UNITED NATIONS WOMEN AND WOMEN RIGHTS IN UGANDA

BY

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DECLARATION

I Bintu Jane declare that this dissertation is my original work. It has not been submitted to any institution for any academic award.

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Signed   **Date**

APPROVAL

This research dissertation was prepared by the candidate under my guidance as the supervisor.

Signature: .... CA: 31/05/19

Dr. Afa'anwiMa'abo Che

DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my princesses Ahaisibwe Julia, Atugonza Jamim, Ninsiima Janice and Atuhaire Janelle. May the Almighty God bless you all?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
FIDA-U	Uganda Association of Women Lawyers
IRTIAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
NAWOU	National Association of Women's Organisation in Uganda
UN	United Nations
UNEGEEW	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UWESO	Uganda Women's Effort to save Orphans
UWONET	Uganda Women's Network
UWOPA	Uganda Parliamentary Women's Association

ABSTRACT

The study examined United Nations Women and women rights in Uganda. The study objectives were: to examine factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda, to assess the contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda and to examine challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda. The study applied a cross-sectional research design to reflect aspects of perception, feelings, experiences, facts and emotional feelings of the study respondents in examining the United Nations women and promotion of women rights in Uganda. The study applied a cross-sectional research design to reflect aspects of perception, feelings, experiences, facts and emotional feelings of different categories of respondents in examining the research questions of interest. The target population of the study was 148 respondents and this included total of 10 staff of UN Women Regional Office in Kampala, 3 leaders from each of the six UN partner organisations and 120 beneficiaries from all the six UN partner organisations. A sample of 116 responded to pre-designed interviews and/or questionnaires. Data was collected from primary and secondary sources using questionnaires and interviews, and well-answered questionnaire were organized into for meaningful interpretation by sorting and editing. The data was presented in tabular form with descriptive and inferential statistics. The study finds that the limitations of women in public life and decision-making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations. The study recommends mass sensitization about women rights, including through dissemination of information materials on the referral pathways for violence against women and girls.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

For the last eight years, United Nations Women (hereafter UN Women), has played a role in the promotion and protection of women's rights, through progressive elaboration of the substantive content of women's rights and of the creation of mechanisms and processes to support implementation and monitoring of women rights (Alagappa, 2012).

This chapter presents the background to the study, statement of the problem, the objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study, and the operational definitions of terms and concepts as applied to suit the context of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

1.1.1 Historical Perspective

Globally, just like women in different countries called for more rights before the Second World War, the international women's movement gathered pace in the Americas in the 1920s, where feminist activists demanded that the topic of women rights receives more attention and this led to the setup of the Inter-American Commission of Women (Bazaara, 2011). In 1948, across the globe, the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was created, which drafted several declarations and conventions, for instance, the Convention on the Political Rights of Women 1952 and most notably the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979 (CEDAW). In 1993, women rights were further affirmed at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, namely in the UN Vienna Declaration (Bratton, 2014). Over the past eight years, the United Nations has played a significant role in the promotion and protection of women's rights, including through the progressive elaboration of the substantive content of women's rights and of the creation of mechanisms and processes to support implementation and monitoring of the enjoyment by women of their rights. The United

Nations globally has had the lead role in putting in place the global normative standards of equality between women and men and the elimination of discrimination and violence against women and girls (Australian Agency for International Development, 2012).

In Africa, since the United Nations Women's creation in 2010, equality of women with men has been on the agenda of the organization especially across the continent (Gosewinkel, 2011). Over years, the United Nations Women has made significant progress in advancing gender equality, including through landmark agreements such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Working for the empowerment and rights of women and girls in Africa, UN Women's main roles are: To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms (CIA World Fact Book, 2019). To help Member States implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, and to forge effective partnerships with civil society and to lead and coordinate the UN Women system's work on gender equality, as well as promote accountability, including through regular monitoring of system-wide progress (Diakonia, 2016).

Despite historic legacies of political upheavals and violent conflicts, Uganda has enjoyed relative peace and stability since 2006, with the reinstatement of multi-party democracy, a strong constitution that protects women's rights, and an end to conflict in Northern Uganda (Diamond, 2014). While Uganda has experienced sustained economic growth of 7% per annum and poverty has reduced significantly over the last twenty years, this growth has not been inclusive as Uganda still faces gender inequalities and regional disparities and marginalization. The Government of Uganda has made significant progress in developing legal frameworks, policies and programmes to protect women's rights and advance gender equality (Ministry of Education and Sports Kampala, 2014). For instance, the Uganda Constitution prohibits laws, customs or traditions that are against the dignity, welfare and interest of women. The Constitution protects an affirmative action policy that

has enabled major progress in women's representation in government, with women holding over a third of senior ministerial positions (The Republic of Uganda, 2010).

Despite these commendable efforts, women in Uganda still face discrimination and marginalization due to slow change in attitudes about women in Ugandan society and the culture and practices of public institutions (Pollock, 2015). Also, several key legal reform efforts have been pending for decades in relation to family laws and those relating to sexual offences against women and children (IASC, 2005). There are deep-rooted cultural and traditional practices that discriminate against women and girls and customary practices in many parts of Uganda that discriminate in cases of succession and inheritance that limit women's access to land, finances and property. Violence against women remains a major obstacle to the empowerment of women, with a 2011 survey reporting 56% of women aged between 15 to 49 to have experienced physical violence at least once since age 15 (Tvedt, 2013).

1.1.2 Theoretical perspective

The study was based on liberalism feminist theory. This theory was developed by a number of scholars including John Stuart Mill, Helen Taylor; Mary Wollstonecraft, second Wave feminists Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem; and Third Wave feminist Rebecca Walker.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the theory aimed at gaining women's suffrage under the idea that they would then gain individual liberty. This concerned with gaining freedom through equality, putting an end to men's cruelty to women, and gaining the freedom to opportunities to become full persons. Liberal feminists believed that no government or custom should prohibit the exercise of personal freedom.

Some of the major proponents of the theory are that hold that freedom is a fundamental value, and that the just state ensures freedom for individuals. Liberal feminists share this view, and insist on freedom for women. A comprehensive liberal feminism typically gives an account of how part of associational life beyond what is traditionally understood as

'the political' should be arranged, for example that the family should foster women's and girls' personal autonomy, or that domestic associations should distribute benefits and burdens fairly.

The Liberal feminist theory is therefore directly linked to this study since its emphasis is on making the rights of women equal to those of men.

1.1.3 Conceptual Perspective

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, also known as UN Women, is a United Nations entity working for the empowerment of women. In January 2011, UN Women became operational (Gosewinkel, 2011). Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is the current Executive Director of UN Women after succeeding the former President of Chile Michelle Bachelet as the inaugural Executive Director. As with United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) previously, UN Women was a member of the United Nations Development Group (UN Women, 2016).The mandate and functions of UN Women consist of the consolidated mandates and functions of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. In addition, the entity must lead, coordinate, and promote the accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and women's empowerment (Hemmati, 2015).

1.1.4 Contextual Perspective

UN Women is grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. It works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls through empowerment of women and achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of human rights and humanitarian action for peace and security (Tripp et al., 2013). UN Women Places 'women's rights at the center of all its efforts by leading and coordinating the United Nations system-wide efforts to ensure that

commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming is achieved, hence protection of women rights.

The UN Women Flagship report (2016) states that although there has been significant progress in increasing women's access to education, leadership positions, employment and property, the changes have not yet resulted into equal outcomes for women and men. "Globally, three quarters of working age men are in the labour force compared to half of working age women (UN Women, 2016). The Report also indicates that, among those who are employed, women constitute nearly two thirds of "contributing family workers", who work in family businesses without any direct pay. The report further indicates that everywhere, women continue to be denied equal pay for work of equal value and are less likely than men to receive a pension, which translates into large income inequalities throughout their lives.

