic violence in Kasese. Men who drunk a lot of alcohol always battered their wives in case they would ask for food and the woman delays or does not provide. Due to the availability of cheap local brew men in kabala were taking a lot alcohol which was disorganizing their brains hence ending up causing problems at home like beating children and their mothers.

4.4.2 Misunderstandings between spouses

Basing on the, 08% of the responses showed that misunderstandings between the spouses were a cause to the high rates of domestic violence in Kasese. This was brought about by poor expenditure habits by women, family issues and Quarreling in homes. This resulted into fights and other forms of domestic violence.

4.4.3 Poverty

From the research results, 39% of the respondents showed that poverty was one of the primary causes of domestic violence in Kasese. Poverty made people desperate and this forced spouses to keep on obtaining each other for causing poverty in families. This was manifested where most men were not working and their wires obtained them for causing poverty at homes due to their laziness and men in retaliation start to batter their wires and chasing away children from home.

4.4.4 Cultures and traditions

Basing on the research findings, 06% of the responses indicated that cultural and traditional values of the Bakonzo people who are the native inhabitants of Kasese promote domestic violence. This is due to the fact that men want to command authority at home and want to own every thing at Home. When women try to fight for their rights to equality and fair treatment, this sparks off quarrels, in home which end up in domestic violence.

4.4.5 Peer pressure among children

Basing on the study results, 10% of the responses showed that peer pressure among children was a cause to domestic violence in Kasese. This sparked off child based violence as parents could punish their children severely some times injuring them or chase them from home due to misbehavior. Children were getting involved in sexual behaviors, alcoholism, stealing, clubbing coming home late, fighting and smoking which parents could not tolerate hence ending up conflicting with their parents.

4.4.6 Adultery

From the research findings, 13% of the responses indicated that another cause to domestic violence in Kasese was adultery and other sexually related behaviours among the spouses. Whenever couples heard rumors about extramarital sexual relations this would cause Quarrels in homes which could stem into fighting, beating of wives and sexual harassment of each other. This was severely affecting people who stay mostly in urban suburbs of Kasese as some people were taking it as a source of income

4.5. Effects of domestic violence on child welfare

This was intended to find out the effects of domestic violence on welfare of children in Kasese.

Table VIII. Showing the effects of domestic violence on child welfare

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Physical disabilities	21	26
Lack of parental care	19	24
Divorced parents	10	12
Lack of education	15	19
Street children	08	10
Death	07	09
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010

4.5.1 Physical disabilities

Basing on the research results, 26% of the responses indicated that children were facing a problem of physical disabilities as a result of domestic violence. This was being caused by accidents that the children would face while with strong objects like wood and metals, breaking their arms and while escaping from their parents or guardians and burns from water and fire. These were making children lame and sometimes developing other physical disabilities, which all affect their wellbeing in communities.

4.5.2 Lack of parental care.

From the research findings, 24% of the responses showed that children from violence stricken families lacked enough parental care. This stems from the hatred that develops between the parents hence ending up not concentrating on work. Children lack care most especially when the mother has run away from home due to fear of being battered by the husband or when their mother is sick due insults from the father. The husbands cannot take time to care after children even after affecting their mothers during violence.

4.5.3 Divorced parents

Basing on the study results, 12% of the responses showed that due to domestic violence Children faced a problem of divorced parents and growing under single parenthood and sometimes with their step parents which exposes them to more violence. This causes psychological torture and trauma to children if they grow without staying with their parents which at times cause hatred between children and parents.

4.5.4 Lack of education

Basing on the study results, 19% of the responses indicated that children from families where domestic violence was the order of the day lacked education and those who managed to go to school were poor performers. These resulted from the fact that some children could not go to school because their parents were caring for them, others would be attending to their injured parents and others would not concentrate in class due to stress and psychological trauma that they gain by observing their parents fight or deny each other food.

4.5.5 Street children

From the research findings, 10 % of the responses showed that some children were running away from home and opting to spend their lives on streets due to the bad experiences and harassment that they go through at home. This exposes to risks of sexual exploitation effects of juvenile deliquescence and poverty. Children were running away from houses due to fears of being mistreated by their parents and denying them food and basic needs at home.

4.5.6 Death

From the study findings, 09% of the responses showed that some children were dying due to domestic violence and domestic violence related factors. Children were dying due to starvation after being denied food by their parents after a long period of time. Others died due to accidents encountered during the acts of domestic violence and injuries sustained from the strong objects that their parents use to punish them.

4.6 Attitudes and beliefs attached to domestic violence

This was aimed at finding out the attitudes values and beliefs attached to domestic violence and how the respondents perceive it.