Despite the presence of UN Women in Uganda, women rights are still violated to a high extent (Tvedt, 2013). For instance, there have been increased incidences of domestic violence, rape and other forms of sexual violence, female genital mutilation, early and forced marriage, economic control, coercion and emotional abuse within the country.

1.2   Statement of the Problem

Despite the creation and commitment of UN Women to promote women rights worldwide, there are reports of several cases of women and girls in most African countries, particularly the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Central African Republic, and Uganda, being trafficked into forced labour and sex slavery, with some trapped in conflicts and raped (CEDOVIP, 2015).

Currently, women rights in Uganda continue to be severely violated despite having UN Women and government laws and policies in place (Uganda Police Force, 2012). For instance, there is a multitude of violations of social and economic rights of women in Uganda. For instance, social rights of women are abused through denial of girl child and women to education and having equal rights in family law, family or marital rape or rape

in a relationship, other sexual abuse, sexual harassment at work, traditional practices harmful to women such as genital mutilation and forced or early marriages. There are also other economic rights of women that continue to be violated within Uganda such as denial of women their right to work, unequal wage payments and denial to own property as women (Whaites, 2013). Furthermore, economic rights of women are also violated in community through denial of their right to property inheritance when their husbands pass away.

As a result, women have continued to experience grave violation of their rights despite the fact that UN Women has tried to protect and promote their rights across the country. This study therefore aimed at examining the role of UN Women towards promotion of women rights in Uganda.

1.3 Objectives of the study

1.3.1 General Objective

The general objective of the study was to assess the contributions and challenges of United Nations Women in promoting women rights in Uganda.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

1. To examine factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda
2. To assess the contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda
3. To examine challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

1.4 Research Questions

1. What are the factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda?
2. What are the contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda?
3. What are the challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda?

1.5 Scope of the Study

1.5.1 Geographical Scope

The study focused on Uganda, especially the central region incorporating Kampala District which had a reputation for high levels of violation of women rights (Central Region, Uganda, 2018).

1.5.2 Content Scope

The study was carried out with a purpose of identifying and examining factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda, the contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda and examining challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda.

1.5.3 Time Scope

The study focused on the period 2010 – 2019. This range of years covered the period for which UN Women had been in existence and for which assessment of the organization's performance can be made whilst excluding the uncertainties of current (2019) and near future developments.

1.6 Significance of the Study

It is anticipated that when this study is successfully completed, it will boost awareness on the role played by the United Nations Women towards promotion of women rights.

The findings will also enable legislators to redress factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda and contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights.

The findings of the study will also help to examine challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights and propose possible solutions to address these challenges.

The study will further serve as a future research/information resource for further studies that will be carried out on women rights in Uganda.

1.7 Definitions of key concepts

Women rights

Women's rights are the rights and entitlements claimed by women and girls worldwide. Women rights refer to all rights spelled out by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by the two Human Rights Covenants (on Civil and Political Rights as well as on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). The same applies to all other Human Rights treaties. Issues commonly associated with notions of women's rights include, though are not limited to, the right: to bodily integrity and autonomy; to be free from sexual violence; to vote; to hold public office; to enter into legal contracts; to have equal rights in family law; to work; to fair wages or equal pay; to have reproductive rights; to own property; to education (Pollock, 2015).

United Nations Women

UN Women is a UN institution dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide (Whaites, 2013).

Equality between women and men (gender equality)

Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female (Whaites, 2013). Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men.

Gender

This refers to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, as well as the relations between women and those between men (Rebecca et al., 2014). These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes. They are context/ time-specific and changeable.

Women

A woman is a female human being. The term woman is usually reserved for an adult, with the term girl being the usual term for a female child or adolescent (Bratton, 2014). The term woman is also sometimes used to identify a female human, regardless of age, as in phrases such as "women's rights".

1.8 Organization of the study

Chapter One

This section contains background of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study and definition of key terms.

Chapter two

This chapter focuses on literature review and it contains theoretical review, conceptual framework, related studies based on the objectives of the study and the research gap.

Chapter Three

This chapter concerns methodology and it comprises of research design, target population, sample size, sampling techniques, data sources, data collection tools, validity and reliability of instrument, data processing, data analysis and ethical consideration.

Chapter Four

This section consists of data presentation, analysis and interpretation based on the objectives of the study.

Chapter Five

The chapter comprises of discussion of findings, conclusions and recommendations based on the objectives of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews literature from various scholars to clarify the remit of this study. The literature review proceeds in the following subsections: theoretical review, conceptual framework, the factors influencing women rights violations in Uganda; contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda and challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda.

2.1 Theoretical review

The study followed Liberalism Feminist theory. This theory was developed by several scholars including; John (1873), Helen (1869); Mary (1797), second Wave feminists Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem; and Third Wave feminist Rebecca Walker.

During the late 1800s and early 1900s, the theory aimed at gaining women's suffrage under the idea that they would then gain individual liberty. In the 1960s during the civil rights movement, liberal feminists drew parallels between systemic race discrimination and sex discrimination. Groups such as the National Organization for Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the Women's Equity Action League were all created at that time to further women's rights (John, 1873).

The theory aims at helping women gain freedom through equality, putting an end to men's cruelty to women, and gaining the freedom to opportunities to become full persons. Early liberal feminists had to counter the assumption that only white men deserved to be full citizens. Feminists such as Mary Wollstonecraft, Judith Sargent Murray, and Frances Wright advocated for women's full political inclusion.

Liberalism Feminist Theory furthermore holds that freedom is a fundamental value, and that the just state ensures freedom for individuals. Liberal feminists share this view, and insist on freedom for women. While liberal feminism is established in academic

philosophy, much of the classical-liberal or libertarian feminist literature is oriented towards a more popular audience (Mary, 1797).

2.2 Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework as diagrammatically drawn shows the relationship between the different variables in the study. The independent variable was perceived as the United Nations Women while dependent variable was women rights.