Table IX. Showing the attitudes, values and beliefs attached to domestic violence

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Indication of ignorance	43	54
Poor behavior	27	34
One way to command authority	10	12
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010.

From the research findings, 54% of the responses indicated that domestic violence was an indication of ignorance among people practiced it. This was based on the arguments that societies today have been civilized and there are many better ways of amicably solving family misunderstanding between the different parties in homes. From the findings, 34% of the responses indicated that domestic violence was a sign of bad behaviors among the people who practiced it. This was a reflection of people's behaviors and their family backgrounds as most young people imitate the experiences they copy from their parents. It is only bad behaved people that resort to violence as a way of settling misunderstandings in families.

Based on the study findings, 12% of the responses show that some people practiced domestic violence as one of the ways to command authority at home. Some people

believe that in they do not use violence they will not be recognized in homes. This is because of the cultures and traditions attached to families where men want to always under look their women and children hence who ever tries to change this faces a punishment as it shows a sign of disrespect.

4.7 Solutions to the problem of domestic violence

This was intended to establish the solutions that were being adapted to the problem of domestic violence and improvement of child welfare in Kasese.

Table X: Showing the solutions to the problem of domestic violence

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Legislations	11	14
Sensitization	45	56
Establishment of family welfare offices	06	08
Advocacy	18	22
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010.

4.7.1 Legislations

Basing on the study findings, 14%, of the responses showed that laws were being put in place to solve the problem of domestic violence. Those included the laws against the violation of rights of children and women. ,people who practiced domestic violence were being imprisoned and charged in courts of law due to violating other people's rights. Laws against domestic violence were cross-cutting as they affected children, men and women. These were to reduce on high rates of domestic violence in Kasese and Uganda at large.

4.7.2 Sensitization

From the study results, 56% of the responses showed that people in Kasese were being sensitized by the different stakeholders on the dangers of domestic violence on people's lives and the best ways through which they can settle family misunderstandings

amicably. People were further being sensitized about their rights and how they should treat each other in families. This was being done by the government, Non-Government organizations and churches through media houses and public gatherings.

4.7.3 Establishment of family welfare offices

Basing on the study results, 08% of the responses showed that the government had established a family/social welfare office at every police post in the area to handle cases related to domestic violence and other family matters. These offices were to reduce on the backlog of cases in counts and improve on efficiency in handling family affair and child abuse cases. Family welfare officers were arresting and presenting to courts of law the prisoners of domestic violence or some times helping couples to settle their issues outside courts through mediation.

4.7.4 Advocacy

From the research results, 22% of the responses indicated that advocacy for stable families were being agitated for by the churches, individuals and private organizations. This included: promotion of equality and fair treatment of genders at family level, forgiveness and ensuring that children live a good life in families. This was being done by organizations including save children Uganda, world vision, federation of women lawyers and other respective churches.

4.8 challenges to solving the problem of domestic violence

This was intended to find out the challenges that different stakeholders faced while trying to solve the problem of domestic violence in Kasese.

Table XI: Showing the challenges to solving the problem of domestic violence

Responses	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Hiding information of domestic violence	39	48
Poverty	26	32
Poor law enforcement	03	03
Corruption and bribery	06	07
Lack of funds	08	10
TOTAL	80	100

Source: Field research, 2010.

4.8.1 Hiding information on domestic violence

Basing on the study results, 48% of the responses showed that the biggest challenge to solving the problem of domestic violence in Kasese was hiding of important information on domestic violence. People who had been insulted hid the information from the responsible authorities who would help them due to fear of receiving a double punishment, insult or being chased away from the home. This was a very big challenge as it would be difficult to punish the offenders unless the evidence that proves them guilty has been availed.

4.8.2 Poverty

Basing on the study findings, 32% of the responses showed that poverty was a challenge to solving the problem of domestic violence in Kasese because people were poor hence hid information and tolerated violence because husbands who abused and battered them were bread winners at home and the only source of income for the family hence if taken to prison more starvation for the family. This was making it had to identify who practices

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter discusses the findings of the study and draws conclusions and recommendations that are based on the findings of the study.

5.1. Discussions

The rate of domestic violence was found to be occurring on a moderate rate in Kasese. Different forms of domestic violence were identified including physical harassment of the women and children by men through beating and battering. Denial of food which was largely faced by children who stayed with their step parents. Sexual violence that involved incest, forced sex and defilement and gender violence where the women and girls were abused by the virtue of their gender. Beating and battering of women and verbal abuse however, sexual violence was the highly ranked form of domestic violence in Kasese.

Domestic violence was found out to be caused by a variety of reasons which covered social, cultural, socio-economic and political aspects. Children, men and women influenced these causes which included drunkardness, misunderstandings between spouses, poverty cultures and traditions, misbehavior among the children and cases of adultery.