Independent variable   **Dependent Variable**
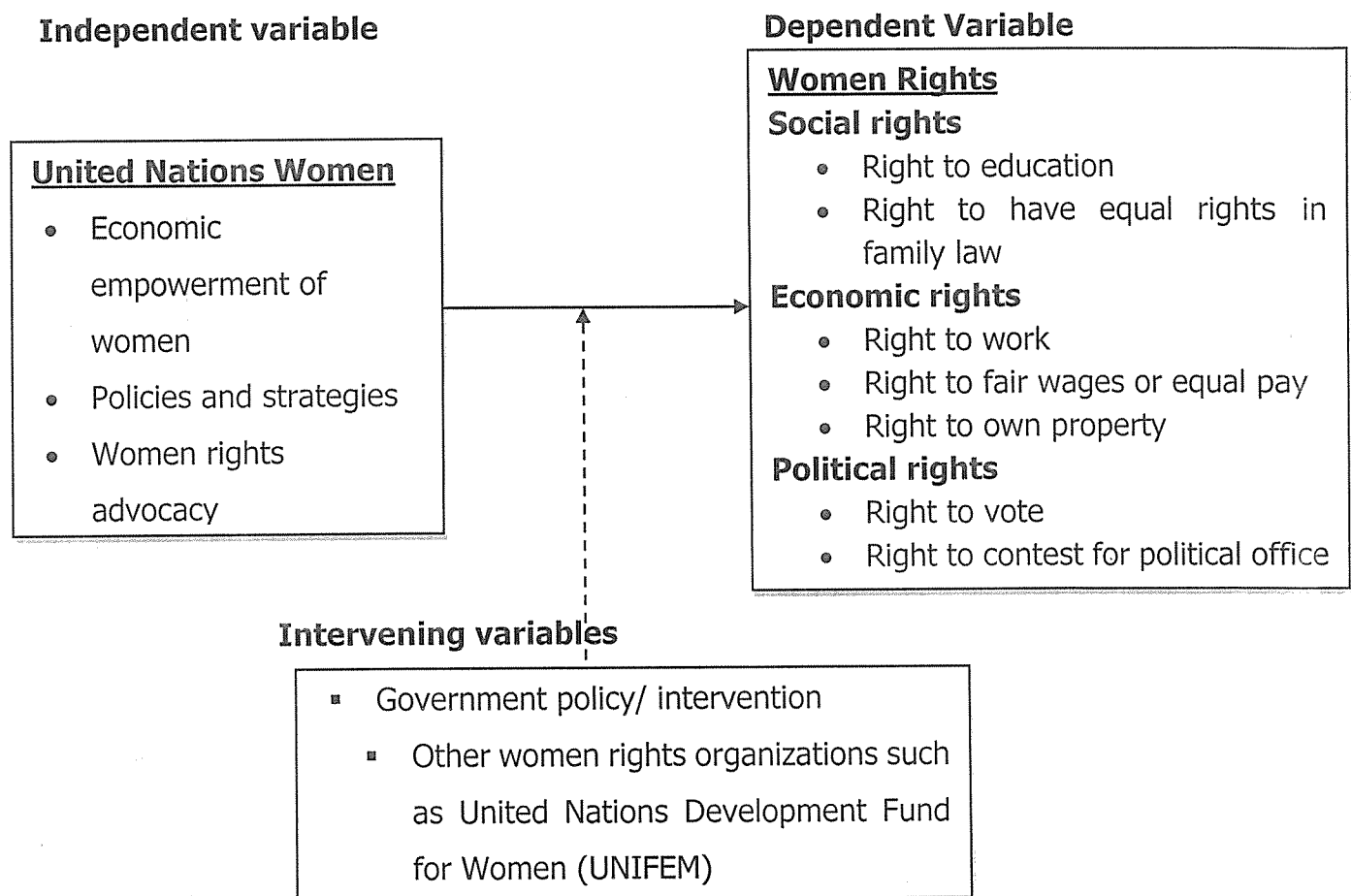
Source: Bazaara (2011)

Figure1.1: Conceptual Framework

The independent variable was perceived as the United Nations Women and the dependent variable was women rights. The independent variable concerned; economic empowerment of women, policies and strategies and women rights advocacy whereas the dependent

variable focuses on; Social rights (Right to education, Right to have equal rights in family law) and Economic rights (Right to work, Right to fair wages or equal pay, Right to own property) and Political rights (Right to vote, Right to contest for political office). However, the intervening variables were; government policy/ intervention and other women rights organizations such as United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

2.3 Related studies literature

2.3.1 Factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda

Alagappa, (2012) has summarized the causes of women rights violations is summarized into the following factors: political and legal factors, socio-economic factors, and socio-cultural factors. To begin with, political and legal factors that address the laxity on the part of law enforcement and legal system in the country.

Limitation of women from public life and lessening their participation in decision making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations, since it cuts them off from support (Bazaara, 2011). The Inability of criminal law to enshrine specific measures to protect women from women rights violations and to punish perpetrators presents an unlikelihood that an effective framework for the reduction of women rights violations will be created (Bratton, 2014). Such measures, e.g., integrated support systems for the mother and her children, financial aid and at least taking over the fight from the NGOs, would act as an indication of the government's commitment to opposing women rights violations (CEDOVIP, 2015).

Low levels of education leading to economic disenfranchisement and, subsequently, poverty are very strong examples of socio-economic factors. Here the problem stems from their formative years, where the girl child is not allowed to go to school or is subjected to early marriage (DFID, 2013). Lack of information leave girls in the dark and subjects them to limited access to legal support and advice thereby exposing them to poverty early through property grabbing. Therefore, illiterate female-headed families often face breakdowns and once widowed they will end up in informal settlements. In

addition, due to her inability to negotiate for property and other means of generating income, her dependency on the mercies of her abusive husband's relations is perpetuated and subsequently makes it difficult for her to set out on her own (Diakonia, 2016).

Childhood socialization has also been offered as another cause of women rights violations (Diamond, 2014). The argument is that women are trained to believe that their value is attached to the men in their lives, as fathers, brothers, husbands and sons, and are ostracized if they displease or disobey these men. Women, for example, are educated to see their self-esteem as being attached to the satisfaction of the needs and desires of others and, thus, are encouraged to blame themselves as inadequate or bad if men beat them (Emily, 2011).

Cultural factors such as the belief that women should be beaten by their husbands when they have done wrong are serious contributors to the problem of women rights violations. For instance, the majority of women have very little control in sexual contact, with husbands exposing them to HIV and AIDS. Upon their husband's death, women get forced out of the home by in-laws since they have no right to inherit the husband's property (Emily, 2011). As is customary in certain religions, cases of women rights violations are referred back from the courts/police to the clan on the intervention of religious leaders for arbitration, often minimizing the abused woman's claim. Male interviewees in certain parts of Kenya's informal settlements say that the main reasons why men beat their wives are cultural (Gosewinkel, 2011).

There is a lack of sense of physical safety due to what happened to her, leading to inability to be at ease or trust what is going on around her. She suffers permanent damage to physical health after severe acts of sexual and physical violence (Gosewinkel, 2011). Physical and emotional abuse both create an atmosphere of fear, shame, uncertainty and lack of trust places a barrier between women and those around them who could have acted as sources of support. One would ask why they cannot just pick up and leave or why they return to the abusive relationship after leaving in the first place. Well, for a woman experiencing women rights violations, there are complex issues that surround her

staying, leaving or returning. First, she may be experiencing confused, ambiguous and painful feelings about the relationship. Others might be relating to the practicalities of leaving – the losses that will be sustained in the process, access to material resources and support, loneliness, having to manage alone, the needs of her children and the fear of retribution. This underlies the effects that women rights violations have had on her physical, mental and emotional wellbeing (Hannah &Durick, 2013).

Less attention to other aspects of parenting due to preoccupation with safety for her and the children (emotional unavailability) creates a vacuum in authority and control, leading to children who have witnessed their father abusing their mother. At times they challenge their mother and become physically aggressive towards her. The father can use them also to undermine and manipulate their mother (Pollock, 2015).

2.3.2 Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

Women's leadership and political participation

Bazaara (2011) argued that from the local to the global level, women's leadership and political participation are restricted. Women are underrepresented as voters, as well as in leading positions, whether in elected office, the civil service, the private sector or academia. This occurs despite their proven abilities as leaders and agents of change, and their right to participate equally in democratic governance.

Women face several obstacles to participating in political life (Bratton, 2014). Structural barriers through discriminatory laws and institutions still limit women's options to run for office. Capacity gaps mean women are less likely than men to have the education, contacts and resources needed to become effective leaders.

Individual women have overcome these obstacles with great acclaim, and often to the benefit of society at large (Bratton, 2014). But for women as a whole, the playing field needs to be level, opening opportunities for all. UN Women's programmes on leadership and participation are guided by a history of international commitments to women's

representation. The Beijing Platform for Action calls for removing barriers to equal participation, while the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women upholds women's right to participate in public life. The Millennium Development Goals measure progress towards gender equality in part by the proportion of women in parliamentary seats.

Towards these ends, UN Women provides training for women political candidates to help build their capacities, and offer voter and civic education and sensitization campaigns on gender equality. The Organization backs gender equality advocates in calling on political parties, governments and others to do their part in empowering women. Other initiatives encourage young men and women to engage in advocacy around making gender equality measures central to public policymaking (Bratton, 2014).

Economic empowerment of women

CEDOVIP (2015) noted that investing in women's economic empowerment sets a direct path towards gender equality, poverty eradication and inclusive economic growth. Women make enormous contributions to economies, whether in businesses, on farms, as entrepreneurs or employees, or by doing unpaid care work at home.

But they also remain disproportionately affected by poverty, discrimination and exploitation (Diakonia, 2016). Gender discrimination means women often end up in insecure, low-wage jobs, and constitute a small minority of those in senior positions. It curtails access to economic assets such as land and loans. It limits participation in shaping economic and social policies. And, because women perform the bulk of household work, they often have little time left to pursue economic opportunities (Emily, 2011).

Many international commitments support women's economic empowerment, including the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and a series of International Labour Organization conventions on gender equality (Diamond, 2014). UN Women supports women's

economic empowerment in line with these, and with the growing body of evidence that shows that gender equality significantly contributes to advancing economies and sustainable development.

Working with a variety of partners, the UN Women's programmes promote women's ability to secure decent jobs, accumulate assets, and influence institutions and public policies determining growth and development (Diamond, 2014). One critical area of focus of UN Women; involves advocacy to measure women's unpaid care work, and to take actions so women and men can more readily combine it with paid employment.

Violence against Women

Emily (2011) noted that violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. Its impact ranges from immediate to long-term multiple physical, sexual and mental consequences for women and girls, including death. It negatively affects women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society. Violence not only has negative consequences for women but also their families, the community and the country at large. It has tremendous costs, from greater health care and legal expenses and losses in productivity, impacting national budgets and overall development.

Decades of mobilizing by civil society and women's movements have put ending gender-based violence high on national and international agendas (Gosewinkel, 2011). An unprecedented number of countries have laws against domestic violence, sexual assault and other forms of violence. Challenges remain however in implementing these laws, limiting women and girls' access to safety and justice. Not enough is done to prevent violence, and when it does occur, it often goes unpunished (Gosewinkel, 2011).

Women's right to live free from violence is upheld by international agreements such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), especially through General Recommendations 12 and 19, and the 1993 UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (Hannah, 2013). UN Women

works with countries at the global level to advance the international normative framework through support provided to inter-governmental processes, such as the General Assembly and the CSW. At the country level, UN Women supports Governments in adopting and enacting legal reforms aligned with international standards.

Humanitarian action for women

When crisis occurs, people's lives change instantly (Hearn, 2014). Death, injury, displacement, and the destruction of infrastructure and institutions impact entire communities as a result. Crises impact women, girls, boys and men of all ages differently. As a result, their needs and interests differ, as to their resources, capacities and coping strategies. Women are often the first responders to a crisis, and they play a central role in the survival and resilience of families and communities.

Hemmati (2015) argued that women and girls are not helpless victims. Humanitarian efforts must recognize the fact that women and girls—like men and boys—have much to contribute in preparing for, and responding to, crises. Women must be included in decision-making about the forms of assistance and protection they need. Humanitarian action can also present opportunities for new and more progressive gender roles and relationships to emerge. UN Women is committed to ensuring equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of humanitarian action. UN Women works in crises prevention, preparedness and response to reduce vulnerabilities, address risks, promote resilience and leverage women's leadership (Hemmati, 2015).

Peace and security with respect to women rights violations

Conflicts have devastating consequences, including in widening gaps between women and men (Pollock, 2015). Women often have fewer resources to protect themselves and, with children, frequently make up the majority of displaced and refugee populations. War tactics such as sexual violence specifically target them. Though women have led peace

movements and driven community recovery after conflict, they are almost completely missing from peace negotiations. Exclusion from reconstruction limits access to opportunities to recover, to gain justice for human rights abuses, and to participate in shaping reformed laws and public institutions.

Rebecca et al., (2014) argued that the international community has recognized that women's participation is vital to achieving and sustaining peace. Women are proven agents of change—and should be able to do even more. In 2000, the UN Security Council passed the historic resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. It calls for women to participate in peacebuilding, be better protected from human rights violations, and have access to justice and services to eliminate discrimination.

Tripp et al., (2013) suggested that United Nations Women promote political participation especially for women. UN Women can do this by educating women about their rights and obligations as democratic citizens and encourage them to listen to election campaigns and vote in elections. UN Women can also help develop women skills to work with one another to solve common problems, to debate public issues, and express their views. This plays an important role in improving on the standards of living of the women.

Although UN Women has tried to promote women rights in Uganda, there is still a huge gap that needs to be addressed. This is because there are still gender stereotypes regarding their capabilities to perform and execute their duties just like their male counterparts. For instance, in most organisations in Uganda do reserve secretarial or reception job positions for women and leaving other top positions for men.

2.3.3 Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis; evaluation and monitoring policy processes and their implementation (Rebecca et al., 2014). Furthermore, UN Women in Uganda are highly dependent on external sources of funding for their programmes/agendas and activities (Tvedt, 2013).

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Invariably this undermines their independence and the sustainability of their programmes.

In addition, this problem contributes to further weaken any social bases UN Women may have and results in the fact that UN Women are not accountable to the communities they aim to serve, or to their domestic constituencies, but to their pay masters (Whaites, 2013). The relatively easy availability of foreign funding may also result in UN Women approaching donors rather than trying to engage in local and popular mobilization in support of a cause. This dependency problem is to be intricated by dissertations for Sector Wide Approaches (swaps) and budget support by donors.

UN Women is largely characterized as an elite phenomenon with a narrow social base; a weak numerical base and a thin geographical coverage. The middle class plays a key role in these organisations or at least those most visible in the public arena. Most leading UN Women are also urban-based. They have no defined (given) membership at the grassroots level (Alagappa, 2012). This reality has the consequence that urban based NGOs lack the contribution of communities at the grassroots. With minimal representation in rural areas where the majority of the people reside, these advocacy groups or NGOs in support of development organisations cannot justifiably claim to speak on behalf of the rural poor.

Bazaara (2011) argued that UN Women continue to be faced by a lack of internal democracy and accountability coupled with the personalization of the organisation. UN Women is all accountable to its donors (through making reports and financial statements) but not to the beneficiaries of its services who has little or no insight into financial, administrative and decision-making matters.

The greatest challenge for all UN Women as without funds they will not be able to do anything (Bratton, 2014). Sometimes they would start a project only based on the funds they even after planning so well and much in advance there are many cases in which their programs would be stopped half way just because of lack of enough funds. The

biggest challenge of UN Women in Uganda is high level of illiteracy rate among the people, the beginning of the civil war led to the destruction of educational infrastructure. The destruction of education system is also accompanied by the breakdown of the country's administrative infrastructure, resulted in to political and social disorder and conflicts, extreme poverty, famine and disease as well as violence and insecurity countrywide.

All in all, there are still several challenges facing UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda. This is very common in most developing countries since governments tend not to effectively cooperate and work with such women right's organizations.

2.4 Research Gap

The liberal feminist theory did not provide feasible strategies to promote women rights. As the foregoing review reveals, economic empowerment of women as a factor that influences United Nations Women in Uganda had not been extensively tackled. A number of studies such as that of Bazaara (2011); Bratton (2014) have been done covering the subject of United Nations Women however, none of them had covered the aspect of promoting women rights through ending violence against women and women rights advocacy, hence, providing a content gap that this study covered. The gap in the literature review was filled during field data collection, which was guided by the purpose and the objectives of the current study.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter explains the specific research methodology and techniques that the researcher used to generate data. It outlined the research design, including study population, study area, sample selection and size, data collection methods and techniques, data analysis and procedure.

3.1 Research Design

The study applied a cross-sectional research design to reflect aspects of perception, feelings, experiences, facts and emotional feelings of different categories of respondents in examining the research questions of interest. The researcher used this type of research design because it was not costly to perform and did not require a lot of time.

Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used in data collection and analysis and general information on the subject matter was collected from the different stakeholders in Uganda. Qualitative design involved in-depth interviewing of the UN Women staff. On the other hand, the quantitative design involved use of close-ended questionnaires which were issued to the United Nations Women Partner Organisations leaders and UN Women beneficiarieswho were willing to take part as the method was convenient for them to fill during their free time.