This affected the wellbeing of children in homes which were affected by domestic violence. Children did not have parental care. Others were running away from home into the streets, death of children, physical disabilities like becoming lame, lack of education and divorce among parents which exposed children to more dangers of being sexually exploited and undergoing child labour.

People in Kasese had varying perceptions, attitudes and values attached to the practice of domestic violence where by some people looked at domestic violence as an indication of primitivity and ignorance, a sign of poor behavior that people copy from their family

backgrounds while others looked at it as one way through which a family head can command authority and respect at home.

Various measures were being adopted to help fight the problem of domestic violence in Kasese. Legislations were being put in place right away from the national level to the local level. These are the laws that prohibited the acts of domestic violence and the punishments that would be administered in case it occurred. Communities were being sensitized about the dangers of domestic violence on family welfare and people lives. Establishment of social and family offices at every police stations to handle matters concerning families and advocacy for the fair treatment of each in homes which was being by NGOS that protect people rights.

Solving the problem of domestic violence in Kasese was a difficult ventures as the victims of domestic violence always hid the needed information to the responsible authorities to help them, poverty, poor low enforcement in the area, corruption and bribery funds to run the process of handling issues related to domestic violence.

5.2 Conclusions

From the study findings the following conclusions were drawn.

Domestic violence existed in Kasese. This was manifested in forms that affected both the men, women and children. These forms included sexual violence, gender based violence, physical violence, Beating and Battering Denial of food and verbal abuse. However, sexual violence ranked 30% of the total responses which made the highly occurring form of domestic violence in the area.

It was concluded that this domestic violence was caused by many factors including poverty, drunkardness, family misunderstandings, cultures and traditions as well as adultery among the married couples. These were affecting the welfare of children in that they denied children a chance to go to school, chased away children into the streets and lack of parental care due to divorce of the parents. It was established that measures were put in place including laws, sensitization of communities, establishment of family offices

and advocacy for respect of human rights to ensure that the respect and welfare of children are presented in homes in Kasese. As efforts were being put in place to solve the problem of domestic violence challenges were being faced which hampered the effective elimination of domestic violence in Kasese.

Children who were being challenged by the problem of domestic violence were being offered help which included rehabilitation programs where they were counseled and guided on stress management, separating them from their abusers, sponsoring those schools and establishing children's homes where children that run from their homes can be helped from.

5.3 RECOMENDATIONS

The purpose of the research was to examine the effects of domestic violence on the behavior and welfare of the children in Kasese Uganda. From the above topic, the research came up with information from the recommendation to the different stake holders and respondents as possible remedies to improve on the current situation.

5.3.1 Recommendations to the Government

The researcher recommends that the police should tighten on their duties so as to mitigate the high rates of domestic violence, not only to the welfare of the children of Kasese, but also to the entire nation of Uganda.

Accelerate the law reform process to harmonize the relationship between married partners through introducing public education and legal literacy campaigns relating to the convention and the international and national commitments on the reduction and elimination of domestic violence.

5.3.2 Recommendations to the NGO's

The NGOs should also save the innocent blood of the people in the area being shed further by counseling and guiding the people on the negative effects of domestic

violence. Kasese people witnessed the violence for many years or decades and overwhelming a percentage of them will welcome any sort of administrations as long as they are aimed at providing solutions to the entire people.

They should feel the uplift of the people and should not compromise their fellow areas and country men and country women while pursuing their personal interests and gains in the country.

Non Government Organizations should implement projects that can be designed to increase the scale of providing the social services to the married partners so as to enable them acquire an income to cater for their children, so as to be relieved from poverty a factor which has partly contributed to domestic violence on the behavior and welfare of the children in Kasese. These should focus on the ways through which these parties can be empowered to identify, prevent and mitigate their own psychological trauma inflicted on them by displacement, abductions, torture and loss of livelihood opportunities as effects of domestic violence.

Intensify efforts to encourage women mothers of the children to take up leadership positions through further temporary special measures aimed at making women stand in their own individual capacity as women and not the current affirmative action policy which makes women look incapable of pausing a political force to reckon without the support of men. There is need to support programmers for current and future women mothers and undertake awareness raising campaigns on the importance of women's participation in solving domestic violence and decision making and this will help to curb domestic violence on children because a woman stands as a voice of children by the men.

5.3.3 Recommendations to the local community

Carry out community participatory identification of homes that were affected by domestic violence. Also the local community should carry out an exercise in counseling the married partners about how each partner should console with the other so as to live a happy family life.