3.2 Study Population

Since this study focused on UN Women and its contribution to promoting women rights in Uganda, Ugandan women together with the UN Women staff in Uganda implicitly constituted the target population of interest in the study. The typical age of attaining adulthood around the world, including Uganda is 18 years (UNICEF, 2015). The population of Ugandan adult females (women) is approximately 10,382,712 (Index Mundi

Reports, 2019). According to the UN Women Official Website, the total number of staff at their regional office in Kampala was 10, constituted as follows: 2 UN Women Country Representatives, 3 UN Women Political participation and policy department officials, 3 UN Women Leadership and Participation department officials and 2 UN Women support staff (UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2016). UN Women staff in Uganda (10) plus Ugandan adult female's makeup a total target study population of 10,382,722 people. According to the UN Women-funded Organizations Accountability Report, (2018), the total number of beneficiaries was approximately 2,780 people in Kampala. However, the researcher targeted only 120 of them and these were 20 from each of the six UN partner organizations in order to obtain equal representation from beneficiaries of these organizations.

The target population of the study was 148 respondents and this included total of 10 staff of UN Women Regional Office in Kampala, 3 leaders from each of the six UN partner organisations and 120 beneficiaries from all the six UN partner organisations.

3.3 Sample Size, Sample Categories, and Sampling Procedure

The study sample size is defined as a number of a smaller population technically decided for selection from the study population (Amin, 2005). It is determined to ensure logic in the selection of the study sample and for the sample size to be interviewed or involved in the study. A sample of 116 responded to pre-designed interviews and/or questionnaires. While the sample respondents were accessed through snowball sampling, the sample size was consistent with some major extant studies on the work of organizations in promoting women rights (e.g. White, 2012) which commonly use sample sizes ranging from 90 to 160 participants/respondents.

The 116 sample respondents included the following officials:7 UN Women Staff, 3 Uganda Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA-Uganda), 2 National Association of Women's Organization In Uganda (NAWOU), 3 Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans (UWESO), 2 Uganda Women's Network (UWONET), 3 Uganda Parliamentary Women's Association (UWOPA) and 3 Ministry of Gender Labour And Social Development (MGLSD) officials.

Nevertheless, out the targeted 120 beneficiaries, only 93of them were accessible by the researcher.

The sample was a function of a snowball sampling procedure used to facilitate access to UN Women authorities in Uganda, Ugandan adult females who had benefited from UN Women projects and programmes, and women organizations working with UN Women. Snowball sampling is a non-probability sampling technique where existing study subjects recruit future subjects from among their acquaintances. The researcher used snowball sampling (also known as referral sampling) because it facilitated access to women who may have suffered severe violations of their women rights but are usually not easily accessible as they are not known to the public domain. Also snowball sampling facilitated referral access from one UN Women authority to another, and from UN Women authorities to partner organizations through which UN Women work to implement and UN Women's projects and programmes. The snowball sampling procedure was particularly imperative as women who had suffered conscience-shocking women rights violations such as rape, genital mutilation, and forced early marriages among others, would not want to be found and interviewed regardless of whether or not they had directly benefitted from UN Women.

Summary Table Showing Target Population and Sample Size

Sample Category	Target Population	Sample Size	Sampling Procedure
United Nations Women Staff	10	7	Snowball
UN Women Partner Organizations' leaders	18	16	Snowball
UN Women beneficiaries	120	93	Snowball
Total	148	116	

3.4 Sources of Data

Primary Data

This was obtained through use of self-administered questionnaires and interviews to the respondents.

Secondary Data

This was acquired from text books and other related works of outstanding scholars such as published magazines, written data sources including published and unpublished documents, company reports and internet sources which were all referred to, to provide more information on the United Nations women and women rights.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

Questionnaires

Self-administered questionnaires were used in the collection of data and these were distributed to 18 leaders of UN Women Partner Organizations (FIDA-U, NAWOU, UWESO, UWONET, UWOPA and MGLSD) and 120 UN Women beneficiaries. The instrument was purposely selected because it sought expert views of the respondents and thus enabled them to use their knowledge in providing a wide range of data.

Interviews

One-on-one expert interviews were conducted with key informants and these were7 UN Women staff. The researcher managed to interview only 7 staff members of UN Women because they were the only ones accessible at that time. This was because these stakeholders are extensively knowledgeable in the areas of the current study. This method was preferred as it gives an opportunity to probe the respondents. This enabled the researcher to triangulate the data collected. This guide facilitated the collection of qualitative data.

3.6 Validity and reliability of instrument

3.6.1 Validity

(Mugenda & Mugenda, 2012) refers to validity as the degree to which results obtained from analysis of the data represents the phenomenon under study. In calculating validity, the researcher ensured that questions are relevant in order to ensure that data collected give meaningful and reliable results represented by variables in the study. The researcher used the following formula to establish validity of the research instruments as seen below.

Content Validity Index (CVI)   = CVI = **Number of question declared valid**

Total no. of questions in the questionnaire

$$CVI= \frac{17}{19}=0.895$$

If the overall Content Validity Index (CVI) of the instrument was equal to the average acceptable Index of 0.7 or above, then the instrument was accepted as valid (Amin, 2005)

3.6.2 Reliability

To ensure the reliability of the instruments, the researcher used the test-retest method. The questionnaire was given to 10 people and after two weeks, the same questionnaire was given to the same people and the Cronbatch Alpha was computed on SPSS. The minimum Cronbatch Alpha coefficient of 0.75 was used to declare the instrument reliable (>0.75).

Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's Alpha	No of Items
0.874	19

The above table shows that the Cronbach's Alpha value is 0.874 and thus indicates that the instrument was reliable.

3.7 Data Processing

The processing of data was done after the collection of data for verification of the information that was gathered and for attainment of completeness, accuracy and uniformity. Data editing involved checking the information for errors, which was an added advantage because it enabled the researcher to delete and eliminate possible errors that were traced which may in the end manipulate the results of the study. Data was analyzed concurrently to avoid duplication thereby guiding the entire study for balanced and critical analysis. The researcher used hypothesis based on the questionnaire and for other items, tabulation pie-charts and percentage and simple statistical methods was used for data presentation, analysis and qualification.

3.8 Data Analysis

The quantitative data involved information from the questionnaires only. Data from the field was too raw for proper interpretation. It was therefore vital to put it into order and structure it, so as to drive meaning and information from it. The raw data obtained from questionnaires was cleaned, sorted, coded and entered into Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) software package to generate descriptive statistics.

Qualitative data analysis

Qualitative data was collected using interview discussions with UN Women staff. Thematic content analysis was used to edit the data and re-organize it into meaningful shorter sentences. The data was analyzed and organized based on patterns, repetitions and commonalities into themes based on the study variables. The data then was used to reinforce information got from questionnaires to draw conclusion and recommendations.

3.9 Ethical Consideration

The researcher carried out the study with full knowledge and authorisation of the top authorities of United Nations Women-Uganda. The researcher first of all acquired an introductory letter from the University which she used to introduce herself to respondents.The researcher also asured respondents of confidentiality as this was paramount to research.

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CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses and analyses demographic characteristics of respondents, examines factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda, assesses the contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda and examines challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda.

4.1 Response Rate

Out of 136 questionnaires that were distributed, only 109 of them were returned and 7 United Nations Women technical Staff responded to one-on-one expert interviews. Therefore the following is the response rate.

Table 1: Response rate

Questionnaires Distributed & interviews carried out.	Questionnaires Returned & interviews	Response Rate
145	116	80%

Source: Primary Data (2019)

As shown in Table 1, a total of 138 questionnaires were distributed to respondent. 120 of the 138 questionnaires were given to UN Women beneficiaries and a total of 93 questionnaires were returned; 16 questionnaires were given out to UN Women partner Organizations leaders and all of them were returned. 7 interviews were carried out on United Nations Women technical Staff who were present. Thus a total of 109 questionnaires retuned plus 7 interviews equals to 116 respondents which implies that the response rate was 80%.

4.2 Demographic Profile of Respondents

Information regarding gender, age, educational levels, and marital status was provided by respondents.

Table 2: Gender of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	0	0.0
Female	116	100.0
Total	**116**	**100.0**

Source: Primary Data (2019)

The findings indicated in (Table 2) that most respondents were female (100%) and none were male. This implies all the questionnaires were distributed to only the women who had benefited from the UN Women funded projects. This is because these women were believed to have vital information concerning UN Women and promotion of Women's rights in Uganda.

Table3: Marital Status of respondents

Marital status	Frequency	Percent
Married	87	75
Single	23	19.82
Divorced	0	0.0
Widowed	6	5.17
Total	**116**	**100.0**

Source: Primary Data (2019)

The table above, most of the respondents (75%, Table 3), were Married, 19.82% were single, 5.17% were widowed and none of the divorced participated in the study. It can therefore be deduced that although all marital status categories were represented, the majority of respondents in the study were married. This is true because they have more

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responsibilities, experienced and vibrant workforce that have the prospective to work towards United Nations Women and women rights in Uganda.

Table4: Education level of respondents

Education level	Frequency	Percent
Primary level	25	21.55
Secondary level	67	57.7
Tertiary level	24	22.7
Total	116	100.0

Source: Primary Data (2019)

Regarding the educational qualification of respondents (Table 4below), 21.55% were at primary level, 57.7% were at secondary level and the remaining 20.7% were at tertiary level. This implies that the majority of the respondents were at secondary level indicating that they had some knowledge about the UN Women activities regarding promotion of women rights in Uganda since they were benefiting from the UN Women funded projects.

Table5: Age of respondents

Age of respondents	Frequency	Percent
Below 20 years	0	0
20-39 years	98	84.48
40-59 years	18	15.51
60 years and above	0	0
Total	116	100

Source: Primary Data (2019)

Pertaining age, most of the respondents (84.48%, Table 5), were in the age bracket of 20-39 years, 15.51% were in the age bracket of (40-59 years) who were composed of the minority respondents. It can therefore be deduced that middle aged respondents dominated in this study since they were the ones mainly benefiting these UN Women funded projects in order to promote women's rights.

4.3 Factors influencing women rights violations

The first objective was to establish the factors influencing women rights violations in Uganda, for which the researcher intended to determine using five statements. Each of these questions were based on the Likert Scale, where 1=strongly agree, 2=Agree, 3=Disagree, and 4=strongly disagree. Their responses were analyzed using SPSS and summarized using percentages, means and indicated in table 6 below. For interpretation of means, the following means ranges were adopted;

Table6: Factors influencing women rights violations

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
Low levels of education lead to economic disenfranchisement and, subsequently, poverty are very strong examples of socio-economic factors	4.30	Very High	1
Cultural factors such as the belief that women should be beaten by their husbands when they have done wrong are serious contributors to the problem of women rights violations	4.20	Very High	2
There is a lack of sense of physical safety due to what happened to her, leading to inability to be at ease or trust what is going on around her	3.56	High	3
Scarcity of women in public life and in decision making processes at all levels increase the vulnerability of women to women rights violations	2.50	Low	4
Less attention to other aspects of parenting due to preoccupation with safety for her and the children (emotional unavailability) creates a vacuum in authority	2.48	Low	5
Average mean	3.41	HIGH	

Source: Primary data (2019)

Legend

Range	Mean Range	Response Mode	Interpretation
5	1 – 1.8	Strongly Disagree	Very Low
4	1.8– 2.6	Disagree	Low
3	2.6 – 3.4	Neutral	None
2	3.4 – 4.2	Agree	High
1	4.2 – 5	Strongly Agree	Very High

Analysis of the findings

Most aspects of factors influencing women rights violations were found to be High with an average mean of 3.41, which is equivalent to high on the Likert Scale. The researcher found out that, there were very low levels of education among the people lead to economic disenfranchisement and, subsequently, poverty which are very strong examples of socio-economic factors (mean=4.30).

The study found out that there is lack of sense of physical safety in women due to what happened to her, leading to inability to be at ease or trust what is going on around her with(mean=3.56)

It was also established that scarcity of women in public life and in decision making processes at all levels increase the vulnerability of women to women rights violations (mean=2.50)

It was revealed that less attention to other aspects of parenting due to preoccupation with safety for her and the children (emotional unavailability) creates a vacuum in authority (mean=2.48).

Interview response;

One of the United Nations Women Staff who were interviewed suggested that lack of proper parenting styles also contributed to increased incidence of violation of women's rights. For example, most boys who witnessed their father beating their mothers were most likely to do the same when they grew up.

The average mean of the factors influencing women rights violations was 3.41 which is equivalent to high implying that there is a multitude of factors that significantly contribute to violations of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Alagappa, (2012) who noted that there are various factors causing women rights violations such as political and legal factors, socio-economic factors, and socio-cultural factors etc. since political and legal factors are those that address the laxity on the part of law enforcement and legal system in the country. Furthermore, Bazaara, (2011) noted that limitation of women from public life and lessening their participation in decision making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations, since it cuts them off from support.

CEDOVIP, (2015) also revealed that the inability of criminal law to enshrine specific measures to protect women from women rights violations and to punish perpetrators presents an unlikelihood that an effective framework for the reduction of women rights violations will be created. Such measures, e.g., integrated support systems for the mother and her children, financial aid and at least taking over the fight from the NGOs, would act as an indication of the government's commitment to opposing women rights violations.

4.4 Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The second objective was to examine contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda, for which the researcher intended to determine using five statements. The accuracy of these statements were gauged using the Likert scale, where 1=strongly agree, 2=Agree, 3=Disagree, and 4=strongly disagree. Their responses were analyzed

using SPSS and summarized using percentages, means and indicated in table 7 below. For interpretation of means, the following means ranges were adopted;

Table7: Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
UN Women provides training for women political candidates to help build their capacities	4.67	Very High	1
Working with a variety of partners, UN Women promotes women's ability to secure decent jobs, accumulate assets and influence institutions	3.47	High	2
UN Women also mobilizes women and other women's movements towards ending gender-based violence high on national and international agendas	3.45	High	3
UN Women works in crises prevention, preparedness and response to reduce vulnerabilities since the women are often the victims in such calamities	3.42	High	4
United Nations Women promotes political participation especially for women	2.40	Low	5
Average mean	**3.48**	**HIGH**	.

Source: Primary Data (2019)

Legend

Range	Mean Range	Response Mode	Interpretation
5	1 – 1.8	Strongly Disagree	Very Low
4	1.8– 2.6	Disagree	Low
3	2.6 – 3.4	Neutral	None
2	3.4 – 4.2	Agree	High
1	4.2 – 5	Strongly Agree	Very High

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The findings (Table 7) indicate that, contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda were found to be High on the Liker scale with an e=average mean of 3.48 for example; UN Women provides training for women political candidates to help build their capacities (mean=4.67), Working with a variety of partners, UN Women promotes women's ability to secure decent jobs, accumulate assets and influence institutions (mean=3.47)

It was discovered that UN Women also mobilizes women and other women's movements towards ending gender-based violence high on national and international agendas (mean=3.45)

Interview response;

> *Another member of United Nations Women Staff interviewed revealed that UN Women had done a great job in mobilizing women and building capacity towards ending gender-based violence. For example, through its recent campaign of 16 Days of Activism against gender violence 2018 in Uganda.*

Study findings revealed that UN Women works in crises prevention, preparedness and response to reduce vulnerabilities since the women are often the victims in such calamities (mean= 3.42)

Interview response;

> *A number of United Nations Women Staff who were interviewed mentioned that most UN Women funded projects in Uganda were geared towards advocacy against women discrimination and violation of their rights for example rights to property inheritance.*

It was found out that United Nations Women promotes political participation especially for women (mean=2.40). The average mean was 3.48 which is equivalent to high on the Likert Scale implying that there are very many contributions of the UN women towards promotion of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Tripp et al., (2013) who

suggested that United Nations Women promote political participation especially for women. UN Women can do this by educating women about their rights and obligations as democratic citizens and encourage them to listen to election campaigns and vote in elections. UN Women can also help develop women skills to work with one another to solve common problems, to debate public issues, and express their views. This plays an important role in improving on the standards of living of the women.