The local community should carry out community education by the community leaders about the negative effects of domestic violence on the behavior and welfare of the children, so that people can take attempts of avoiding it and this will help the live of children in a free domestic violence environment.

5.3.4 Recommendations to the international community

The international community considered to huge stakeholders and respondents in Kasese and plays a vital role in the establishing and maintaining law in the country. The following recommendation are directed forward the international community and give impression of addressing the root causes of the domestic violence. An increase in the humanitarian assistance and improved access for the agencies would be hopeful but will not stop the violence.

So there is need for compressive approach by the international community to engage in the domestic violence in Kasese as a potential region destabilizes and come up with a solution that is to provide human assistance to the most homes with rates of domestic violence in areas like Kasese and Uganda at large.

The government should also put in place stringent policies to punish whoever is caught in the act of domestic violence; this will help in reducing its prevalence rates to the local communities.

5.3.5 General recommendations

Adopt an accessible complaints procedure to enforce constitutional guarantees; introduce literacy campaigns to make people especially in the children aware of their human rights against domestic violence.

There is need to carry out extensive sensitization of the people so as to reform their cultural behavior where by people take their children as inferior people and therefore a belief that they should be beaten anyhow, which negatively affect the welfare of the children.

5.3.6 Area for further research

This study did not satisfactorily cover all the areas, the researcher recommends more research on the areas of the causes of domestic violence in sese, impacts of domestic violence and measures to curb domestic violence.

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APPENDIX I
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LOCAL LEADERS AND CHILD PROTECTION
OFFICIALS

KAMPALA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dear respondent,

I am **Atuhairwe Keren** a student of Kampala International University. I am doing this research study as part of the requirements for the award of a Bachelors degree in Development Studies. The topic of my research study is *“the effects of domestic violence on the behavior and children welfare in Kasese.”* The provided information will be treated with the highest level of confidentiality and only be used for academic purposes.

You are therefore, requested to answer the following questions to the best of your understanding.

SECTION A: BIO DATA

1. Names (optional).....
2. Sex
 - a). Male
 - b). Female
3. Age
 - a). Below 20 years
 - b). 20-30 years
 - c). 31-40 years
 - d). 41-50 years
 - e). 51 and above
4. Marital status

- a). Single
- b). Married
- c). Divorced
- d). Widowed

5. Designation.....

6. Level of education

- a). Never been to school
- b). Primary level
- c). Secondary level
- d). Tertiary level

7. Place of location.....

SECTION B: INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD WELFARE

8. What is domestic violence according to you?

.....

.....

9. What is the rate of domestic violence in Kasese?

.....

.....

10. What forms of domestic violence are inflicted on children in Kasese?

.....

.....

11. What are Major causes of domestic violence in Kasese?

.....

.....

12. What have been the effects of domestic violence on the welfare of children in Kasese?

13. What are the attitudes, beliefs and values towards domestic violence?

.....
.....

14. What is being done to reduce on the problem of domestic violence and child abuse?

.....
.....

15. What are you doing as responsible stakeholders in development to help children who are being abused as a result of domestic violence?

.....
.....

16. What challenges do you experience as you try to help children who have been abused due to domestic violence?

.....
.....

17. What is your opinion on the issue of domestic violence and domestic violence?

.....
.....

Thank you very much!!!

APPENDIX II
INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Dear respondent,

I am **Atuhairwe Keren**, a student of Kampala International University. I am doing this research study as part of the requirements for the award of a Bachelors degree in development studies. The topic of my research study is *“the effects of domestic violence on child welfare in Kasese district.”* The provided information will be treated with the highest level of confidentiality and only be used for academic purposes.

You are therefore requested to answer the following questions to the best of your understanding.

SECTION A: BIO DATA

- 1 Names
2. Sex.....
3. Age.....
4. Level of education.....
5. Marital status.....
6. Designation.....
7. Place of work.....

**SECTION B: INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD
WELFARE**

8. What do you call domestic violence?

.....

9. Have you ever experienced domestic violence?

.....

10. What forms of domestic violence have you ever experienced or heard about in this area

.....

11. What are the major causes of domestic violence in Kasese?

.....

12. How does domestic violence affect the welfare of children in Kasese?

.....

13. What do you think can be done to improve on child welfare situation in Kasese?

.....

14. What measures can be put in place to reduce on the problem of domestic violence in Kasese?

.....

15. What has been governments' response to the problem of domestic violence and child abuse?

.....

16. What other organizations are helping children as the victims of domestic violence to protect them from abuse and exploitation

.....

17. How are these organizations helping children to improve their welfare?

.....

18. What is your opinion on domestic violence and child welfare as a responsible citizen?

.....

Thank you very much!!!