4.5 Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The third objective was to examine the challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda, for which the researcher intended to determine using five statements. Each of these questions were based on the Likert Scale, where 1=strongly agree, 2=Agree, 3=Disagree, and 4=strongly disagree. Their responses were analyzed using SPSS and summarized using percentages, means and indicated in table 8 below. For interpretation of means, the following means ranges were adopted;

Table 8: Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis	4.77	Very High	1
UN Women continue to be faced by a lack of internal democracy and accountability coupled with the personalization of the organization	4.20	High	2
Financial constraint is also another challenge to UN Women since their operations require proper financial facilitation.	3.53	High	3
The biggest challenge of UN Women in terms of promotion of women rights is high level of illiteracy rate among the people.	2.60	Low	4
Uncooperative governments in Africa also pose a threat to the activities and operations of UN Women especially in Uganda.	2.23	Low	5
Average Mean	3.47	High	

Legend

Range	Mean Range	Response Mode	Interpretation
5	1 – 1.8	Strongly Disagree	Very Low
4	1.8– 2.6	Disagree	Low
3	2.6 – 3.4	Neutral	None
2	3.4 – 4.2	Agree	High
1	4.2 – 5	Strongly Agree	Very High

The findings (Table 8) indicate that, challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda were found to be High for example; UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis (mean=4.77)

Study results presented in the table above indicate that UN Women continue to be faced by a lack of internal democracy and accountability coupled with the personalization of the organisation (mean=4.20)

Interview response;

> One of the United Nations Women Staff who were interviewed suggested that there were increased incidents of poor accountability of UN Women funded projects which also hindered the general operations of the Organization. The key informant furthermore noted that most women organisations funded by UN Women in Uganda tended to delay accounting for all monies released for particular project activities carried out since most their beneficiaries would provide feedback late.

It was found out that financial constraint is also another challenge to UN Women since their operations require proper financial facilitation (mean=3.53) and the biggest challenge of UN Women in terms of promotion of women rights is high level of illiteracy rate among the people (mean=2.60)

Interview response;

Another member of United Nations Women Staff interviewed also revealed that due to high levels of illiteracy, most of projects of UN Women intended at promoting women rights in Uganda had not attracted sufficient attention from the public. For example, because of ignorance about their rights, most women often would not report to the authorities even when their rights were violated, including violations through Female Genital Mutilation practices, domestic violence and denial of right to inherit their husband's property after passing away

The study revealed that uncooperative governments in Africa also pose a threat to the activities and operations of UN Women especially in Uganda (mean=2.23).

Interview response;

One of the United Nations Women Staff interviewed also mentioned that the Ugandan government often tended to interfere with activities of some women organisations funded by the UN Women especially those dealing in political advocacy for women and other aspects of human rights. This often occurred especially when the government alleged that some of the UN Women partner organizations could have been working with the opposition political parties.

Lastly the average mean is 3.47 which is equivalent to high on the Likert Scale implying that there are several challenges associated with promotion of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Rebecca et al., (2014) who noted that UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis; evaluation and monitoring policy processes and their implementation. Furthermore, UN Women in Uganda are highly dependent on external sources of funding for their programmes/agendas and activities. Invariably this undermines their independence and the sustainability of their programmes.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses, concludes and recommends the study findings presented in the previous chapter.

5.1 Discussions of findings

5.1.1 Demographic Profile of Respondents

The study found out that most respondents were female. This is because the respondents were got through Snow Ball sampling and whose and whose beneficiaries were all women. This implies that all questionnaires were distributed to women who had benefited from the UN Women funded projects. This is because these women were believed to have vital information concerning UN Women and promotion of Women's rights in Uganda. Pertaining Marital Status, (73.4%) most of the respondents (Table 3), were Married, (21.1%) were single, (5.5%) were widowed and none of the divorced participated in the study. It can therefore be deduced that although all marital status categories were represented, the married respondents dominated in the study. This is true because they have more responsibilities, experienced and vibrant workforce who has the prospective to work towards United Nations Women and women rights in Uganda. Regarding the educational qualification of respondents, 16.5% were at primary level, 61.5% were at secondary level and the remaining 22% were at tertiary level. This implies that the majority of the respondents were at secondary level indicating that they had some knowledge about the UN Women activities regarding promotion of women rights in Uganda since they were benefiting from the UN Women funded projects. With regard to age, (89.91%) most of the respondents (Table 5), were in the age bracket of 20-39 years, (10.09%) were in the age bracket of (40-59 years) who were composed of the minority respondents. It can therefore be deduced that middle aged respondents dominated in

this study since they were the ones mainly benefiting these UN Women funded projects in order to promote women's rights.

5.1.2 Factors influencing women rights violations

It was found out that the average mean of the factors influencing women rights violations was 3.41 which is equivalent to high implying that there is a multitude of factors that significantly contribute to violations of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Alagappa, (2012) who noted that causes of women rights violations are categorised into the following factors: political and legal factors, socio-economic factors, and socio-cultural factors. To begin with, political and legal factors that address the laxity on the part of law enforcement and legal system in the country. Furthermore Bazaara, (2011) noted that limitation of women from public life and lessening their participation in decision making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations, since it cuts them off from support. CEDOVIP, (2015) also revealed that the inability of criminal law to enshrine specific measures to protect women from women rights violations and to punish perpetrators presents an unlikelihood that an effective framework for the reduction of women rights violations will be created. Such measures, e.g., integrated support systems for the mother and her children, financial aid and at least taking over the fight from the NGOs, would act as an indication of the government's commitment to opposing women rights violations.

5.1.3 Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The study findings revealed that the average mean of Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda was 3.48 which is equivalent to high on the Likert Scale implying that there are very many contributions of the UN women towards promotion of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Tripp et al., (2013) who suggested that United Nations Women promote political participation especially for women. UN Women does this by educating women about their rights and obligations as democratic citizens and encourage them to listen to election campaigns and vote in

elections. UN Women helps develop women skills to work with one another to solve common problems, to debate public issues, and express their views. This is done through facilitating NGOS & CSO'S whose activities are aimed at promoting Women Rights in Uganda.

5.1.4 Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

It was discovered that the average mean of challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda is 3.47 which is equivalent to high on the Likert Scale implying that there are several challenges associated with promotion of women rights in Uganda. This is in line with Rebecca et al., (2014) who noted that UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis; evaluation and monitoring policy processes and their implementation. Furthermore, UN Women in Uganda is highly dependent on external sources of funding for their programmes/agendas and activities. Invariably this undermines their independence and the sustainability of their programmes.

5.2 Conclusions

5.2.1 Factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda

The study concludes that the limitation of women from public life and lessening their participation in decision making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations, since it cuts them off from support.

There is lack of sense of physical safety due to what happened to her, leading to inability to be at ease or trust what is going on around her. She suffers permanent damage to physical health after severe acts of sexual and physical violence.

5.2.2 Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The study also concludes that the local to the global level, women's leadership and political participation are restricted. Women are underrepresented as voters, as well as in leading positions, whether in elected office, the civil service, the private sector or academia. This occurs despite their proven abilities as leaders and agents of change, and their right to participate equally in democratic governance.

Violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. Its impact ranges from immediate to long-term multiple physical, sexual and mental consequences for women and girls, including death. It negatively affects women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society.

When crisis occurs, people's lives change instantly. Death, injury, displacement, and the destruction of infrastructure and institutions impact entire communities as a result. Crises impact women, girls, boys and men of all ages differently. As a result, their needs and interests differ, as to their resources, capacities and coping strategies. Women are often the first responders to a crisis, and they play a central role in the survival and resilience of families and communities.

5.2.3 Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The study concludes that UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis; evaluation and monitoring policy processes and their implementation

In addition, this problem contributes to further weaken any social bases UN Women may have and results in the fact that UN Women are not accountable to the communities they aim to serve, or to their domestic constituencies, but to their pay masters

UN Women is categorized as an elite group with a narrow social base; a weak numerical base with a thin geographical coverage. Most leading UN Women are also urban-based which makes it hard to access women in remote areas.

UN Women has continuously been faced by lack of internal democracy and accountability coupled with the personalization of the organisation. This makes UN Women accountable to its donors through annual submission of reports and financial statements rather than beneficiaries of its services who has little or no insight into financial, administrative and decision-making matters.

5.3 Recommendations

5.3.1 Factors influencing Women rights violations in Uganda

The study recommends that both the government of Uganda management of UN Women should focus on conducting proper mass sensitization about women rights for instance dissemination of information materials on the referral pathways for violence against women and girls and disseminating it to all stakeholders.

It is recommended that the Ugandan government should create laws and enforce existing laws that protect women from discrimination and violence, including rape, beatings, verbal abuse, mutilation, torture, "honor" killings and trafficking

5.3.2 Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The study recommends that the government of Uganda should adopt proper legal framework especially on policy implementation and enforcement of laws concerning women rights

The study recommends that UN Women should advocate for the need to strengthen women's ability to earn more money and support their households by providing skills training for women and highlight the value of girls' education and of women's participation in economic development.

5.3.3 Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

The study furthermore recommends that United Nations Women should effectively coordinate and work with other international agencies so as to build the necessary capacity to extensively engage the state in policy analysis that is still lacking.

The study recommends that the management of United Nations Women need to implement better accountability strategies in order to promote transparency within the organization hence boosting the quality of its operations

5.4 Contributions to the existing knowledge

The study is quite helpful in supplementing the pool of knowledge and understanding regarding UN Women and women rights in Uganda. According to the evidence, it has been realized that despite the presence of UN Women, women rights in Uganda continue to be severely violated. According to Uganda Police Force Report (2012), there is still huge number of reported cases of violations of social and economic rights of women across the country. For example, social rights of women are abused through denial of girl child and women to education and having equal rights in family law, family or marital rape or rape in a relationship, other sexual abuse, sexual harassment at work, traditional practices harmful to women such as genital mutilation and forced or early marriages. This is mostly contributed by ignorance and lack of effective sensitization of the public about women rights. This study has proved that women organizations such as UN Women in partnership with the government of Uganda should work together towards promotion of women rights in the country. By highlighting the factors influencing women's rights violations, contributions of UN Women and the challenges facing UN Women itself in promoting women rights, the study aims at increasing awareness within the communities and thus protecting women rights.

5.5 Limitations of the study

Some respondents were too busy with their daily schedules and failed to spare time to fill the questionnaires in time. In such circumstances, the researcher gave ample time to the concerned respondents to fill the questionnaires.

Non-response to certain questions and providing false information (probably due to concerns about confidentiality) was another limitation to the study. However, the researcher used probing questions to extract additional corroborating information. Furthermore, by adopting a snowball sampling procedure, respondents were restricted to only the women who had benefited from UN Women-funded projects either directly, or indirectly through UN Women's partner organizations. By implication, responses regarding the impact of UN Women were potentially skewed in favour of UN Women. Nevertheless, the snowball technique facilitated focus on UN Women projects and programmes.

5.6 Areas for further research

This study has provided an in-depth sight about various aspects of UN Women and promotion of women rights in Uganda especially factors influencing women rights violations, contributions of UN Women and challenges facing UN Women in promoting women rights. To some extent, this has helped to address the problem of massive violations of women rights despite the presence of UN Women in Uganda. The study has managed to inform and sensitize the masses about the contributions of UN Women and promotion of women rights. However, the study did not explore the impact of democracy and various international organizations on women rights. Thus future research should focus on those areas since there have been no significant impact of democracy and these international organisations on women rights.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR UN WOMEN PARTNER ORGANISATION LEADERS AND UN WOMEN BENEFICIAIES

Dear Respondent

My name is **BINTU JANE, 1165-06256-10209** a student of Kampala International University pursuing a Masters of International Relations and Diplomatic Studies. I am currently carrying out a study about **"United Nations Women and Women Rights in Uganda."** as a requirement for the award of Masters of International Relations and Diplomatic Studies. I humbly request you to be one of the participants in this study and your cooperation will be of great importance to this study. Your answers will be kept with utmost confidentiality.

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Gender

     Male   ☐

     Female   ☐

2. Marital Status

     Married   ☐

     Single   ☐

3. Highest Educational level

     Primary   ☐

     Secondary   ☐

     Tertiary   ☐

4. Age.

     Below 20   ☐

     Between 20-39   ☐

     Between 40-59   ☐

     60 and above   ☐

Direction 1: Please write your rating on the space before each option which corresponds to your best choice in terms of level of motivation. Kindly use the scoring system below:

Score	Response Mode	Description	Interpretation
5	Strongly Agree	You agree with no doubt at all	Very satisfactory
4	Agree	You agree with some doubt	Satisfactory
3	Neutral	You are not sure about any	None
2	Disagree	You disagree with some doubt	Fair
1	Strongly Disagree	You disagree with no doubt at all	Poor

PART 2: UNITED NATIONS WOMEN AND WOMEN RIGHTS IN UGANDA

	Factors influencing women rights violations	1	2	3	4	5
1	Low levels of education lead to economic disenfranchisement and, subsequently, poverty are very strong examples of socio-economic factors					
2	Cultural factors such as the belief that women should be beaten by their husbands when they have done wrong are serious contributors to the problem of women rights violations					
3	There is a lack of sense of physical safety due to what happened to her, leading to inability to be at ease or trust what is going on around her					
4	Limitation of women from public life and lessening their participation in decision making processes at all levels increases their vulnerability to women rights violations					

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5	Less attention to other aspects of parenting due to preoccupation with safety for her and the children (emotional unavailability) creates a vacuum in authority					

	Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda	1	2	3	4	5
1	UN Women provides training for women political candidates to help build their capacities					
2	Working with a variety of partners, UN Women promotes women's ability to secure decent jobs, accumulate assets and influence institutions					
3	UN Women also mobilizes women and other women's movements towards ending gender-based violence high on national and international agendas					
4	UN Women works in crises prevention, preparedness and response to reduce vulnerabilities since the women are often the victims in such calamities					
5	United Nations Women promotes political participation especially for women					

	Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda	1	2	3	4	5
1	UN Women lacks the capacity to comprehensively and sustainably engage the state in policy analysis					
2	UN Women continue to be faced by a lack of internal democracy and accountability coupled with the personalization of the organization					

3	Financial constraints is also another challenge to UN Women since their operations require proper financial facilitation					
4	The biggest challenge of UN Women in terms of promotion of women rights is high level of illiteracy rate among the people					
5	Uncooperative governments in Africa also pose a threat to the activities and operations of UN Women especially in Uganda					

Thanks for your responses

End

APPENDIX II: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR UNITED NATIONS WOMEN STAFF

Factors influencing women rights violations in Uganda

Are you aware of factors influencing women rights violations in Uganda?

If yes, what are some of those factors influencing women rights violations in the country?

Contributions of UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

Do you think UN Women has done enough to promote women rights in Uganda?

If yes, how has the UN Women helped to promote rights of women in Uganda?

Challenges faced by UN Women in promoting women rights in Uganda

What are some of the challenges that UN Women as organization faces with regard to promotion of women rights in Uganda?

If yes, what do you think should be done to address these challenges?

What do you think the government of Uganda needs to do to help women rights organisations to operate effectively within the country?